

2005 AUY -3 P 3: 0b

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.

1919 Torrance Boulevard Torrance, CA 90501 2746 Phone (310) 783-2000

November 2, 2005

DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

05 V-510 (3Pags)

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

Dear Mr. Medford:

On October 26, 2005, Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the 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 of America Manufacturing, Inc. (HAM)

Manufacturer's agent: William R. Willen

American Honda Motor Co., Inc. (AHM)

1919 Torrance Blvd.

Torrance, CA 90501-2746

573.6(c)(2)

Identification of potentially affected vehicles:

Make/Model	Description	VIN/Dates of Manufacture
Honda Accord	Certain 2006 model year	1HGCM66536A003065 - 1HGCM66536A003941 Sep. 12, 2005 to Sep. 13, 2005
		1HGCM82636A000936 - 1HGCM826X6A001775 Sep. 12, 2005 to Sep. 21, 2005
Acura TL	Certain 2006 model year	19UUA66296A000626 - 19UUA66256A001224 Sep. 21, 2005 to Sep. 23, 2005

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

The affected vehicle identification was based on manufacturing records. The VINs and manufacturing dates are inclusive of all vehicles that could potentially contain the defect.

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573.6(c)(3)

Total number of vehicles potentially affected:

316

573.6(c)(4)

Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect:

Unknown

573.6(c)(5)

Defect description:

Summary

Some 2006 Honda Accord and 2006 Acura TL front impact sensor bolts were not properly torqued. If the bolts loosen or fall out, the sensor may fail to properly detect a crash, possibly resulting in delayed or non-deployment of the front airbags.

Detail

The frontal airbag system has two external impact sensors mounted near the front headlights. The sensors are connected to mounting brackets with two Torx bolts.

On some 2006 Accords, the bolts on the left front impact sensor were not properly torqued during manufacturing, and on some 2006 TLs, the bolts on the right front impact sensor were not properly torqued. In certain circumstances, the impact sensor may fail to detect a crash, resulting in a delay in or loss of front airbag deployment. Delayed front airbag deployment or non-deployment can increase the risk of injury in a frontal crash.

573.6(c)(6)

Chronology:

Sept. 21, 2005

HAM discovered undertorqued sensor bolts.

Oct. 26, 2005

HAM completed the investigation, and 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 contacted by mail and asked to take their vehicle to a Honda or Acura dealer. The dealer will remove the bumper and retorque the loose bolts free of charge.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

The estimated date to e-mail preliminary notification to dealers: Nov. 3, 2005

The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers:

Nov. 3, 2005

The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners:

Nov. 10, 2005

The estimated date of completion of the notification:

TBD

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 letter will be submitted to your office as soon as possible.

573.6(c)(11)

Manufacturer's campaign number:

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P99

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

William R. Willen Managing Counsel

Product Regulatory Office

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