



Warranty Extension: 3.2TL and 3.2CL Automatic Transmission
(Supersedes 02-027, dated February 24, 2003)

BACKGROUND

In certain vehicles, a higher than normal number of automatic transmissions may have defects in material or workmanship that could cause premature wear or failure. To ensure that customers have adequate warranty coverage, American Honda is increasing the warranty on the transmission and the torque converter to 7 years or 100,000 miles, whichever occurs first.

VEHICLES AFFECTED

- 1999-02 3.2TL: All
- 2003 3.2TL (except Type S):
From VIN 19UUA5...3A000001
thru 19UUA5...3A019558
- 2003 3.2TL Type S:
From VIN 19UUA5...3A000001
thru 19UUA5...3A019061
- 2001-02 3.2CL: All
- 2003 3.2CL (all models):
From VIN 19UYA42...3A000001
thru 19UYA42...3A005203

CUSTOMER NOTIFICATION

All owners of 1999 3.2TLs will be mailed a notification of the warranty extension. Owners of other affected vehicles were mailed the notification in October 2002. A copy of the notification is at the end of this service bulletin.

This warranty extension does not apply to any vehicle that has ever been declared a total loss, or any that has been issued a salvage, branded, or similar title under any state's law. To check for vehicle eligibility, you must do a VIN status inquiry on the VIN.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

If standard diagnostics confirm an internal problem with the torque converter or the automatic transmission, replace the affected unit.

WARRANTY CLAIM INFORMATION

OP #	Description	FRT
2181B1	Replace torque converter (includes draining ATF through paint strainer, as per service bulletin 90-009)	5.8
2181B0	Replace transmission and torque converter (includes draining ATF through paint strainer, as per service bulletin 50-009)	5.8

- Failed Part: Use the "RM" part number (from the repair order) without the "RM"
Example: 06200-PAX-A00
- Defect Code: SAT
- Contention Code: L79
- Part used for repair: Use the "RM" part number (from the repair order)
Example: 06200-PAX-A00RM
- Skill Level: Repair Technician

DIAGNOSIS

For diagnostic information, refer to Service Bulletin 90-009, *Automatic Transmission In-Warranty Exchange Program*.

- If your diagnosis confirms something other than a torque converter or an internal transmission problem, make the needed repairs, and use the warranty information in service bulletin 90-009.
- If your diagnosis confirms a problem with the torque converter or an internal transmission failure, replace the affected part, and file a warranty claim using the warranty information in this service bulletin (02-027).



CUSTOMER INFORMATION: The information in this bulletin is intended for use only by skilled technicians who have the proper tools, equipment, and training to correctly and safely maintain your vehicle. These procedures should not be attempted by "do-it-yourselfers," and you should not assume this bulletin applies to your vehicle, or that your vehicle has the condition described. To determine whether this information applies, contact an authorized Acura automobile dealer.

Example of Customer Letter

August 2003

Automatic Transmission Warranty Extension

Dear 3.2TL and 3.2CL Owners:

American Honda is announcing a warranty extension for the automatic transmission on all 1999-02 3.2TLs, all 2001-02 3.2CLs, and some 2003 3.2TLs and 3.2CLs. The automatic transmission and torque converter are now covered for a total of 7 years or 100,000 miles, whichever occurs first, from the date of original sale. We are providing this warranty extension because a higher than normal number of automatic transmissions in certain vehicles may have problems due to defects in material or workmanship beyond the 4-year, 50,000-mile new vehicle limited warranty.

How do I know if there is a problem with my vehicle's automatic transmission?

If you think your vehicle has a transmission problem, refer to the operating characteristics below. Understanding these characteristics can help you decide if you need to call your Acura dealer.

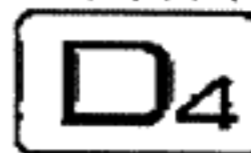
These characteristics are normal; they should not require you to call your Acura dealer.

- **Quick downshifts.** The transmission has a computerized control system called grade logic. When going down a hill, even a light touch of the brake pedal can cause grade logic to downshift to the next lower gear. Downshifting helps to slow the vehicle through engine braking.
- **Does not always shift through the full range of gears.** This can also be caused by the grade logic system keeping the transmission in the optimum gear for different driving conditions.
- **Mechanical noise when selecting a forward or reverse gear.** It's normal to hear a slight mechanical noise when moving the shift lever from one gear to another. This noise can sound abnormally loud if any of the windows are down and you are parked next to a wall or another vehicle.
- **Vehicle may not hold its position when stopped on an incline in gear (may roll backward when the brake pedal is released).** This can occur on most Acura-made vehicles. It is one of the measures used to improve fuel economy.
- **Hard shifts before the engine warms up.** By design, the transmission shifts a little harder when the engine is cold. It returns to smoother shifting when the engine warms up.

These characteristics are not normal; if you experience any of them, call your Acura dealer.

- While driving, the D4 indicator (1999 3.2TL) or D5 indicator (all other models) on the instrument panel flashes.

D4 INDICATOR



D5 INDICATOR



- An abnormally loud noise from the transmission.
- Extremely slow or delayed gear engagement, upshifts, or downshifts.
- Abnormal gear slippage during upshifts or downshifts.
- Erratic or excessively harsh shifting.
- Automatic transmission fluid (ATF) leaks.

If you already paid to have the transmission repaired or replaced, refer to the reimbursement form included with this letter.

It's important to maintain your vehicle's transmission according to the maintenance schedule in your owner's manual. Not maintaining the transmission properly can void the warranty coverage.

Please keep a copy of this letter in your glove box, along with your warranty information booklet.

If you have any questions about this warranty extension, please call Acura Client Services at (800) 392-2238.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
Acura Automobile Division