

# HONDA

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.  
1919 Torrance Boulevard  
Torrance, CA 90501-2746  
Phone (310) 788-2000

August 25, 2004

Mr. Kenneth Weinstein,  
Associate Administrator  
Office of Safety Assurance  
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY  
ADMINISTRATION  
400 Seventh St., S.W.  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

On August 18, 2004, Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 673 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

573.6(c)(1)

**Name of manufacturer:** Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, LLC (HMA)

**Manufacturer's agent:** William R. Willen  
American Honda Motor Co., Inc.  
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/Dates of Manufacture</u>
Honda Odyssey	Certain 2004 model year	5FNRL189*4B089047 to 5FNRL186*4B136658 Feb. 3, 2004 to Jul. 15, 2004

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

The subject fuel pumps were identified based on manufacturing records. The VINS and manufacturing dates are inclusive of all vehicles that could potentially contain one of the affected fuel pumps.

573.6(c)(3)

**Total number of vehicles potentially affected:** 69,538

573.6(c)(4)

**Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect:** About 10%

573.6(c)(5)

**Defect description:**

**Summary**

A small amount of water may have been left in the fuel pump electrical connector after testing. This residual water may cause the fuel pump to fail due to corrosion. If the pump stops working, the engine will stall without warning, increasing the potential for a crash.

**Detail**

The fuel tank supplier conducts fuel tank integrity (leak) testing by submerging the tank in water. In some cases, the water was not completely removed from the electrical connector of the fuel pump, which is located on top of the fuel tank. Over time, the water trapped in this connector may corrode the electrical terminals. Eventually, the fuel pump will stop working. If the flow of fuel to the engine stops, the engine will stall without warning, increasing the potential for a crash.

573.6(c)(6)

**Chronology:**

Jun. 7, 2004	HMA received a dealer report about a vehicle that would not start and initiated an investigation.
Jun. 21, 2004	HMA obtained the failed parts from the market.
Aug. 18, 2004	HMA completed the investigation. HMC determined that a safety-related defect exists.

573.6(c)(8)(i)

**Program for remedying the defect:**

The owners of all affected vehicles will be notified by mail and asked to take their vehicle to an authorized Honda dealer. The dealer will check the electrical coupler terminal of the fuel pump. If any corrosion is found, the pump will be replaced, free of charge. Reimbursement will not be necessary because the affected vehicles are still covered under the new vehicle warranty.

573.6(c)(8)(II)

**Estimated date to e-mail preliminary notification to dealers:** Aug. 25, 2004  
**Estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers:** Aug. 25, 2004  
**Estimated date to begin mailing notifications to owners:** Sept. 24, 2004  
**Estimated date of completion of the notification of owners:** Oct. 8, 2004

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 will be submitted to your office as soon as possible.

573.6(c)(11)

**Manufacturer's campaign number:**

P43.

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



William R. Willen  
Managing Counsel  
Product Regulatory Office

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