



U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

DOT Auto Safety Hotline
Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire
 To Report Vehicle Safety Defects
 1-888-DASH-2-DOT
 (1-888-327-4236)
 INTERNET: www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 100148

Date Received

Repository

05-SEP-2007
 2007 DEC 12 AM 8:42

Reference No.
 10201891

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name [REDACTED]
 Address [REDACTED]
 City ANNANDALE State VA Zip Code [REDACTED]

Daytime Telephone Number

E-mail Address

Evening Telephone Number

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? YES NO
 In the absence of an authorized signature or address to the vehicle manufacturer.
 Signature of Owner [REDACTED] Date 11/20/07

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side
 19UUA56863A [REDACTED] Make ACURA Model TL Model Year 2003

Date Purchased 6/17/2002 Dealer's Name and Telephone Number POHANKA ACURA (703) 968-6600 Engine No: Cylinders 6 Fuel Type: Gas

Original Owner Dealer's City CHANTILLY State VA Zip Code 20151

Transmission Type AUTOMATIC Antilock Brakes Cruise Control Powertrain FRONT WHEEL DRIVE Vehicle Component Code 103000 POWER TRAIN:AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION Multiple Failure: 1

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Incident Date(s) 04-SEP-2007 Failure Mileage 96400 Failure Speed 35

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Make [REDACTED] Tire Model (Name or Number) [REDACTED] Tire Size (Example P215/65R15) [REDACTED]
 DOT No. (Example: DOTM9ABC036) Original Equipment Prior Repair Failure Location: [REDACTED]
 Tire Component Code [REDACTED] Tire Failure Type [REDACTED]

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE

Make: [REDACTED] Date Manufactured: [REDACTED] Model No./Name: [REDACTED]
 Seat Type: [REDACTED] Installation System: [REDACTED]
 Child Seat Component Code: [REDACTED] Failed Part: [REDACTED]

APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and injury(ies).)

Crash Yes No Fire Yes No Number of Persons Injured [REDACTED] Number of Deaths [REDACTED] Reported to Police N

Narrative Description of Incident(S), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).
 Please describe (1) events leading up to the failure, (2) failure and its consequences, and (3) what was done to correct the failure; i.e, parts repaired or replaced (and if old part is available).

TL*THE CONTACT OWNS A 2003 ACURA TL. WHILE DRIVING ABOUT 0-35MPH THE VEHICLE BEGAN SHAKING AND MAKING A CONTINUOUS LOUD NOISE. WHEN THE VEHICLE CAME TO A STOP, HE HAD TO RESTART THE VEHICLE AND IT BEGAN SHAKING RAPIDLY ON THREE OCCASIONS. THE REVERSE GEAR BOX AND THE TRANSMISSION FAILED. HE WAS ABLE TO DRIVE TO THE DEALER. THE CURRENT AND FAILURE MILEAGE ON THE VEHICLE WAS 96,400. THE PURCHASE DATE WAS UNAVAILABLE.

Include, if available: Police/Fire Department Report, Photos, and Repair Invoice. ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

The Privacy Act of 1974-Public Law 93-579 This information is requested pursuant to authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a Manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

From the official Acura Transmission Recall notice:

Common signs of transmission failure are:

- An abnormally loud noise from the transmission.
- Extremely slow or delayed gear engagement, upshifts, or downshifts.
- Abnormal gear slippage during upshifts or downshifts. (Commonly between 2-3 and 3-4 shifts)
- Erratic or excessively harsh shifting.
- Automatic transmission fluid (ATF) leaks.
- While driving, the D5 indicator (possibly also TCS and check engine light) on the instrument panel flashes.

I had all these problems plus the car would not go into reverse. I've been informed that '01-'03 Acura TLs and CLs have transmission problem. Actually, couple of friends of mine had the same problem and they were able to replace their transmission free of charge when they took their vehicles to the dealership. Although I have the same problems that are listed by the official Acura Transmission Recall notice, for some odd reason my car was not covered under this recall and I had to pay for my transmission.

Enclosed is the copy of repair invoice.

Thanks,



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**USA
TODAY**



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Honda to extend warranty on some vehicles' transmissions

By Earle Eldridge, USA TODAY

Honda said Thursday that it will extend the warranty on vehicles with a problem transmission to seven years/100,000 miles.

The company also said it will reimburse those owners who paid to have transmissions replaced.

The moves came after angry owners swamped online forums and appealed to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for a safety recall because of a transmission that could slip out of gear, not go into gear, abruptly downshift or refuse to shift.

The extended warranty applies to 2000-01 Honda Odyssey minivans; 2000-01 Honda Accord cars with automatic transmissions; 2000-01 Prelude; and 2000-03 Acura CL and TL cars.

Honda says the extended warranty, which covers the transmission only, affects about 1 million vehicles. It says 1.6% of those vehicles have had to have transmissions replaced.

"We wanted to make sure our customers still believe in Honda, and we didn't want them to have any lingering doubts about our quality," says Kurt Antonius, a Honda spokesman.

Honda will send letters in the next few weeks to owners of the vehicles, notifying them of the extended warranty and offering reimbursement.

For vehicles still under the three-year/36,000-mile warranty given when the vehicle was purchased, Honda had been replacing the transmissions. But owners with problems after the warranty expired were required to pay for the new transmission.

The problem varies with each model, but Antonius says the culprit is a bearing inside the transmission that could break apart or premature wear of a third-gear clutch part that could scatter metal bits inside the transmission case.

Some owners said their transmission had to be replaced with as little as 1,200 miles on the vehicle.

David Champion, director of *Consumer Reports* magazine's Auto Test Division, says

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**whose goals are
bigger than
their budgets.**



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ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6).