



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE.
Washington, DC 20590

February 16, 2011

The Honorable Olympia J. Snowe
United States Senator
3 Canal Plaza, Suite 601
Portland, ME 04101

NVS-216 mec
Ref. No. 10365679

Dear Senator Snowe:

Thank you for your correspondence on behalf of your constituent, [REDACTED].
[REDACTED] wrote your office concerning his model year (MY) 2000 Honda Passport vehicle.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is the Federal agency responsible for improving safety on our Nation's highways. We are authorized to order manufacturers to recall and repair vehicles or motor vehicle equipment when our investigations indicate that they contain safety defects in their design, construction, or performance. In order for the agency to initiate an investigation, we look carefully at the body of consumer complaints and other available data to determine whether a defect may exist.

We appreciate the report you provided on behalf of [REDACTED]. Reports from motorists are a very important source of information for us. In [REDACTED] correspondence, he indicated that he took his MY 2000 Honda Passport to an independent service facility for a state inspection and was told his vehicle is "near condemned" due to a hole in the frame caused by corrosion. The facility advised that they were not able to repair the damage to the frame. [REDACTED] is also concerned that his MY 2000 Honda Passport vehicle is not included in the recall that addresses corrosion at the rear suspension, NHTSA Recall Campaign No. 10V-436, summary enclosed. He also questions the adequacy of this remedy.

The recall includes MY 1998 through MY 2000 Honda Passports sold or registered in salt belt states. [REDACTED] vehicle is currently registered in Maine which is included in the recall. In addition, NHTSA staff entered the vehicle identification number of his vehicle into Honda's recall search engine found at www.ahm-ownerlink.com and confirmed it is within the range of recalled MY 2000 Honda Passports. Therefore, [REDACTED] vehicle is eligible for the recall remedy. We suggest he contact American Honda Automobile Customer Service at 1-800-999-1009 for further information. With respect to [REDACTED] concerns about

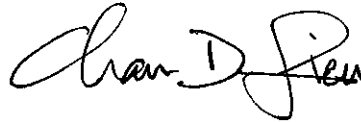
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the adequacy of the remedy, Honda developed the remedy to address the risk of a crash resulting from the failure of either the left or right rear suspension lower link brackets. NHTSA has not determined that corrosion in other areas of the vehicle's undercarriage creates an unreasonable safety risk.

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions, please contact me or Mr. Claude H. Harris, Acting Associate Administrator for Enforcement, at (202) 366-3217.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chan D. Lieu". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Chan" being the most prominent.

Chan D. Lieu
Director, Governmental Affairs,
Policy and Strategic Planning

Enclosure

cc: Washington Office

Recall Detail

03-FEB-2011

Recall Num: 10 V 436 000	573 Date: 22-SEP-2010	573 Date Rcvd: 22-SEP-2010	Potentially Affected: 149,992	Potentially Defective: 149,992
Mfr Recall Num:				
Subject: REAR SUSPENSION LOWER LINK BRACKETS		Remedy Type: Inspect and Repair		RP Num:
Recall Type: Defect	Recall Effect: Crash Avoidance	NHTSA Inv Num: EA09-018	Influenced by: ODI	
Problem Exp: Complaints		Manufacturer: ISUZU MANUFACTURING SERVICES OF AMERICA	Recall Status: CONDUCTING RECALL	
FMVSS Num:				
Problem Descr: ISUZU IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 1998-2002 ISUZU RODEO AND MODEL YEAR 2002 ISUZU AXIOM VEHICLES, AND HONDA IS RECALLING CERTAIN 1998-2002 HONDA PASSPORT VEHICLES, THAT WERE ORIGINALLY SOLD, OR ARE CURRENTLY REGISTERED, IN THE STATES OF MAINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE, VERMONT, MASSACHUSETTS, RHODE ISLAND, CONNECTICUT, NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA, DELAWARE, MARYLAND, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, WEST VIRGINIA, OHIO, INDIANA, MICHIGAN, ILLINOIS, WISCONSIN, MINNESOTA, IOWA, MISSOURI, AND KENTUCKY. VEHICLES THAT HAVE EXPERIENCED SUSTAINED EXPOSURE TO HIGHLY CORROSIVE MATERIALS USED IN SOME JURISDICTIONS FOR ROAD DEICING PURPOSES MAY EXPERIENCE EXCESSIVE CORROSION IN THE VICINITY OF THE FORWARD MOUNTING POINT BRACKET FOR THE LEFT OR RIGHT REAR SUSPENSION LOWER LINK PRIOR TO THE TIME THAT SUCH CORROSION WOULD NORMALLY BE EXPECTED. Consequence: EXCESSIVE CORROSION MAY RESULT IN THE LEFT OR RIGHT REAR SUSPENSION LOWER LINK BRACKET BECOMING DETACHED FROM THE FRAME, WHICH CAN AFFECT VEHICLE HANDLING AND POTENTIALLY CAUSE A CRASH. Remedy Type: DEALERS WILL INSPECT THE REAR SUSPENSION LOWER LINK BRACKET AREA. FOR VEHICLES IN WHICH LITTLE OR NO CORROSION IS FOUND, THE AREA WILL BE TREATED WITH AN ANTI-CORROSIVE COMPOUND. FOR VEHICLES IN WHICH CORROSION HAS DAMAGED THE REAR SUSPENSION LOWER LINK BRACKET AND AFFECTED ITS CONNECTION TO THE VEHICLE FRAME, A REINFORCEMENT BRACKET WILL BE INSTALLED. IN THE RARE EVENT THE CORROSION IS SO SEVERE THAT THE REINFORCEMENT BRACKET REMEDY WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE, ISUZU AND HONDA WILL DEVELOP AN APPROPRIATE REMEDY. ALL INSPECTIONS AND REMEDIES WILL BE PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE FOR VEHICLES THAT ARE 10 YEARS OLD OR LESS. FOR VEHICLES OLDER THAN 10 YEARS, ISUZU WILL OFFER A FREE REMEDY, BUT ONLY IF THE VEHICLE IS PRESENTED TO AN ISUZU SERVICE FACILITY, OR HONDA DEALER (AS APPLICABLE), DEALER WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF WHEN OWNER NOTIFICATIONS WERE ISSUED. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN EARLY DECEMBER 2010. ISUZU OWNERS MAY CONTACT ISUZU AT 1-800-255-6727. HONDA OWNERS MAY CONTACT HONDA AT 1-800-999-1009. Notes: OWNERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV .				
MFR Knowl Dt:	Prod Change Dt:	Mfr Press Release Dt:	NHTSA Press Release Dt:	
Stop Sales: Y	Regional:			
Supplier:	Mfr Toll Free Num: 800-225-6727	Country of Origin: United States of America		

