



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

December 3, 2007

WILLIAM R. WILLEN  
MANAGING COUNSEL  
PRODUCT REGULATORY OFFICE  
AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.  
1919 TORRANCE BOULEVARD  
TORRANCE CA 90501-2746

NVS-215paw  
07V-542

Subject: HOOD PROP ROD BASE

Dear MR. WILLEN:

This letter serves to acknowledge American Honda Motor Company, Inc.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Administration (NHTSA) of a safety defect in the products described below, for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30119.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**  
HONDA/RIDGELINE/2008

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 07V-542

**Mfg's Report Date:** November 19, 2007

**Components:** STRUCTURE: BODY: HOOD

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 410

**Summary:**

ON CERTAIN VEHICLES, THE HOLE IN THE SHEETMETAL FRONT BULKHEAD THAT SERVES AS THE BASE AND PIVOT POINT FOR THE HOOD SUPPORT ROD WAS NOT PUNCHED TO SPECIFICATION. THE HOOD SUPPORT ROD MAY FAIL TO HOLD THE HOOD IN POSITION DUE TO INSUFFICIENT STRENGTH.

**Consequence:**

IF THE HOOD SUPPORT ROD HOLE FAILS, THE HOOD COULD FALL INCREASING THE RISK OF INJURY.

**Remedy:**

DEALERS WILL INSPECT THE PROP ROD BASE HOLE AND, IF NECESSARY, INSTALL REINFORCEMENT PARTS FREE OF CHARGE. HONDA HAS TELEPHONED ALL OWNERS ON NOVEMBER 26, 2007, ASKING THEM TO BRING THEIR VEHICLES IN TO THEIR DEALERS FOR INSPECTION. A FOLLOWUP LETTER WILL BE MAILED DURING JANUARY 2008. OWNERS MAY CONTACT HONDA AT 1-800-999-1009.

**Notes:**

HONDA RECALL NO. Q64. CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6.

Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at [Patricia.wallace@dot.gov](mailto:Patricia.wallace@dot.gov), [Delia.lopez@dot.gov](mailto:Delia.lopez@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Person". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping underline.

George H. Person  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement