

III. Quality/Compliance Issues

NHTSA Investigation on Lexus ES350 All Weather Floor Mats – TMA met with NHTSA to discuss the open investigation into the Lexus All Weather Floor Mat. NHTSA had been speculating that the reports of a trapped accelerator pedal was due to a vehicle issue, however TMA presented information that the issue is most likely due to the mat configuration when owners do not properly secure it with the retention clips. At the meeting, TMA outside counsel proposed to NHTSA the possibility of conducting a field action to reclaim the 68,000 all weather mats sold to date on the 2007 ES350 and Camry. NHTSA agreed with the proposal and the action will be filed on September 26.



NHTSA Investigation on Sienna Liftgate Support Struts – NHTSA issued an EA IR letter requesting an update of field information. The response to the letter is due October 5; however, NHTSA did not send an advance copy to TMA. If TMC requests an extension, TMA will negotiate with NHTSA.

FMVSS 209 Compliance IR Received - TMA received an FMVSS 209 IR letter from NHTSA which requests information on seat belt assemblies for 5 models; Camry, ES350, RAV4, Scion xB, and Tundra. Our response is due October 12.

IV. Assessment



2008 MY Lexus RX350 Frontal and Side NCAP Tests — TMA was informed that the 2008 MY Lexus RX350 will be tested in the front and side NCAP at Karco on September 5 and 6. Preliminary results indicate that the vehicle will receive 20 stars – 5 star ratings for the driver and passenger in both the front and side crash tests.

Scion tC Side NCAP Test Scheduled - NHTSA informed TMA of their intention to conduct a side impact NCAP test of the 2008 MY Scion tC. The Scion tC is now equipped with standard side curtain airbags, and has not been tested in this configuration. The test will be conducted on September 27 at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Toyota Highlander Front and Side NCAP Tests - NHTSA asked if it would be possible for Toyota to attend the front and side impact NCAP tests of the 2008 MY Highlander at MGA on September 19 and 20, even though it was a short notice and the Scion xD test was scheduled for September 20 at Calspan. TMC responded that they will attend. Preliminary results indicate that the vehicle will receive a 5 star rating for the driver and a 4 star rating for the passenger in the frontal test. For the side test, the preliminary results indicate a 5 star rating for both the driver and passenger.

Toyota 4Runner Side NCAP Test - After confirming the Highlander tests on September 19 and 20, NHTSA then asked if Toyota was interested in having the Toyota 4Runner tested in the side NCAP on the 21st. TMC and Hino agreed to extend their stay in the US and attend this test. Preliminary results indicate that the vehicle should receive a 5 star rating for both the driver and passenger.

Scion xD Side NCAP Test - On September 18th, TMA attended the side NCAP test of the 2008 MY Scion xD at Calspan. Preliminary results indicate that the vehicle will receive a 5 star rating for both the driver and rear passenger. However, since the rear seat results are borderline with 4

star, we should wait for an official notification of the rating from NHTSA before judging this vehicle to be a 5 star.

Scion xD Frontal NCAP Test - On September 20th, TMA attended the frontal NCAP test of the Scion xD. We found an interference condition between the front seatbacks and the rear facing child restraints installed in the rear seat. TMA protested strongly with NHTSA, but they refused to correct the situation even after TMA suggested alternatives, such as running the test without using the Isofix bases. During the test, the CRS behind the driver came loose from the base. The CRS behind the passenger remained in the base, but there was a head chalk mark on the seatback. Preliminary results indicate a 4 star rating for both positions. The passenger result is on the edge of the 3-Star boundary. TMA is working with NHTSA to obtain the data and will provide to TMC by September 28.

Upcoming NCAP Tests - NHTSA informed TMA that the 2008 MY Lexus IS250 will be tested for front and side crash performance on October 1 and 2 at Karco. On October 4 and 5, the Camry Solara will also be tested for front and side crash performance at Karco. The FJ Cruiser will be tested for side crash performance at MCW on October 9. The Yaris liftback will be tested for front and side crash performance at MGA on October 10 and 11. TMA anticipates an issue with accommodating the rear facing child restraints in the Yaris, and will discuss further with TMC.