



Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.
19001 South Western Avenue, S207
Torrance, CA 90509-2991

TMS-NTC-12312
December 20, 2012

Recall Management Division
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Toyota Safety Recall 12V-536 Owner Notification - Interim

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached, for your records, representative copies of the previously approved Owner Notification Letter for Safety Recall 12V-536 on the following Toyota vehicles:

- 2004 to certain 2009 Model Year Prius

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (310) 468-5316.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. J. K.", is written over a thin horizontal line.

Quality Compliance Assistant Manager

Attachments:

- Toyota 12V-536 (C0U) Owner Notification (Interim)



Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.
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P.O. Box 2991
Torrance, CA 90509-2991

INTERIM NOTICE

We are currently preparing the remedy. We will notify you again when the remedy is ready.

2004 to certain 2009 Model Year Prius Vehicles
C0T – Steering Intermediate Extension Shaft (Phase 2) and
C0U – Hybrid Electric Water Pump
SAFETY RECALL NOTICE (Interim Notice)

[VIN]

Dear Toyota Customer:

This notice is being sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Toyota has decided that two defects, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exist in some 2004 to certain 2009 Model Year Prius vehicles.

The purpose of this letter is to explain what the recalls are about and to keep you informed of Toyota's implementation plan. We are currently making preparations to implement the Safety Recall remedies. **We will send you another notification when the preparations are complete.**

What is the Steering Intermediate Extension Shaft condition?

The steering intermediate extension shaft ("extension shaft") is a component of the steering assembly and connects the steering column to the steering rack. Due to insufficient hardness of the extension shaft supplied by a specific supplier, the splines which connect the extension shaft to the steering gear box could deform if the steering wheel is frequently and forcefully turned to the full-lock position while driving at a slow speed, such as parking in a tight parking space. The splines could eventually wear out over time, which could result in loss of steering ability, increasing the risk of a crash.

What is the Hybrid Electric Water Pump condition?

There is a possibility that the coil wire of the electric motor installed in the Water Pump for the Hybrid System may have been scratched during the coiling manufacturing process at the supplier. In this condition, the coil wire may corrode at the scratched portion and in some cases break. If this occurs, the water pump could stop, leading to the illumination of various warning lights in the instrument panel. There is also the potential that a short circuit can occur between adjacent coil wires, resulting in an open fuse for the electric power supply circuit. If the fuse is open, the hybrid system will stop while the vehicle is being driven, which may increase the risk of a crash.

What should you do?

We appreciate your patience while we prepare the remedy parts. In the meantime, if you experience either condition described above, please contact your local Toyota dealer for diagnosis and appropriate repair. If the problem is related to the issues addressed by these recalls, the repair will be performed at **no charge** to you.

At this time the remedy for the Steering Intermediate Extension Shaft is available; however to minimize your inconvenience Toyota recommends that you wait until the Hybrid Electric Water Pump remedy is available and have both remedies performed at the same time. In the event you choose to have the Steering Intermediate Extension Shaft remedy performed prior to receiving the remedy notice, you will still need to return to the dealership to have the Hybrid Electric Water Pump replaced when the remedy is available.

If you would like to update your vehicle ownership or contact information, you may do so by registering at www.toyota.com/ownersupdate. You will need your full 17-digit Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) to input the new information.

What if you have other questions?

- Your local Toyota dealer will be more than happy to answer any of your questions and set up an appointment to perform the repair.
- You can find additional information and locate a Toyota dealer in your area by going online and visiting www.toyota.com/recall.
- Additional information is also available by contacting the Toyota Customer Experience Center at 1-888-270-9371 Monday through Friday, 5:00 am to 6:00 pm, or Saturday 7:00 am through 4:00 pm Pacific Time.

If you believe that the dealer or Toyota has failed or is unable to remedy the defect within a reasonable time, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E., Washington, D.C. 20590, or call the toll free Vehicle Safety Hot Line at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

What if you have previously paid for repairs to your vehicle for these specific conditions?

If you have previously paid for repairs to your vehicle for these specific conditions prior to receiving this letter, we will provide you instructions for reimbursement consideration in the second owner letter once the remedy preparations are completed.

If you are a vehicle lessor, Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

We have sent this notice in the interest of your continued satisfaction with our products, and we sincerely regret any inconvenience this condition may have caused you.

Thank you for driving a Toyota.

Sincerely,

TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, U.S.A., INC.