INTRODUCTION

Throughout 2011, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) convened a series of roundtables to explore abusive practices in the auto lending market. One abuse that received particular attention was the “yo-yo scam”. The yo-yo scam occurs when a car buyer who finances the car through the dealer believes that the financing is final or is as good as final. The dealer lures the consumer back to the dealership, claims the financing is not final, and pressures the consumer to sign a new financing contract with a higher interest rate or other less favorable terms.

The purpose of this paper is to provide data on the prevalence of yo-yo scams, insight into how yo-yo scams are perpetrated, and identify which consumers are most likely to be targeted. We surveyed five professional organizations whose membership works directly with consumers regarding auto finance-related issues. The survey collected responses by 32 people who reported serving over 2,100 clients with auto finance-related issues during the 12 months prior to taking the survey. Respondents reported that 590 of their clients dealing with auto finance problems (27.2%) experienced a yo-yo scam. These responses led to the following findings:

Finding 1: Survey respondents reported that, in their experience, car dealers commonly target consumers with poor or no credit standing for yo-yo scams.

Finding 2: Respondents observed that over half of the consumers they served who had experienced a yo-yo scam had trouble reclaiming their down payment or trade-in vehicle, or had the dealer threaten legal action against them if the car was not returned.

Finding 3: Respondents reported that a majority of the consumers involved in a yo-yo scam ended up signing a second financing contract for the same car, and at a higher interest rate.

BACKGROUND

A yo-yo scam occurs when a consumer is led to believe, through acts or omissions by a car dealer providing financing, that the loan financing is final when in fact the dealer has not finalized the financing at all. The dealer can cancel the agreed-upon deal if it decides that none of the offers to purchase the loan contract by third-party purchasers are acceptable. Yo-yo scams are possible because of the pervasive practice of conditioning finance contracts on the dealer’s decision to accept, or reject, purchase offers from third parties.
Conditional sales agreements, spot deliveries and yo-yo scams are three different transactions:

Yo-yo scams occur because of the prevalence of “spot delivery” deals. A spot delivery occurs when the dealer allows the customer to drive off the lot with the car – “on the spot” – while the deal is not technically final. In some instances, the dealer and the buyer enter into a conditional sales agreement.

In a **conditional sales agreement**, there is an action that the consumer must take to complete the sale, such as arranging financing to purchase car from a source other than the dealer. In some states, the dealer is required to keep the car on its insurance policy and provide use of dealer license plates until the deal is completed and title is transferred to the buyer. In the conditional sales agreement, the buyer knows that he or she is expected to secure financing elsewhere.

However, in dealer financing transactions dealers are overwhelmingly conditioning finance deals upon the dealer’s decision whether to sell the finance contract to a third-party lender. In essence, the dealer has days, weeks or even months to decide whether it likes the deal it made with the consumer. If not, the dealer asserts the right to cancel the deal if the dealer decides that none of the offers to purchase the financing contract are acceptable. Most consumers either believe that the deal is final or that the deal is as good as final. Dealers use spot delivery agreements to remove the consumer from the marketplace – the consumer will stop shopping.

In the **yo-yo scam**, the dealer allows the customer to leave the lot on a spot delivery but pulls the consumer back to the dealer like a yo-yo on a string. The consumer is then pressured to sign a new finance contract with worse terms for the consumer. It is the use of the spot delivery that allows for the yo-yo scam to occur. Spot deliveries are so pervasive that nearly every finance transaction with the dealer is a potential yo-yo scam.

When making a spot delivery, the dealer knows there is a chance that the original financing offer may not be available. This risk creates several reasons that the dealer would yo-yo their customer. For instance, the third-party purchaser may send an offer with stipulations or conditions (i.e. more financial information, a co-signer or larger down payment from the consumer). In this situation, rather than take the risk that the consumer may shop elsewhere, the dealer sends the consumer home with the car, leaving the conditions unmet until they can hopefully find another offer without such conditions.

Additionally, the dealer may not have an immediate offer from a third party to purchase the contract, but sends the consumer home hoping they can quickly find a buyer. Perhaps the dealer knows it cannot deliver on the financing agreement, but does not want to lose the consumer. In many cases, the dealer does have purchase offers available, but is dissatisfied with the terms all third parties have offered.
Whatever the reason for entering into this type of transaction, the goal is the same. The dealer wants to make the consumer believe the deal is final so that the consumer does not consider purchasing a different car elsewhere.

