

Toyota Canada Inc.

***Policy Recommendations to Standing Committee on
Transport, Infrastructure and Communities***

March 16th, 2010

1. Parliament should consider providing Transport Canada with more resources. We support Transport Canada's practice of joint investigations of incidents and we are convinced that engineering reports based in fact are essential to discovering root causes. Increasing Transport Canada's staff and financial resources will enable this department to provide Canadians additional levels of confidence.

2. Parliament should consider an expansion of Transport Canada's jurisdiction beyond its current mandate regarding motor vehicle safety to cover the automotive aftermarket. Experience has demonstrated that the installation of incompatible aftermarket parts or modifications which take the vehicle out of certification can and do give rise to product incidents.

3. Currently there are gaps in the law in respect of the ownership and use of EDR data. Those gaps need to be addressed before the use of EDR data becomes common practice or significant privacy issues will arise in Canada.

4. Policies should be developed to require and promote continued driver education. Vehicle technology has evolved rapidly to meet fuel efficiency, emissions and safety regulations. Unfortunately, driver understanding of these systems is lagging. This needs to be addressed, because in many cases increased driver awareness of these technologies will make them better, more familiar vehicle operators. Toyota is ready to take part in discussions to determine what form that continued education should take and how it should be certified.