

Vehicle Inspectors Bulletin No 21

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Transport Services Division

For: ♦ Transport Inspectors ♦ NT Police
♦ Authorised Inspectors ♦ Outstations

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Imported Toyota Surf Recall Notification – Steering Relay Rod

Background

In 2005, Toyota issued a recall for Toyota Surf model vehicles in the countries in which they were sold. There is a possibility that the steering relay rod in these vehicles may develop a fatigue crack on the bend in the rod near the Pitman arm ball joint connection which could lead to a fracture of the steering relay rod resulting in a loss of steering control.

There are a number of Toyota Surfs that have been imported into Australia that may be affected by this recall. It is the responsibility of the vehicle importers to notify the vehicle owners of this recall and provide a solution, however many of the original importers are no longer operating and many vehicles may have been on-sold. Consequently, it is unlikely that all owners of these imported vehicles are aware of any recall.

Vehicles Affected

As this recall was directed at vehicles outside Australia, the date range and VIN range is not known. It is believed, however, that the date range would be similar to that of the steering relay rod recall that Toyota Australia issued on Hilux (IFS) and 4Runner models, being vehicles built from 1988 through to 1996.

As the actual date range and VIN range is not known, owners of imported Toyota Surfs that are presented for a registration inspection should be made aware of this recall.

Requirement

Affected vehicles require the steering relay rod to be replaced.

Action

Where a Toyota Surf is presented for inspection, the vehicle owner should be advised to contact the importer regarding this recall. Where the importer cannot be contacted or is unknown, the owner may need to take action themselves by having the relay rod replaced.

Further information may be available through the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission](#).