In a typical yo-yo transaction, the dealer cancels the original deal after a few days (or weeks in some cases) and forces the consumer to return to the dealership with the newly purchased car. The dealer presents a new deal with a higher interest rate or larger down payment required to keep the car. Frequently, the dealer states that “the lender” has changed its mind and will not finance the loan at the rate or with other terms promised.

When a dealer can unilaterally cancel a transaction, the dealer can offer the consumer any interest rate, even low teaser rates they knowingly may not be willing or able to honor, and do so without any significant risk. Any risk in a yo-yo transaction is instead borne by the consumer, which creates leverage for the dealer to force the consumer into more expensive.

To further increase the dealer’s advantage over consumers, the dealer may refuse to return the consumer’s trade-in vehicle or the consumer’s down payment. The dealer may also threaten to charge the consumer fees for mileage put on the car, wear and tear, or other items. In some cases, the dealer may threaten to call law enforcement on charges of auto theft if the consumer does not return the vehicle immediately. Under the mounting pressure of the situation, many consumers agree to the new loan terms.

**DATA AND METHODOLOGY**

To provide more clarity on the prevalence and practice of yo-yo scams, we conducted an online survey of individuals who work directly with consumers with auto finance-related complaints and/or legal issues. These professionals counsel, advise, or legally represent consumers in automobile transactions. We solicited individual respondents from five organizations that have a professional membership with experience regarding yo-yo scams, how they operate, and their impact on car buyers:

1. National Consumer Law Center
2. National Association for Consumer Advocates
4. National Odometer and Title Fraud Enforcement Association
5. U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General Corps

We collected 32 survey responses in August 2011. Survey respondents collectively reported serving over 2,100 clients with auto-finance related issues within 12 months of taking the survey, with 590 of those clients (27.2%) being in a yo-yo scam. We designed the survey instrument (see Appendix 1) to investigate the scope and mechanics of the yo-yo practice, demographics of consumers who to experience it, and potential outcomes. This survey is a complement to an earlier survey we sponsored in 2009 where we surveyed consumers directly regarding their car buying experiences.
FINDINGS

Finding 1: Survey respondents reported that, in their experience, car dealers commonly target consumers with poor or no credit standing for yo-yo scams.

Consumers with poor credit standing and low incomes have fewer options for automobile financing. With fewer credit offers to compare, subprime customers are limited in their ability to negotiate for better financing rates and terms. As the National Automobile Dealers Association noted in comments submitted to the FTC, “When dealers are able to secure financing for [underbanked] consumers, it is often their sole means of securing the transportation they require for employment and other family and household needs.”

As with other forms of credit, consumers with poor credit or low income have less ability to walk away or shop around for a better deal than other customers, making yo-yo scams much more problematic. Low-income consumers may also rely on a single car for family transportation. With fewer options for credit and transportation, financially vulnerable populations are more at risk of being pressured into signing more expensive financing brought on by yo-yo scams.

We asked respondents to rank the top five demographic characteristics of consumers whom they observe getting caught in a yo-yo scam. Figure 1 shows the percent of each demographic characteristic that received the highest score possible from respondents.

Figure 1: Demographics of Consumers Experiencing Yo-Yo Scams

These findings correspond with previous CRL research showing the prevalence of yo-yo scams with certain populations. Consumer survey data showed the overall incidence of yo-yos was at 4.5% of a total population of those financing through a dealership. That percentage increases for people with below-average credit (11%) and households making less than $25,000 (25%).
Figure 2 illustrates what respondents reported as the most prevalent reasons dealers gave to get customers to return their vehicles to the dealership.

**Figure 2: Top Reasons Dealers Cited for Yo-Yo Scams**

- Lender would not approve at the consumer's credit standing
- Needed more of a down payment
- Lender would not approve the interest rate
- Made a mistake on the paperwork
- Lender would not approve for the full loan amount
- Lender would not approve without the purchase of an additional product
- Other

**Finding 2:** Respondents observed that over half of the consumers they served who had experienced a yo-yo scam had trouble reclaiming their down payment or trade-in vehicle, or had the dealer threaten legal action against them if the car was not returned.

A dealer’s refusal to return the trade-in vehicle or down payment pressures the consumer to agree to a more expensive loan. The threat of legal action or involvement of law enforcement adds even more leverage for the dealer. Figure 3 displays estimations for the prevalence of different high-pressure tactics in yo-yo scams. Percentages here represent the portion of consumers out of those involved in a yo-yo scam.
Figure 3: Consumers Experiencing High-Pressure Tactics in Yo-Yo Scams

Finding 3: Respondents reported that a majority of the consumers involved in a yo-yo scam ended up signing a second financing contract for the same car, and at a higher interest rate.

