

06E-096
(3 pages)

HONDA

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
19000 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90501-2746
Tel: 310.770.0123

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2006 NOV 27 P 2:52

OFFICE OF SAFETY ASSURANCE
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY
ADMINISTRATION

November 16, 2006

Mr. Daniel Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
Office of Safety Assurance
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY
ADMINISTRATION
400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Smith:

On November 8, 2006, Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the accessory trailer hitch for the 2007 model year Acura RDX, 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 Access America, Inc. (HAA)
Manufacturer's agent: William R. Willen
American Honda Motor Co., Inc. (AHM)
1919 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90501-2746
Name of supplier: Thule Towing Systems
32501 Dequindre
Madison Heights, MI 48071

573.6(c)(2)

Identification of affected vehicle equipment:

<u>Component Name</u>	<u>Part Number</u>	<u>Dates of Manufacture</u>
Trailer Hitch Kit	08L92-STK-200	Jun. 26, 2006 to Jul. 8, 2006

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

The affected kit was designed specifically for certain 2007 model year Acura RDX.

573.6(c)(3)

Total number of trailer hitch kits sold to dealers: 623

573.6(c)(4)

Percentage of affected trailer hitch kits that contain the defect: Unknown

573.6(c)(5)

Defect description:

The accessory trailer hitch installed on some 2007 Acura RDX vehicles was not welded properly by the manufacturer of the trailer hitch. This may result in the hitch separating from the vehicle, increasing the safety hazard to traffic.

573.6(c)(6)

Chronology:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| October 31, 2006 | HAA received 1 st occurrence report in their monitor program. |
| November 1, 2006 | HAA requested AHM to stop sale of trailer hitch and initiated an investigation. |
| November 8, 2006 | HAA completed investigation and HMC determined that a safety-related defect exists. |

573.6(c)(8)(i)

Program for remedying the defect:

The owners of all potentially affected vehicles will be contacted by mail. Owners who have purchased Honda's accessory trailer hitch will be asked to take their vehicle to a Honda dealer. The dealer will inspect the trailer hitch. If the hitch is within the suspect range, the dealer will replace the trailer hitch, free of charge.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

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| The estimated date to e-mail preliminary notification to dealers: | Nov. 16, 2006 |
| The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers: | Nov. 22, 2006 |
| The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners: | Dec. 1, 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:

Q29

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



William R. Willen
Managing Counsel
Product Regulatory Office

WRW:nis