

April 10, 2013

Ms. Nancy Lewis  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY  
ADMINISTRATION  
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Re: Recall Notification**  
**Honda: 2001-2003 Civic, 2002-2003 CR-V and 2002 Odyssey**  
**Passenger Airbag Inflator**

Dear Ms. Lewis:

On April 4, 2013 Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the passenger airbag inflator of certain 2001-2003 model year Honda Civic, 2002-2003 model year Honda CR-V, and 2002 model year Honda Odyssey automobiles, and is providing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

573.6(c)(1)

**Name of manufacturer:** Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC)  
Honda of America Mfg., Inc. (HAM)  
Honda of Canada Mfg. (HCM)  
Honda of the UK Mfg. Ltd (HUM)  
Honda Mfg. of Alabama, LLC (HMA)

**Manufacturer's agent:** Jay Joseph  
American Honda Motor Co., Inc. (AHM)  
1919 Torrance Blvd.  
Torrance, CA 90501-2746

573.6(c)(2)

**Identification of potentially affected vehicles:**

See ATTACHMENT 1

**Description of the basis for the determination of the recall population:**

The recall population was determined based on manufacturing records. The VIN range reflects all possible vehicles that could potentially experience the problem.

573.6(c)(2)(iv)

**Identification of affected component:**

Component: Front Passenger Airbag Inflator  
Country of Origin: U.S.A.  
Manufacturer: T.K. Holdings, Inc.  
Contact Name: Kazuo Higuchi  
Address: 888 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20006  
Telephone: (202) 729-6332

573.6(c)(3)

**Total number of potentially affected vehicles:** 561,422

573.6(c)(4)

**Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect:** Unknown

573.6(c)(5)

**Defect description:**

In certain vehicles, the passenger's (frontal) airbag inflator could produce excessive internal pressure. If an affected airbag deploys, the increased internal pressure may cause the inflator to rupture. In the event of an inflator rupture, metal fragments could be propelled upward toward the windshield, or downward toward the front passenger's foot well, potentially causing injury to a vehicle occupant.

573.6(c)(6)

**Chronology:**

October 20, 2011 Alleged rupture of a passenger airbag inflator occurred in Puerto Rico.

February 3, 2012 The vehicle from Puerto Rico was received by Honda for analysis. Investigation of the vehicle confirmed a ruptured passenger airbag inflator.

March 14, 2012 Using the ongoing driver's airbag recall, Honda proposed to NHTSA the collection of healthy passenger airbag modules to study the condition. NHTSA did not object.

November 21, 2012 Investigation of healthy parts indicated abnormal combustion was possible, though the cause could not be determined at that time.

February 8, 2013 A meeting was held between NHTSA and Honda to discuss the ongoing investigation.

March 6, 2013      A recreation of propellant production using the same methods as were used during 2001-2002 production periods indicated that it was possible for propellant produced during 2001-2002 to be manufactured out of specification without the manufacturing processes correctly identifying and removing the out of specification propellant.

Separately, Honda was informed by the supplier of another potential concern related to airbag inflator production that could affect the performance of these airbag modules.

April 4, 2013      Honda completed the investigation and determined that a safety related defect exists and decided to conduct a recall.

As of April 4, 2013 Honda has not received any warranty claims, but has received one field report regarding a crash where the passenger airbag inflator ruptured upon deployment, without report of injury from the inflator.

573.6(c)(8)(i)

**Program for remedying the defect:**

The owners of all affected vehicles will be contacted by mail and asked to take their vehicle to a Honda automobile dealer. The dealer will replace the passenger airbag inflator, free of charge.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

**The estimated date to e-mail preliminary notification to dealers:** April 11, 2013

**The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers:** April 11, 2013

**The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners:** May 11, 2013

**The estimated date of completion of the notification:** July 2013

573.6(c)(9)

**Representative copies of all notices, bulletins and other communications:**

A copy of the dealer service bulletin, the final customer notification letter and other dealer communication will be submitted to your office as soon as possible.

