

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

December 20, 2018

Mr. Cory Hoffman General Manager Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing 19001 South Western Ave Torrance, CA 90501

**Subject:** Sensor Wire may Break Deactivating Air Bags

Dear Mr. Hoffman:

This letter serves to acknowledge Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

NEF-150JK

18V-887

### Makes/Models/Model Years:

LEXUS/LX570/2008-2019 TOYOTA/LAND CRUISER/2008-2019

**Mfr's Report Date:** December 13, 2018

NHTSA Campaign Number: 18V-887

## **Components:**

AIR BAGS: OCCUPANT CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM - OCS (FRONT PASSENGER) AIR BAGS:PASSENGER SIDE FRONTAL SEAT BELTS:FRONT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 89.740

# **Problem Description:**

Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing (Toyota) is recalling certain 2008-2019 Toyota Land Cruiser and Lexus LX 570 vehicles. Over time, the seat belt tension sensor wire harness may break and deactivate the front passenger air bag, knee air bag, and passenger seat-mounted side airbag.

### **Consequence:**

In the event of a crash, deactivated air bags can increase the risk of injury .

### Remedy:

The remedy for this recall is still under development. Interim notification letters are expected to be mailed on February 11, 2019. A second notification will be mailed once remedy parts are available. Owners may contact Toyota customer service at 1-888-270-9371 or Lexus customer service at 1-800-255-3987. Toyota's numbers for this recall are Lexus Interim J2L and Remedy JLL, Toyota Interim J15 and Remedy J05.

# Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.



NHTSA is missing critical, required information for this safety recall. This information must be supplied through the NHTSA Recalls Portal within 5 working days of confirming its accuracy:

- The percentage of products estimated to contain the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(4)).
- A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(8)(i)).

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

The information in your report suggests that Toyota may have been aware of this issue more than five business days before filing a report with NHTSA. Please be reminded that under Federal law, this agency is to be notified of all safety defect and/or noncompliance decisions within five business days. 49 CFR 573.6 Significant civil penalties can be assessed for this violation.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Jennifer Kruger who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-2461, or by email at jennifer.kruger@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Kareem Habib Acting Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigations

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Enforcement