The yo-yo scam drives consumers to pay more in financing than what was originally promised to the consumer. A previous survey, also sponsored by the Center for Responsible Lending, revealed that consumers who signed a new contract because of a yo-yo scam were steered into loans with interest rates **five percentage points higher** than their similarly situated counterparts, even after controlling for the consumer’s credit risk. Additionally, a separate survey of attorneys conducted by the National Consumer Law Center reported that 79% of attorneys did not believe the spot delivery practice had any benefit for the consumer. As Figure 4 shows, respondents in our survey estimated that most yo-yo scams push the consumer into more expensive financing, usually to retain the same car they had just purchased.
DISCUSSION

Yo-yo scams are an unfair and deceptive practice. However, the FTC has rule-making authority to regulate yo-yo scams. As one consumer attorney stated during the FTC roundtables, "In no other area of our commerce can someone sign on the dotted line, deliver the product, and then cancel the transaction and insist on the product being returned because the final credit transaction did not produce the hoped-for income." Thus, spot delivery agreements should be banned whenever the condition to complete the deal is left at the sole discretion of the dealer. The dealer should not be able to use this method to create an unfair bargaining advantage over the consumer. Further, the yo-yo is a practice that distorts free competition, as a consumer cannot effectively shop the marketplace unless the consumer can trust that the financing offer is a firm and real agreement.

Conditioning credit agreement consummation on the dealer’s sale of the contract places the burden of risk on the consumer, instead of on the dealer where it properly belongs. A dealer engages in more auto financing transactions in a week than the average consumer will in a lifetime. The dealer also has the experience and wherewithal to know what potential third party purchasers will require, whereas the customer has no idea.

The dealer should take the time to meet the conditions and stipulations of potential purchasers, and to verify that the borrower’s information is correct. Advancements in information technology help to facilitate this process by allowing dealers to access information and communicate with lenders quickly. As one dealership finance manager stated, “These days there’s simply no legitimate reason for a dealership to allow a customer to drive away without approved financing. Even at night and on weekends, automated systems can provide credit approvals for most consumers. Surprise rejections? I can’t imagine it 45 minutes later, much less days later.”
Dealers should not be allowed to penalize consumers with more expensive loans because of the dealer’s haste or miscalculation. Additionally, protecting consumers will level the playing field by allowing responsible dealers that ensure financing is complete at the end of every sale to compete more effectively in the marketplace.

The Michigan Department of Commerce found that the practice of conditioning retail installment sales contracts upon the future assignment of the finance contract violates the Michigan Motor Vehicle Sales Act. The logic outlined in that letter is clear and should apply universally. If the consumer leaves the lot with the car and a completed and signed retail installment sales contract, then the dealer, who is the creditor on the contract, should have to guarantee the terms of that contract.
APPENDIX 1: Online Survey Instrument and Data Summary

1. In your estimation, how many auto finance related complaints have you observed in the past year?
   - Number of complaints

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Min</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max</td>
<td>890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Std Deviation</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sum Total</td>
<td>2,172</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N=32 respondents

2. In the past year, how many consumers would you estimate were asked to return to the dealership in order to sign a new financing agreement?
   - Number of consumers returning to dealership

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Min</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Std Deviation</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sum Total</td>
<td>590</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N=31 respondents

3. Of the various demographics below, please rank the top five types of consumers that are most likely to see a yo-yo deal in your opinion. (Ranking 1 through 5, with 5 being the MOST likely.)

- Men
- Women
- White Americans
- African-Americans
- Latino Americans
- Asian Americans
- Military personnel
- People age 25 or younger
- Senior citizens
- People with low income
- People with poor or no credit standing
- Other

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Borrower Demographic (N=30 respondents)</th>
<th>Respondents giving a 5 ranking</th>
<th>Respondents ranking in top 5</th>
<th>Cumulative Ranking Total</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Median</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
4. What reasons have you observed dealers give to explain the need for returning the car? (Check all that apply)

- Lender would not approve at the consumer's credit standing
- Lender would not approve for the full loan amount
- Lender would not approve the interest rate
- Lender would not approve without the purchase of an additional product
- Needed more of a down payment
- Made a mistake on the paperwork
- Other (please specify)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason for Yo-Yo</th>
<th>Number of Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lender would not approve at the consumer’s credit standing</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lender would not approve for the full loan amount</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lender would not approve the interest rate</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lender would not approve without the purchase of an additional product</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needed more of a down payment</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Made a mistake on the paperwork</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N=32 respondents
Note that 4 of the respondents selecting "other" specified that the borrower was asked to provide a cosigner.

