

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 21E-103

**Manufacturer Name :** Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing

**Submission Date :** DEC 23, 2021

**NHTSA Recall No. :** 21E-103

**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 21TH01



## Manufacturer Information :

**Manufacturer Name :** Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing

**Address :** 6565 Headquarters Drive

Plano TX 75024

**Company phone :** 1-800-331-4331

## Population :

**Number of potentially involved :** 151

**Estimated percentage with defect :** 25 %

## Equipment Information :

**Brand / Trade 1 :** JTEKT

**Model :** Gear Assy, Power Steering

**Part No. :** 44250-0C160

**Size :** NR

**Function :** NR

**Descriptive Information :** (1) The production ranges are estimated based on the available information received from the supplier. Not all equipment produced in this range were sold in the U.S. (2) This issue only involves certain power steering gear assemblies that were machined by a specific piece of equipment at a specific supplier during a specific production period. The involved power steering gear assemblies are the only assemblies that may have been distributed as service parts and for which Toyota does not have information identifying a specific vehicle in which they may have been installed. Note: Toyota estimates that 25% of the involved service parts may contain a groove of an incorrect shape where the circlip is installed because one of the four pieces of equipment that machine this groove had the damaged teeth on the cutting tool, as further described in this report. If installed in a vehicle, whether this issue will cause a sufficient amount of power steering fluid leaking due to the circlip becoming disengaged from this groove and lead to a sudden loss of power steering assist depends on the vehicle driving conditions.

**Production Dates :** JUL 26, 2021 - OCT 21, 2021

Brand / Trade 2 : JTEKT  
Model : Gear Assy, Power Steering  
Part No. : 44250-0C131  
Size : NR  
Function : NR

Descriptive Information : (1) The production ranges are estimated based on the available information received from the supplier. Not all equipment produced in this range were sold in the U.S. (2) This issue only involves certain power steering gear assemblies that were machined by a specific piece of equipment at a specific supplier during a specific production period. The involved power steering gear assemblies are the only assemblies that may have been distributed as service parts and for which Toyota does not have information identifying a specific vehicle in which they may have been installed. Note: Toyota estimates that 25% of the involved service parts may contain a groove of an incorrect shape where the circlip is installed because one of the four pieces of equipment that machine this groove had the damaged teeth on the cutting tool, as further described in this report. If installed in a vehicle, whether this issue will cause a sufficient amount of power steering fluid leaking due to the circlip becoming disengaged from this groove and lead to a sudden loss of power steering assist depends on the vehicle driving conditions.

Production Dates : JUL 26, 2021 - OCT 21, 2021

Brand / Trade 3 : JTEKT  
Model : Gear Assy, Power Steering  
Part No. : 44250-0C170  
Size : NR  
Function : NR

Descriptive Information : (1) The production ranges are estimated based on the available information received from the supplier. Not all equipment produced in this range were sold in the U.S. (2) This issue only involves certain power steering gear assemblies that were machined by a specific piece of equipment at a specific supplier during a specific production period. The involved power steering gear assemblies are the only assemblies that may have been distributed as service parts and for which Toyota does not have information identifying a specific vehicle in which they may have been installed. Note: Toyota estimates that 25% of the involved service parts may contain a groove of an incorrect shape where the circlip is installed because one of the four pieces of equipment that machine this groove had the damaged teeth on the cutting tool, as further described in this report. If installed in a vehicle, whether this issue will cause a sufficient amount of power steering fluid leaking due to the circlip becoming disengaged from this groove and lead to a sudden loss of power steering assist depends on the vehicle driving conditions.

