



Date: 12/02/10  
Issued by Peel&Co on behalf of Climatecars Ltd

## **STATEMENT**

### **Managing Director of Climatecars Ltd ["Climatecars"] regarding the Toyota Prius Recall**

London's leading, and one of the fastest growing "green" private hire services, Climatecars, whose fleet consists entirely of Toyota Prius, has made the following statement following the recall of 8,500 Prius in the UK.

Nicko Williamson, Managing Director of Climatecars, who appeared in the Saturday Telegraph Magazine's "Eco hero" column on 16<sup>th</sup> January, said:

"We have been working alongside Toyota GB in order to update the braking software on 15 of our 3<sup>rd</sup> generation Toyota Prius as quickly and efficiently as possible. At no point did this issue affect the consistency, quality or reliability of our service.

"Climatecars has an excellent and unblemished safety record and this remains our top priority for all our corporate customers, passengers and our company drivers, even though we understand the software update covered braking "feel" through the pedal on slippery or loose surfaces - such as forestry and farm tracks.

"There have been no reported accidents linked to this issue within the Climatecars fleet, nor, we understand, across the whole of Europe."

Climatecars has over 450 corporate customer accounts among the top banking, media, professional and other commercial businesses across central London. Climatecars has contacted all clients direct immediately after the issue was first raised and the overwhelming majority have been satisfied with the rapid remedial action taken by Climatecars (and Toyota GB) and continue to use the company's environmentally friendly taxi services.

Mr. Williamson continued: "Recalls and updates are extremely common in the automotive industry – even for premium branded vehicles. In 1997 the new Mercedes A-Class was recalled after flipping over during the now infamous "moose (emergency avoidance) test" and, in 2001, BMW recalled the new Mini due to serious safety issues.

"We are grateful to Toyota GB for their efficient communications and the swift rectification of the issue. The Toyota Prius remains the car of choice for the environmentally conscience passenger."

**Nicko Williamson is available for further comment.**

## Notes to editors

1. Climatecars is London's leading and one of the fastest-growing, environmentally friendly private hire companies. Started in 2007, it has concentrated on providing premium car services in luxury-equipped Toyota Prius vehicles at competitive rates– with passengers' safety, comfort and security as the prime objectives.

2. Making the news during its launch, Climatecars was praised by the media for its innovative passenger comforts such as free bottled "Belu" water, newspapers and magazines for passengers.

[www.climatecars.com](http://www.climatecars.com)

2. For further information or if you would like to speak to Mr. Williamson directly, please contact:

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