

**INITIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT FAX SHEET OF RECEIPT OF DEFECT
INFORMATION REPORT SUBMITTED UNDER 49 CFR PART 573**

Assigned Recall No. **99V-227** by the
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

AUG 26 1999

Part 573 Report Date: August 18, 1999

MANUFACTURER: American Honda Motor Co., Inc.

MANUFACTURER CONTACT: William R. Willen, Managing Counsel
Product Legal Group

FAX: (310) 783-3510

SUBJECT: 96,617 1996-1999 Acura 3.5RL vehicles manufactured from December 14, 1995 through June 29, 1999; and 1996-1998 Acura 3.2TL vehicles manufactured from April 10, 1995 through April 16, 1998. A transmission case bolt can loosen and fall out allowing the transmission to disengage from the differential. The vehicle could lose power to the drive wheels without warning. Also, shifting the transmission into the Park position would not lock the wheels, and a parked vehicle could move unexpectedly if the parking brake is not set.

This is an initial acknowledgment for this recall. A formal acknowledgment letter will be forthcoming shortly. After our review of your report and associated documents, we may have additional comments or concerns.

We have reviewed your owner notification letter and it meets the requirements of Part 577.

As stated in Part 573.6, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. *As stated in your report, owner notification is expected to begin during August 30, 1999.* Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due by October 30, 1999.

If you have any questions, please call:

Patricia Wallace, Recall Analyst on (202) 366-5232
or Jonathan White, Chief on (202) 366-52262
or by FAX (202) 366-7882
Recall Analysis Division



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Mr. William R. Willen
Managing Counsel, Product Legal Group
American Honda Motor Company, Inc.
1919 Torrance Boulevard
Torrance, CA 90501-2746

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99V-227

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Dear Mr. Willen:

We have reviewed American Honda Motor Company, Inc.'s (Honda) Defect Information Report dated August 18, 1999, submitted in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports." This recall involves 96,617 Honda 1996 through 1999 Acura 3.5RL vehicles manufactured from December 14, 1995 through June 29, 1999; and 1996 through 1998 Acura 3.2TL vehicles manufactured from April 10, 1995 through April 16, 1998. A transmission case bolt can loosen and fall out allowing the transmission to disengage from the differential. The vehicle could lose power to the drive wheels without warning. Also, shifting the transmission into the Park position would not lock the wheels, and a parked vehicle could move unexpectedly if the parking brake is not set. **The assigned recall identification number for this recall is 99V-227.**

Honda is responsible for the remedy of these transit coaches from this date forward, regardless of vehicle age, mileage, or ownership.

Recall Communications

Communications pertaining to safety recalls and issued by Honda to more than one distributor, dealer, purchaser, or owner are to be submitted to this office within 5 days of issuance as described under 49 CFR Part 573.5(c)(9). Where this information is sent over a period time, the communications are to be submitted within 5 days from the date the communications were first sent, and furnish the date, or range of dates, each communication was issued. This includes information transmitted by computer, telefax, or other electronic means; and initial or interim communications. All copies are to be in readable form and a written transcript should be provided for each non-written communication. Also, if the communication was not nationally and uniformly distributed, then identify the criteria used for the distribution.

Manufacturer Communications

Part 573.8, "Notices, Bulletins and Other Communications," requires that every motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment manufacturer shall furnish a copy of **all notices, bulletins, and other communications (including warranty and policy extension communiques and product improvement bulletins)** to manufacturers, distributors,

dealers, or purchasers, regarding any defect in its vehicle or items of equipment (including any failure or malfunction beyond normal deterioration in use, any failure of performance, or any flaw or unintended deviation from design specifications), whether or not such defect is safety related. These notices or communications are to be submitted, regardless of the media used to transmit the information. Where communications are made orally or electronically, provide a transcript. In all other cases, provide the information in the media form used to transmit the information. On a case by case basis, we may require written transcripts of this material as well. Copies are to be submitted monthly, not more than 5 working days after the end of each month.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Pat Wallace at (202) 366-5232 or fax at (202) 366-7882.

Sincerely,

/s/

Jonathan D. White, Chief
Recall Analysis Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Safety Assurance