Products	Vehicle Usage	Beginning Mfg Date	Ending Mfg Date
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :ISUZU MANUFACTURING SERVICES OF AMERICA Make :ISUZU Model :RODEO Model Year :2000 Type :MULTIPURPOSE PASSENGER VEHICLE	Passenger		
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :ISUZU MANUFACTURING SERVICES OF AMERICA Make :ISUZU Model :RODEO Model Year :1999 Type :MULTIPURPOSE PASSENGER VEHICLE	Passenger		
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :HONDA (AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO.) Make :HONDA Model :PASSPORT Model Year :2002 Type :MULTIPURPOSE PASSENGER VEHICLE	Passenger		
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :ISUZU MANUFACTURING SERVICES OF AMERICA Make :ISUZU Model :RODEO Model Year :2001 Type :MULTIPURPOSE PASSENGER VEHICLE	Passenger		
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :HONDA (AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO.) Make :HONDA Model :PASSPORT Model Year :2000 Type :MULTIPURPOSE PASSENGER VEHICLE	Passenger		
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :ISUZU MANUFACTURING SERVICES OF AMERICA Make :ISUZU Model :RODEO Model Year :2002 Type :MULTIPURPOSE PASSENGER VEHICLE	Passenger		
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :ISUZU MANUFACTURING SERVICES OF AMERICA Make :ISUZU Model :RODEO Model Year :1998 Type :MULTIPURPOSE PASSENGER VEHICLE	Passenger		
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :HONDA (AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO.) Make :HONDA Model :PASSPORT Model Year :1999 Type :MULTIPURPOSE PASSENGER VEHICLE	Passenger		
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :HONDA (AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO.) Make :HONDA Model :PASSPORT Model Year :2001 Type :MULTIPURPOSE PASSENGER VEHICLE	Passenger		
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :HONDA (AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO.) Make :HONDA Model :PASSPORT Model Year :1998 Type :MULTIPURPOSE PASSENGER VEHICLE	Passenger		
Component Name			
SUSPENSION:REAR			

Recall Detail

03-FEB-2011

Products	Vehicle Usage	Beginning Mfg Date	Ending Mfg Date
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :ISUZU MANUFACTURING SERVICES OF AMERICA Make :ISUZU Model :AXIOM Model Year :2002 Type :MULTIPURPOSE PASSENGER VEHICLE	Passenger		
Component Name			
Influencing Investigation(s)			
Investigation Num	Subject	Investigator	Relationship
EA 09 018	Rear Suspension Lower Link Detachment	DEREK RINEHARDT	Influencing
PE 09 030	REAR SUSPENSION LOWER LINK FAILURE	DEREK RINEHARDT	Followup
Related Recalls			
Yr	Type	Major Sub	Relationship
Recall Characteristics			
Unique Recall		Unique Descr	
Stopped Sales			
Recall Communications			
Fax Ack: 09-NOV-2010		Letter Ack: 29-SEP-2010	
Draft 577 Received: 09-NOV-2010		Draft 577 Approved: 09-NOV-2010	
Final 577 Received: 16-DEC-2010		Owner Notification: 10-DEC-2010	
Phased: N		577 End:	
Renotification:		Envelope Approved:	
Dealer Notification		Dealer Notification:01-OCT-2010	
Received: 14-DEC-2010			