

April 27, 2011

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

11V-260  
(6 Pages)

Dear Mr. Harris:

On November 4, 2008, Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the driver airbag of certain 2001 model year Honda Accord and Civic automobiles, and we furnished notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573, Defect and Noncompliance Reports on November 10, 2008.

On June 23, 2009, HMC determined that the VIN range for recall 08V-593 should be expanded for 2001 model year Honda Accord and Civic automobiles, and we furnished notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration on June 30, 2009 (with subsequent updates) in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573, Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

On February 2, 2010 HMC decided to include additional vehicles in this recall, based on our ongoing review of this matter, and on February 9, 2010, we furnished notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573, Defect and Noncompliance Reports. As we had shared with your office previously, certain vehicles included in the original recall were outside of the suspect range, but were recalled to verify the performance of the driver's airbag inflators. The airbag inflators that we received were evaluated and were within design specifications or, if deployed, performed as designed. Nevertheless, we decided to expand the recall in February 2010 because we could not – with absolute certainty – determine that the airbag modules in those vehicles would perform as designed.

The June 2009 and February 2010 recall expansions included vehicles that had received replacement service part driver's airbag modules that were produced in the same time frame as the potentially affected airbag modules that were installed as original manufacturer equipment. The vehicles that received replacement part airbag modules were identified through American Honda Motor Co.'s controlled parts ordering system.

However, more recently, HMC has determined that approximately 2,430 replacement service part airbag modules that could have been installed in vehicle models that were covered in prior recall expansions may not have been accounted for through our controlled parts ordering system. Specifically, we analyzed each aspect related to the sale of replacement service part driver's airbag modules and have attempted to trace the location of each such module. Despite these efforts, we have not succeeded in identifying all of the vehicles in which potentially affected driver's airbag modules may have been installed. Therefore, Honda is going to contact owners of all vehicles in which one of the affected driver's airbag modules

could have been installed. If a vehicle included in this recall expansion has not had a replacement service part driver's airbag module installed in it, that vehicle is not affected and does not require inspection or replacement of the driver's airbag module. Owners of such vehicles will have the opportunity to notify American Honda, in writing and under signature by way of a postage-paid return postcard. Owners of all other vehicles will be asked to have their vehicle inspected by a dealer, and if an affected airbag module is found (by serial number), the airbag module will be replaced at no cost to the owner.

573.6(c)(1)

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

**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:**

<u>Make/Model</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>VIN Range/Dates of Manufacture</u>
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See attached list

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

The recall population was based on sales records. The VIN range reflects all possible vehicles in which the affected components potentially could have been installed.

573.6(c)(2)(iv)

**Identification of affected component:**

Component: Driver airbag module  
Country of Origin: U.S.A  
Manufacturer: TK Holdings, Inc.  
Contact Name: Kazuo Higuchi  
Address: 888 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20006  
Telephone No.: (202) 729-6332

573.6(c)(3)

**Total number of potentially affected vehicles:**

2,430 airbag modules have not been accounted for at this time. Those replacement and service part airbag modules could have been installed in approximately 833,277

vehicles. To capture all 2,430 affected components, the registered owners of the 833,277 vehicles will be notified of this recall by first class mail.

573.6(c)(4)

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

0.29%

573.6(c)(5)

**Defect description:**

In certain vehicles, the driver's airbag inflator could produce excessive internal pressure. If an affected airbag deploys, the increased internal pressure may cause the inflator to rupture. Metal fragments could pass through the airbag cushion material possibly causing injury or fatality to vehicle occupants.

573.6(c)(6)

**Chronology:**

Nov. 11, 2008	AHM submitted 573 report to NHTSA (08V-593). HAM continued investigation of returned inflators from the recall.
June 30, 2009	AHM submitted 573 report to NHTSA (09V-259). HAM continued investigation of returned inflators from the recall.
Feb. 2, 2010	HAM completed the investigation and HMC decided to expand this recall to include vehicles identified on the attached list because of the inability to rely on the method of sampling production in use at that time to absolutely assure that the inflators in the recall population meet all production criteria.
Feb. 9, 2010	AHM submitted 573 report to NHTSA (10V-041)
March 2010 – March, 2011	AHM continued to analyze the sales transaction history of potentially affected driver's airbag module service parts to determine how many parts could not be accounted for and thus captured through the prior recall expansions and associated notices. After an exhaustive analysis and records search, AHM determined that some number of potentially affected replacement service part driver's airbag modules had been sold through dealers, but could not be accounted for using the controlled parts system.
April 21, 2011	HMC determined that it was necessary to notify owners of all vehicles in which the 2,430 affected driver's airbag modules could have been installed.

573.6(c)(8)(i)

**Program for remedying the defect:**

The owners of all affected vehicles will be contacted by mail. If the original owner of the vehicle is certain that the driver's airbag module has never been replaced, they will have the opportunity to notify Honda that it is not necessary to inspect their vehicle by signing and returning a postage-paid return postcard. All other owners will be instructed to take their vehicle to a Honda or Acura automobile dealer for inspection of the airbag module serial number, and if necessary, replacement. Vehicles requiring replacement will have the driver's airbag module replaced free of charge.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

<b>The date to e-mail preliminary notification to dealers:</b>	April 27, 2011
<b>The date to provide service bulletin to dealers:</b>	May 16, 2011
<b>The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners:</b>	May 27, 2011
<b>The estimated date of completion of the notification:</b>	June 27, 2011

573.6(c)(9)

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

A copy of the dealer service bulletin and text of the final customer notification letter 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.