5. Of those people experiencing a yo-yo, in what percentage would you estimate either you or the consumer observing a spot delivery disclosure present with the sales contract?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of Consumers</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Min</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>62.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median</td>
<td>80.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Std Deviation</td>
<td>36.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N=31 respondents
6. Of those people experiencing a yo-yo, in what percentage would you estimate the dealer reportedly saying to the client:
   - The consumer's trade-in could not be returned or was already sold
   - The consumer's down payment was nonrefundable
   - The consumer's payment for tax, title and fees could not be returned

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Min</th>
<th>Max</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>Std Deviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The consumer's trade-in could not be returned or was already sold</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>59.3%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The consumer's down payment was nonrefundable</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>53.6%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>32.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The consumer's payment for tax, title and fees could not be returned</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>32.7%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>35.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Of those clients experiencing a yo-yo, in what percentage would you estimate seeing cases where:
   - The dealer threatened legal action to retrieve the car?
   - The dealer charged a rental fee, usage fee, or restocking fee for the time the client had the car?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Min</th>
<th>Max</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>Std Deviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The dealer threatened legal action to retrieve the car</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>61.9%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The dealer charged a rental fee, usage fee, or restocking fee for the time the client had the car</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>45.7%</td>
<td>42.5%</td>
<td>38.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Of those consumers returning to renegotiate their loan terms, in what percentage would you estimate:
   - Negotiated a different deal to keep the same car they purchased.
   - Negotiated a deal for a different car than what they originally purchased.
   - Wound up with new financing at a higher interest rate
   - Wound up not purchasing any car from that dealer at all

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Min</th>
<th>Max</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>Std Deviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Negotiated a different deal to keep the same car they purchased</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>56.1%</td>
<td>62.5%</td>
<td>26.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negotiated a deal for a different car than what they originally purchased</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>23.8%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>19.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wound up with new financing at a higher interest rate</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
9. Is there any additional information you would like to provide concerning auto finance related complaints and yo-yo deals? (Open-ended question)

- "Yo-yo cases are all that I do. It is always illegal, period. Consumers do not 'renegotiate' a second contract, it is always a take it or leave it demand by the dealer. When a consumer signs a second contract that is more costly, it is theft by the dealer; it is 'bait and switch'.”
- "Mandatory arbitration clauses now make these cases very difficult, if not impossible, to be financially feasible to accept anymore. It is amazing how often yo-yo's happen."
- "Sometimes dealer will call the buyer back in and require they bring a cosigner with them in order to make the deal work."
- "Dealer never seems to tell consumer what is clear on the contract, that IT is financing consumer and the "failure to find financing" is in fact a "failure to find someone to assign the contract to" IF that failure exists at all. All too often on one end or the other of the deal the dealer includes extras like service contracts or gap insurance that consumer is unaware of OR requires those extras for a "lower" interest rate."
- "The ones I've seen seem to focus on getting additional signatories or higher down payment."
- "In Maryland, the MVA has informed dealers they may not use a "Spot Delivery" conditional finance addendum but nearly all dealers continue to use them. The MVA does not perceive yo-yo or spot deliveries to be a significant problem but this appears to be due to the fact that the agency does not reach out to consumers in a meaningful way to let them know their rights or to let consumers know that the agency accepts complaints against car dealers."
- "I am now seeing arbitration clauses which purport to survive rescission of the deal."
- "My clients are so low income, that it's rare at all to see car cases. So many times, they don't try to renegotiate at all - they just sign whatever they are presented with."
APPENDIX 2: Examples of Spot Delivery Disclosure Agreements

Spot delivery disclosures are included as addendums in auto loan applications in order to allow the dealer to repossess the vehicle in the event they cannot assign the loan to an outside lender. Survey respondents estimated spot delivery disclosures to be evident in the majority of auto loan contracts, with a median estimate of 80%. While the level of disclosure differs among dealers, the language is usually designed to protect the dealer and provide a means to force the return of the vehicle. The disclosure language inconsistently explains, if at all, what happens to the consumer’s trade-in and down payment, or what fees the consumer is liable for. Note that spot delivery disclosures go by many different names, including bailment agreements, rescission agreements, special delivery agreements, supplemental agreements, and conditional sales agreements.