573.6(c)(10)

**Proposed owner notification letter submission:**

A draft of the owner notification letter will be submitted to your office as soon as possible.

573.6(c)(11)

**Manufacturer's campaign number:**

S95

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jay Joseph". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jay Joseph  
Senior Manager  
Product Regulatory Office

JWJ:cm

**Attachment 1**

Honda Civic 2 Door	Certain 2001 model year	1HGEM22971L000001 4/13/2000	-	1HGEM21211L125029 9/10/2001
	Certain 2002 model year	1HGEM21392L000001 6/5/2001	-	1HGEM22042L110829 9/10/2002
	Certain 2003 model year	1HGEM22093L000280 9/12/2002	-	1HGEM21933L052262 4/10/2003

Honda Civic 4 Door	Certain 2001 model year	1HGEN26481L000001 6/14/2000	-	1HGEN26451L000803 7/26/2001
		1HGES16231L000011 3/30/2000	-	1HGES16561L078373 8/27/2001
		2HGES165X1H500108 8/29/2000	-	2HGES16531H620493 8/30/2001
		JHMES152X1S000012 8/1/2000	-	JHMES16561S012585 7/18/2001
		1HGES26791L000001 3/21/2000	-	1HGES26761L078073 8/27/2001
		2HGES267X1H500049 8/28/2000	-	2HGES26701H619891 8/29/2001
		JHMES267X1S000009 7/26/2000	-	JHMES26791S006318 7/16/2001
	Certain 2002 model year	1HGEN265X2L000001 6/21/2001	-	1HGEN26582L000241 12/19/2001
		1HGES15672L000003 6/21/2001	-	1HGES16592L082435 8/29/2002
		2HGES16592H500005 8/23/2001	-	2HGES16592H614005 9/4/2002
		JHMES16582S000004 8/8/2001	-	JHMES16582S006515 3/13/2002
		1HGES25812L000005 6/21/2001	-	1HGES25842L082859 9/3/2002
		2HGES25732H500395 8/30/2001	-	2HGES26772H613412 9/3/2002
		JHMES26752S000002 8/28/2001	-	JHMES26762S004141 2/28/2002
	Certain 2003 model year	1HGES15513L000040 8/22/2002	-	1HGES16533L018635 1/17/2003
		2HGES16553H500164 9/4/2002	-	2HGES16573H567526 4/3/2003
		JHMES16503S000645 8/27/2002	-	JHMES16503S002086 11/29/2002
		1HGES267X3L001807 9/11/2002	-	1HGES26703L018342 1/16/2003
		2HGES268X3H500886 9/6/2002	-	2HGES26783H607152 7/17/2003
		JHMES26763S000656 11/28/2002	-	JHMES26793S000750 11/29/2002

Honda Civic 4 Door	Certain 2003 model year (continued)	JHMES95633S000017 3/5/2002	- JHMES96613S024203 4/18/2003
Honda CR-V	Certain 2002 model year	JHLRD68502C000003 6/13/2001	- JHLRD68472C026606 9/7/2002
		JHLRD78412C000007 5/11/2001	- JHLRD78822C095311 9/16/2002
		SHSRD68402U000115 4/8/2002	- SHSRD68432U001680 7/23/2002
		SHSRD78822U000111 2/19/2002	- SHSRD78482U011000 8/30/2002
	Certain 2003 model year	JHLRD68493C000722 9/25/2002	- JHLRD68463C012231 5/12/2003
		JHLRD77853C000002 9/10/2002	- JHLRD78423C032255 5/12/2003
		SHSRD68413U100113 10/1/2002	- SHSRD68413U106848 5/21/2003
		SHSRD78883U100134 9/30/2002	- SHSRD78833U160077 9/1/2003
Honda Odyssey	Certain 2002 model year	2HKRL18612H500039 6/19/2001	- 2HKRL18672H590930 8/20/2002
		5FNRL18672B000062 10/9/2001	- 5FNRL18002B057926 8/22/2002