

U.S. Department of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW Washington, DC 20590

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

MAR 1 4 2006

## <u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. William Willen American Honda Motor Co. 1919 Torrance Boulevard Torrance, CA 90501-2746

NVS-215kis

Dear Mr. Willen:

American Honda Motor Co. (Honda) is requested, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 30165, 30166, and 30119, to renotify owners involved in safety recall 05V-025 who have not had their vehicles corrected or otherwise accounted for. This recall involves 452,807 MY 1997-2002 Honda Prelude and Accord and Acura TL model vehicles. The interlock operation of the ignition switch may not function properly, making it possible to turn the ignition key to the "off" position and remove the key without shifting the transmission to park. Owner notification began on March 7, 2005. Through the fourth quarter of 2005, Honda's fourth reporting quarter, Honda reports that of the 452,807 vehicles involved, 160,234 have been remedied resulting in a completion rate of 35.4 percent.

Honda should conduct the owner renotification in accordance with the guidelines listed below.

- Before conducting the owner renotification, Honda should obtain an updated owner list, for this recall campaign, based on current state motor vehicle registration records.
- Honda's proposed owner renotification letter for this recall must meet the requirements of 49 CFR Part 577.10, "Follow-up Notification," and must be submitted to NHTSA for review before owner renotification begins. Part 577.10(e)(1) specifically requires that the renotification letter be identified as a "... follow-up to an earlier communication."

- In addition to the six quarterly status reports required under 49 CFR Part 573.6, "Quarterly Reports," Honda is requested to file three additional quarterly status reports.
- Furnish a proposed schedule for conducting the owner renotification that includes the following information:
  - a. the date on which the search of current state motor vehicle registration records will be initiated in order to update the original owner list;
  - b. the approximate date on which the revised owner list will be available to initiate owner renotification;
  - c. the approximate date on which the owner renotification will begin; and
  - d. the approximate date on which the owner renotification will be completed (if the owner renotification is to be staggered, give the beginning and ending owner renotification date for each segment).

Honda's renotification schedule and a draft of the proposed owner renotification letter must be submitted to this office by March 29, 2006.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Kelly Schuler of my staff at (202) 366-5227, by fax at (202) 366-7882, or by e-mail at kschuler@nhtsa.dot.gov.

George Person, Chief

Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation

Enforcement