The following examples of spot delivery disclosures are sourced from a National Consumer Law Center online presentation¹ where the attorneys presenting obtained actual loan documents from the clients they were serving. Use of the documents in our report was given under the permission of the presenters.

Supplemental Agreement

The undersigned Lessee/Purchaser (the “Customer”), having entered into an lease/Purchase Agreement (the “Agreement”) with Jerry’s Ford Sales, Inc. (Jerry’s Ford) whereby the Customer has agreed to purchase a 2002 FORD FOCUS, VIN 1FAFP33P52W101847, (the “Vehicle”) and Customer having made an application for credit in order to effect such Agreement or having tendered one or more checks or notes as initial payments, and Customer wishing to take delivery and possession of the Vehicle pending approval of the credit application and/or before one or more checks have been honored, and it being the intention of Jerry’s Ford and the Customer that this Supplemental Agreement be made a part of the Agreement, Customer does hereby agree as follows:

Customer acknowledges and represents that he/she possesses a valid driver’s license and current motor vehicle liability and collision insurance coverage and assumes risk of the Vehicle while in Customer’s possession. Customer recognizes and acknowledges that Jerry’s Ford retains a security interest in the Vehicle and that Jerry’s Ford shall, upon default of Customer to return the Vehicle, to be entitled to all statutory and common law remedies available to a seller or holder, including without limitation, the right to repossess the Vehicle wherever found. Customer also appoints Jerry’s Ford, or its designee, as attorney-in-fact for the limited purpose of executing such documents as may be necessary to record a lien on the title to the Vehicle.

If Jerry’s Ford does not receive approval from a financial institution to finance the Agreement on terms acceptable to Jerry’s Ford, or the check(s) in not honored or the note is not paid when due, Customer will, upon written or oral notice from Jerry’s Ford, return the Vehicle within twenty-four hours, in the same condition as when delivered, normal wear excepted. If the Customer complies, any down payment and/or trade-in will be returned to the Customer and the Agreement shall be rescinded.

If the Vehicle is not returned within twenty-four hours of the notice, the Customer agrees to pay Jerry’s Ford for the use of the Vehicle computed as follows: $75.00 per day or part thereof during which the Vehicle remained in the Customer’s possession, and $.20 for every mile driven. Customer also agrees to pay Jerry’s Ford any cost incurred in repairing damage to the Vehicle which occurred while in the Customer’s possession, or of reconditioning or recovering the Vehicle.

Customer understands and acknowledges that all financing decisions are made by a financing source not affiliated with Jerry’s Ford and said source is the credit reporting agency in accordance with the Fair Credit Reporting Act.

In the event that a financial institution, other than originally contemplated by Jerry’s Ford agrees to acquire the Agreement on the form required by such financial institution, Customer agrees to sign form required by that institution.

This Supplemental Agreement shall supersede and prevail over any prior or contemporaneous oral agreements entered into between the parties hereto, and shall supplement and be a part of the Agreement referred to above.

The validity and construction of this Supplemental Agreement and all matters pertaining hereto shall be determined in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The undersigned hereby waives presentment, demand, protest, notice of dishonor and all exemptions, and also waives all rights to a trial by jury. If any portion of this Supplemental Agreement or the Agreement are determined to be invalid or unenforceable, all other provisions of the Agreement and this Supplemental Agreement nevertheless continue in full force and effect.

Date: 01/30/02

JERRY’S FORD SALES, INC.

By: TODD J PATYKIEWICH

Customer
ENDNOTES

1 Yo-yo scams may also be referred to as "bushing", "fronting", or "MacArthur agreements" in reference to Gen. Douglas MacArthur who vowed "I shall return" when ordered to evacuate the Philippines in World War II.

2 Mac Gordon, *Must Say No-No to Yo-Yo*, Ward's Dealer Business, Jul 1, 2005. According to consumer advocate Rosemary Shahan, getting the consumer to surrender the trade-in is also known as "de-horsing" in the industry, which further tilts the advantage to the dealer during negotiations.


6 NADA Comments to FTC, Motor Vehicle Roundtables Project Number P104811, Apr 11, 2011.


9 Note that the majority of responses in the "other" category were specified as the dealer requiring a co-signer to complete the deal. Also, categories do not add up to 100% because respondents were allowed to check all options they felt were applicable to yo-yo financing.


11 *New National Consumer Law Center Survey Finds Consumer Abuses in Auto Sales and Financing Are Common Throughout the United States*, National Consumer Law Center, Apr 12, 2011. In the same survey, 95.7% of attorneys reported that dealers in their area engage in yo-yo financing.

