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Flushing, NY

June 5, 2006

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to inform you of a problem that I am having with my 2003 Acura 3.2TL type S that I purchased new on 2/01/03. (VIN # 19UUA56873A [REDACTED]) I have attached documentation that states that Acura has acknowledged that a problem exists with the transmission of 2003 model year 3.2TL automobiles. They have extended the transmission warranty on these automobiles to 7 years or 100k miles. My 3.2TL however is not covered under this warranty because Acura has limited the warranty to certain VIN numbers under 19061. My auto, although not covered under the warranty extension, displays the same symptoms that the company itself describes to be the reason for the warranty extension.

After having my transmission fall out of gear on a highway four times I brought my auto to Acura of Valley Stream on 12/27/05. I was told by the service manager that the transmission had a problem and it would be replaced. The vehicle had 17,014 miles at the time the transmission was replaced. My auto was still under the factory warranty of 4 years or 50,000 miles so the work did not cost me anything.

My problem now is that I only have 8 months left on my warranty and 22,000 miles on the auto and it already displays the same symptoms that it did before the original transmission was replaced. I cannot trust my vehicle on long trips and on the highway. In addition when my warranty expires I will be responsible for the repair costs when the defective transmission fails again.

I purchase this automobile with confidence that it was a quality product backed by a good warranty that would protect my investment. Now I worry about the safety of my family every time I get into my car, as well as worry about a huge repair bill will come when the transmission fails again. Any help you can provide me with will be greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

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Applies To See VEHICLES AFFECTED

August 15, 2003

Warranty Extension: 3.2TL and 3.2CL Automatic Transmission

(Supersedes 02-027, dated February 24, 2002)

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, Acura of America 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 19UUA6...3A00001
To VIN 19UUA6...3A01999
- 2003 3.2TL Type S:
From VIN 19UUA6...3A00001
To VIN 19UUA6...3A01901
- 2001-02 3.2CL: All
- 2003 3.2CL (all models):
From VIN 19UYA4...3A00001
To VIN 19UYA4...3A00999

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, bonded, or stolen 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 diagnosis confirms an internal problem with the torque converter or the automatic transmission, replace the affected unit.

WARRANTY CLAIM INFORMATION

OP #	Description	PRT
20220	Replace torque converter (includes draining ATF through paint strainer, as per service bulletin 02-008)	6.0
20220	Replace transmission and torque converter (includes draining ATF through paint strainer, as per service bulletin 02-008)	5.0

Failed Part: Use the "PRT" part number (from the repair order) without the "RPT"
Example: 08009-PAX-A00

Defect Code: SAT

Completion Code: L78

Part used for repair: Use the "RPT" part number (from the repair order)
Example: 08009-PAX-A00PM

Skill Level: Repair Technician

DIAGNOSIS

For diagnostic information, refer to Service Bulletin 02-008, 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 02-008.
- 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).

TSP040327M 1/03

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DISCLAIMER INFORMATION: The information in this bulletin is intended for use only by trained technicians who have the proper tools, equipment, and facilities necessary and safety controls for your vehicle. These procedures should not be attempted by "do-it-yourselfers," and you should always contact your dealer for more information. To determine whether this information applies, contact an authorized Acura retailer/dealer.

Example of Customer Letter

August 2008

Automatic Transmission Warranty Extension

Dear 3.5TL and 3.5CL Owner:

American Honda is announcing a warranty extension for the automatic transmission on all 1999-08 3.5TL, all 2001-08 3.5CL, and some 2003 3.5TL and 3.5CL. 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 downshift:** 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 current driving conditions.
- **Mechanical noise when engaging 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 shift 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 3.5TL) or D5 indicator (all other models) on the instrument panel flashes.

3.5 INDICATOR



D5 INDICATOR



- An abnormally loud noise from the transmission.
- Excessively slow or delayed gear engagement, upshifts, or downshifts.
- Abnormal gear slippage during upshifts or downshifts.
- Sudden or consistently 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 the warranty extension, please call Acura Client Services at 800-992-9290.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
Acura Automobile Division

**THE ATTACHMENTS TO THIS
DOCUMENT HAVE BEEN REMOVED
TO PROTECT UNWARRANTED
INVASION OF PERSONAL PRIVACY
PURSUANT TO EXEMPTION 6 OF
THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6).**