

# HONDA

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.  
1919 Torrance Boulevard  
Torrance, CA 90501-2746  
Phone (310) 783-2000

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DEPARTMENT OF  
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

November 11, 2004

04V-536  
(3 pages)

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 November 4, 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 573 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 2005 model year	5FNRL38**5B000192 - 5FNRL38**5B019361 Jul. 28, 2004 to Oct. 16, 2004

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

The affected vehicles were identified based on manufacturing records. The VINs and manufacturing dates are inclusive of all vehicles that could potentially have incorrectly installed rear wheel speed sensors.

573.6(c)(3)  
**Total number of vehicles potentially affected:** 2,247

573.6(c)(4)  
**Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect:** 1%

573.6(c)(5)  
**Defect description:**

Some rear wheel speed sensors may not be installed correctly, which causes the sensor to report an incorrect wheel speed to the anti-lock brake system (ABS) control unit. The on-board diagnostic system quickly identifies this error under most normal driving conditions, activates numerous warning lamps and disables the ABS. Brake application below the ABS threshold, or after ABS is disabled, is not affected. However, if brake application exceeding the ABS threshold occurs before the malfunction is detected, the ABS control unit may reduce brake force to all wheels. An unexpected loss of brake force can cause a crash.

573.6(c)(6)  
**Chronology:**

Oct. 14, 2004	During factory testing, an ABS malfunction occurred. HMA initiated an investigation with Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC).
Nov. 4, 2004	HMC completed the investigation and 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 inspect the rear wheel speed sensors. If an incorrect gap is detected, the sensor will be removed and the knuckle checked for cross-threading damage. If damage is found, the knuckle will be replaced. If no damage is found, the sensor will be reinstalled correctly. The inspection and any necessary repairs will be performed free of charge.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

<b>Estimated date to e-mail preliminary notification to dealers:</b>	Nov. 4, 2004
<b>Estimated date to provide preliminary service bulletin to dealers:</b>	Nov. 5, 2004
<b>Estimated date to begin mailing notifications to owners:</b>	Nov. 12, 2004
<b>Estimated date of completion of the notification of owners:</b>	Nov. 12, 2004
<b>Estimated date to provide final service bulletin to dealers:</b>	Nov. 19, 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 was previously submitted to your office.

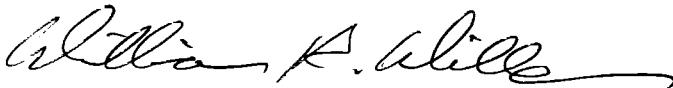
573.6(c)(11)

**Manufacturer's campaign number:**

P52.

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



William R. Willen  
Managing Counsel  
Product Regulatory Office

WRW:ke