

HONDA

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.

RECEIVED

2005 DEC 20 A.M. 07

December 19, 2005

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

05V-562
(3 pages)

Dear Mr. Medford:

On December 12, 2005, Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the headlamps of certain 2006 model year VT750C motorcycles, 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 Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC)

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:

<u>Make/Model</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>VIN Range/Dates of Manufacture</u>
Honda VT750C6	Certain 2006 model year	JH2RC500*6M200002 – JH2RC500*6M203685 March 9, 2005 – November 11, 2005
Honda VT750CA6	Certain 2006 model year	JH2RC504*6M200002 – JH2RC504*6M205400 March 9, 2005 – November 14, 2005

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

The recall population was based on manufacturing records. The VIN range reflects all possible vehicles that one of the switch assemblies with a damaged connector could have been installed.

573.6(c)(3)

Total number of potentially affected vehicles: Approximately 6,786

573.6(c)(4)

Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect: 100%

573.6(c)(5)

Defect description:

Summary:

A damaged connector in the handlebar mounted headlight switch may cause the headlight to flicker and eventually fail. If riding at night, the sudden loss of headlights could result in a crash.

Detail:

A new inspection process, developed to ensure continuity within the headlight switch harness, utilized an oversized probe that damaged the female side of a critical connector. The probe deformed the spring side of the connector and the resultant loose connection causes the connector to overheat and eventually fail. In most cases, the rider detected the flickering headlight and sought warranty service repairs. If not corrected, the connector will overheat until the connector fails and the headlight will suddenly go off.

573.6(c)(6)

Chronology:

Nov. 2, 2005	Intermittent headlight operation was observed during a durability test in Brazil. This occurrence was reported to HMC.
Nov. 18, 2005	After an early evaluation of the limited information, an investigation was launched by HMC.
Nov. 22, 2005	AH received the information from HMC about the Brazilian problem.
Nov. 23, 2005	AHM QIC informed HMC that AHM had received 5 warranty claims for intermittent headlight operation.
Dec. 8, 2005	HMC completed the investigation.
Dec 12, 2005	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 motorcycle dealer. The dealer will install new left and right handle switch assemblies with undamaged connectors.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

Date of e-mail notification to dealers:	Dec. 13, 2005
The estimated date to begin sending initial notification to owners:	Dec. 19, 2005
The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers:	Jan. 5, 2006
The estimated date to begin sending customer letters to owners:	Jan. 5, 2006
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:
Q07.

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



William R. Willen
Managing Counsel
Product Regulatory Office

WRW:nis