Production Dates : JUL 26, 2021 - OCT 21, 2021

Brand / Trade 4 : JTEKT  
Model : Gear Assy, Power Steering  
Part No. : 44250-0C121  
Size : NR  
Function : NR

**Descriptive Information :** (1) The production ranges are estimated based on the available information received from the supplier. Not all equipment produced in this range were sold in the U.S. (2) This issue only involves certain power steering gear assemblies that were machined by a specific piece of equipment at a specific supplier during a specific production period. The involved power steering gear assemblies are the only assemblies that may have been distributed as service parts and for which Toyota does not have information identifying a specific vehicle in which they may have been installed. Note: Toyota estimates that 25% of the involved service parts may contain a groove of an incorrect shape where the circlip is installed because one of the four pieces of equipment that machine this groove had the damaged teeth on the cutting tool, as further described in this report. If installed in a vehicle, whether this issue will cause a sufficient amount of power steering fluid leaking due to the circlip becoming disengaged from this groove and lead to a sudden loss of power steering assist depends on the vehicle driving conditions.

**Production Dates :** JUL 26, 2021 - OCT 21, 2021

## **Description of Defect :**

**Description of the Defect :** The subject power steering gear assemblies are service parts designed for 2007-2021 Toyota Tundra and 2008-2022 Toyota Sequoia which have a power steering system where hydraulic pressure is applied through power steering fluid entering the gear assembly. An oil seal, an end stopper, and a circlip are used to contain the hydraulic fluid within the gear assembly. During a specific production period at the supplier, one of the four pieces of equipment that machine the groove in the gear assembly where the circlip is installed was not creating a groove of the correct shape. When the circlip is installed in a groove of an incorrect shape created by this piece of equipment, the circlip may not be able to hold the oil seal and end stopper in position. This can result in oil leaking from the gear assembly. After a sufficient amount of oil has leaked, it is possible that a sudden loss of power steering assist may occur. In this condition, the steering system will revert to manual steering mode, and steering control can be maintained at all times. However, suspension of power steering assist results in increased steering effort at low vehicle speeds and increases the risk of a crash.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** After a sufficient amount of oil has leaked, it is possible that a sudden loss of

Description of the Safety Risk : power steering assist may occur. In this condition, the steering system will revert to manual steering mode, and steering control can be maintained at all times. However, suspension of power steering assist results in increased steering effort at low vehicle speeds and increases the risk of a crash.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : NR

## Involved Components :

Component Name : Gear Assy, Power Steering

Component Description : Hydraulic Rack & Pinion Steering Gear

Component Part Number : 44250-0C160

Component Name : Gear Assy, Power Steering

Component Description : Hydraulic Rack & Pinion Steering Gear

Component Part Number : 44250-0C131

Component Name : Gear Assy, Power Steering

Component Description : Hydraulic Rack & Pinion Steering Gear

Component Part Number : 44250-0C170

Component Name : Gear Assy, Power Steering

Component Description : Hydraulic Rack & Pinion Steering Gear

Component Part Number : 44250-0C121

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : JTEKT North America Corporation

Address : 7 Research Drive

Greenville South Carolina 29607

Country : United States

**Chronology :**

See attached Part 573 Defect Information Report for the full chronology.

**Description of Remedy :**

Description of Remedy Program : All potential owners of vehicles that the subject parts are designed to fit will be notified by first class mail. They will be provided instructions on how to identify whether their vehicle may have been equipped with an involved service part, or they can take their vehicle to a Toyota dealer to complete this check. If an affected power steering gear assembly has been installed, Toyota dealers will replace it with a new one at no cost to owners. As the owner notification letters will be mailed out well within the active period of the Toyota Limited Warranty for Parts and Accessories applicable to the involved service parts, all involved vehicle owners for this recall would have been provided a repair at no cost under Toyota's Warranty.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : NR

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : NR

**Recall Schedule :**

Description of Recall Schedule : Notifications to owners of the affected service parts will occur by February 21, 2022. A copy of the draft owner notification will be submitted as soon as it is available. Notifications to distributors/dealers will be sent on December 23, 2021. Copies of dealer communications will be submitted as they are issued.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : DEC 23, 2021 - DEC 23, 2021

Planned Owner Notification Date : FEB 21, 2022 - FEB 21, 2022

**Purchaser Information :**

The following manufacturers purchased this defective/noncompliant equipment for possible use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment:

Name : NR  
Address : NR  
NR  
Country : NR  
Company Phone : NR

\* NR - Not Reported