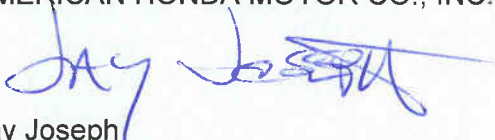
573.6(c)(11)

**Manufacturer's campaign number:**

R54 Honda  
R55 Acura

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



Jay Joseph  
Senior Manager  
Product Regulatory Office

JWJ:nis

Identification of Potentially Affected Vehicles

Model	Model Year	VIN Range (from-to)		Dates of Manufacture (begin-end)	
Honda Accord 4-door	Certain 2001 model year	JHMC854X1C000138	JHMC86411C000737	8/23/2000	4/17/2001
		JHMC855431C000011	JHMC856681C033201	6/16/2000	7/3/2001
		JHMC865581C000004	JHMC866011C027810	7/4/2000	7/4/2001
		1HGCF85451A023485	1HGCF86611A149410	10/24/2000	7/30/2001
		1HGCG16541A000159	1HGCG165X1A087257	8/22/2000	8/1/2001
		1HGCG56511A000112	1HGCG56471A149857	8/17/2000	7/31/2001
		1HGCG66501A001208	1HGCG668X1A149828	8/24/2000	8/2/2001
		3HGCG56481G700377	3HGCG56491G700601	7/18/2001	8/8/2001
		3HGCG66501G700002	3HGCG66521G713950	9/21/2000	7/27/2001
	Certain 2002 model year	JHMC86462C000086	JHMC85472C000602	8/1/2001	6/10/2002
		JHMC856432C000252	JHMC856672C035622	7/5/2001	6/26/2002
		JHMC866842C000477	JHMC866842C030241	7/7/2001	7/1/2002
		1HGCF86622A001204	1HGCF86612A177693	8/1/2001	9/3/2002
		1HGCG164X2A000031	1HGCG16532A084959	8/1/2001	9/4/2002
		1HGCG56712A000002	1HGCG56772A177699	7/26/2001	9/5/2002
		1HGCG66892A000313	1HGCG668X2A177453	8/1/2001	9/2/2002
		3HGCG564X2G700477	3HGCG56442G709420	8/31/2001	9/6/2002
		3HGCG66562G700300	3HGCG66552G707500	8/21/2001	9/10/2002

Honda Accord 2-door	Certain 2001 model year	1HGCG22551A000019	1HGCG22461A036745	9/1/2000	8/16/2001
		1HGCG324X1A001115	1HGCG316X1A034375	9/14/2000	8/17/2001
	Certain 2002 model year	1HGCG22562A000001	1HGCG22572A039387	8/15/2001	9/26/2002
		1HGCG32052A000002	1HGCG32232A037938	8/8/2001	9/26/2002

Honda CR-V	Certain 2002 model year	JHLRD68502C000003	JHLRD68572C026615	6/16/2001	9/7/2002
		JHLRD78882C000041	JHLRD78882C095264	6/15/2001	9/9/2002
		SHSRD68402U000101	SHSRD68432U002487	4/8/2002	9/18/2002
		SHSRD78882U000131	SHSRD78812U013707	2/6/2002	9/26/2002
	Certain 2003 model year	JHLRD68423C000058	JHLRD68463C013167	9/11/2002	5/29/2003
		JHLRD77853C000002	JHLRD78863C035968	8/26/2002	5/29/2003
		SHSRD68473U100102	SHSRD68463U107087	10/1/2002	5/29/2003
		SHSRD78843U100101	SHSRD78833U144770	10/1/2002	5/29/2003

Identification of Potentially Affected Vehicles

Model	Model Year	VIN Range (from-to)		Dates of Manufacture (begin-end)	
Honda Civic 4-door	Certain 2001 model year	JHMES15221S000019	JHMES16521S012339	7/4/2000	7/4/2001
		JHMES25791S000035	JHMES26701S006238	7/24/2000	7/2/2001
		1HGES16291L000031	1HGES16561L078373	6/6/2000	8/30/2001
		1HGES26791L000001	1HGES26761L078073	7/27/2000	8/29/2001
		2HGES15541H500008	2HGES16531H620493	9/1/2000	9/10/2001
		2HGES26751H500007	2HGES26701H619891	8/31/2000	9/4/2001
	Certain 2002 model year	JHMES16592S000111	JHMES16542S005653	8/3/2001	1/11/2002
		JHMES26712S000014	JHMES26702S003616	8/29/2001	1/11/2002
		1HGES155X2L000018	1HGES16572L032259	8/20/2001	1/17/2002
		1HGES25732L000188	1HGES26792L031959	8/28/2001	1/17/2002
		2HGES16592H500005	2HGES16532H543853	8/29/2001	1/17/2002
		2HGES25732H500395	2HGES268X2H543896	8/30/2001	1/17/2002

Honda Civic 2- door	Certain 2001 model year	1HGEM22971L000001	1HGEM21211L125029	9/1/1999	9/19/2001
	Certain 2002 model year	1HGEM22052L000016	1HGEM215X2L036328	9/5/2001	1/17/2002

Honda Odyssey	Certain 2002 model year	2HKRL18002H500061	2HKRL18002H576945	8/23/2001	1/24/2002
		5FNRL18652B000092	5FNRL18032B004170	11/26/2001	1/24/2002

Acura CL	Certain 2003 model year	19UYA41793A000050	19UYA417X3A016337	1/29/2002	6/18/2003
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Acura TL	Certain 2002 model year	19UUA56932A000008	19UUA56652A061706	1/1/2001	2/6/2002
	Certain 2003 model year	19UUA56923A000003	19UUA56663A093968	2/1/2002	9/19/2003