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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
RECALL MGMT DIV.

September 4, 2007

07V-359
SUPPLEMENT

Mr. Daniel C. Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY
ADMINISTRATION
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Smith:

On August 7, 2007, Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the wire harness of 2002-2005 model year VFR800 motorcycles. Honda furnished notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports on August 14, 2007. We are submitting the remainder of our responses in this letter.

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 VFR800	2002 model year	JH2RC461*2M400002 - JH2RC461*2M400006 September 6, 2001
		JH2RC461*2M400008 - JH2RC461*2M402149 February 6, 2002
		JH2RC464*2M400002 - JH2RC464*2M400006 September 5, 2001
		JH2RC464*2M400009 - JH2RC464*2M400536 November 22, 2001 ~ May 13, 2002

<u>Make/Model</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>VIN Range/Dates of Manufacture</u>
Honda VFR800	2003 model year	JH2RC461*3M500001 - JH2RC461*3M501519 July 19, 2002 ~ September 19, 2002
		JH2RC464*3M500001 - JH2RC464*3M500496 July 9, 2002 ~ July 30, 2002
	2004 model year	JH2RC461*4M600001 - JH2RC461*4M601209 October 15, 2003 ~ December 19, 2003
		JH2RC464*4M600001 - JH2RC464*4M600310 October 15, 2003 ~ October 29, 2003
	2005 model year	JH2RC461*5M700001 - JH2RC461*5M700552 August 17, 2004 ~ December 27, 2004
		JH2RC464*5M700001 - JH2RC464*5M700186 July 8, 2004 ~ September 9, 2004

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 could potentially experience the problem.

573.6(c)(3)

Total number of potentially affected vehicles: 6,952

573.6(c)(4)

Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect: 100%

573.6(c)(5)

Defect description:

The front fairing sub-harness (section of the wiring harness) transfers the electrical grounding load of the headlights, front turn signals, instrument panel, and various relays to the main wiring harness via an 18-pin connector. Under certain conditions, the ground wire terminals inside the connector can overheat, resulting in melting of the connector and a loss of power to various circuits. As a result, a loss of critical lighting or engine power could occur without warning, which could cause a crash.

573.6(c)(6)

Chronology:

July 29, 2005 AHM issued a report to HMC and initiated an investigation.

Aug. 29, 2005 HMC determined the cause was the result of owner modification

Sep. 16, 2005 AHM received an inquiry from NHTSA's Office of Defect Investigation.

Nov. 14, 2005 AHM issued a reply with the requested data along with information from 5 vehicle inspections which exhibited owner modifications.

Jan. 26, 2007 AHM received an inquiry from NHTSA's Early Warning Division.

Mar. 9, 2007 AHM issued a reply providing the requested information.

Aug. 7, 2007 HMC decided to conduct a safety recall to improve the ground capacity and its ability to withstand minor electrical modifications.

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. A re-designed sub-harness will be installed, and if damage is found the main wiring harness will also be replaced, free of charge.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

Date of e-mail notification to dealers:	August 31, 2007
The estimated date to begin sending initial notification to owners	September 4, 2007
The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers:	early October 2007
The estimated date to begin sending customer letters to owners:	October 10, 2007
The estimated date of completion of the notification:	October 10, 2007

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 initial owner notification letter will be submitted to your office as soon as possible.

Mr. Daniel Smith
September 4, 2007
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573.6(c)(11)

Manufacturer's campaign number:
Q57

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William R. Willen", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

William R. Willen
Managing Counsel
Product Regulatory Office

WRW:nis