

RECEIVED

2007 SEP. - 5 AM 9:00  
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION  
RECALL MGMT DIV.

**HONDA**

**American Honda Motor Co., Inc.**  
1919 Torrance Boulevard  
Torrance, CA 90501-2746  
Phone (310) 783-2000

August 30, 2007

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

**07V-399  
(4 PAGES)**

Dear Mr. Smith:

On August 23, 2007, Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the rear wheel bearings of certain 2006-2007 model year Honda Civic automobiles, 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 Canada Manufacturing, Inc. (HCM)  
  
**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 Civic Coupe	Certain 2006 model year	2HGFG12636H500009 – 2HGFG12816H584624 Mar. 24, 2005 to Sep. 1, 2006 2HGFG21306H700004 – 2HGFG21516H713846 Mar. 29, 2005 to Sep. 1, 2006
Honda Civic Sedan	Certain 2006 model year	2HGFA15506H500005 – 2HGFA16856H528911 May. 25, 2005 to Sep. 1, 2006
Honda Civic Coupe	Certain 2007 model year	2HGFG12677H500001 – 2HGFG12847H539744 Jul. 25, 2006 to Feb. 8, 2007 2HGFG21517H700001 – 2HGFG21527H706051 Jun. 6, 2006 to Feb. 8, 2007
Honda Civic Sedan	Certain 2007 model year	2HGFA16807H500001 – 2HGFA16837H502258 May. 31, 2006 to Feb. 8, 2007 2HGFA55557H700001 – 2HGFA55557H707417 May. 31, 2006 to Feb. 8, 2007

**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:** 182,756

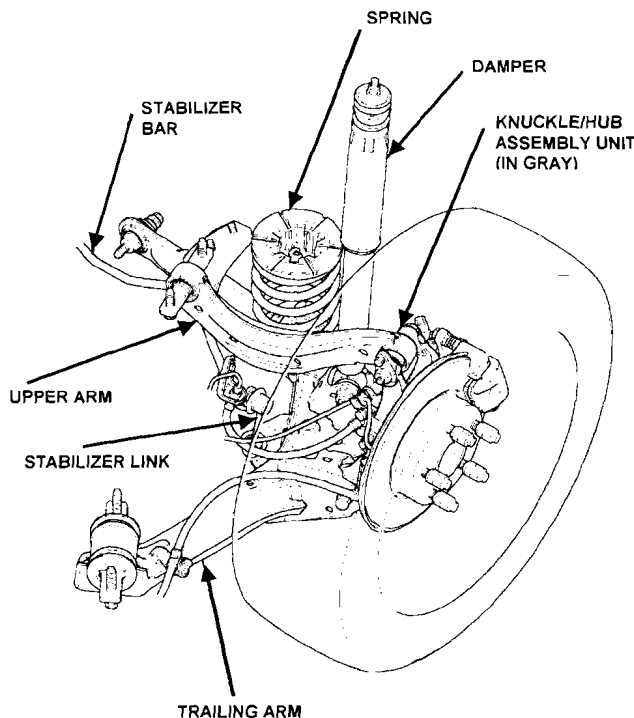
573.6(c)(4)

**Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect:** approx. 5%

573.6(c)(5)

**Defect description:**

The left and right rear wheel hub assemblies are each attached to a left or right knuckle/hub assembly by a wheel bearing. Both the left and right knuckle/hub assemblies include an ABS wheel speed sensor. The wheel speed sensor housing uses an O-ring seal to prevent leakage to or from the wheel bearing. If assembled improperly, the O-ring may not seal properly, allowing water to enter the wheel bearing and eventually cause damage to the bearing, especially in areas where use of road salt is prevalent. If a customer continues to drive with this condition it is possible for the wheel bearing to become loose, which could cause the bearing to overheat. If not corrected this could cause a wheel to fall off of the vehicle, potentially resulting in a crash.



573.6(c)(6)

**Chronology:**

Jan. 10, 2007	HCM received a customer complaint for the wheel separation during towing in Canada and initiated an investigation.
Mar. 15, 2007	HCM received 2 <sup>nd</sup> complaint of wheel separation during dealer service in Canada.
Aug. 23, 2007	HCM completed the investigation and HMC determined that a safety-related defect exists.

573.6(c)(8)(i)

**Program for remedying the defect:**

Owners of all affected vehicles will be contacted by mail and asked to take their vehicle to a Honda automobile dealer. The dealer will inspect rear ABS sensors and wheel bearings. If necessary, damaged parts will be replaced free of charge.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

**The estimated date to e-mail preliminary notification to dealers:** Aug. 27, 2007

**The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers:** Sep. 7, 2007

**The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners:** Sep. 17, 2007

**The estimated date of completion of the notification:** Sep. 21, 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 owner notification letter will be submitted to your office as soon as possible.

573.6(c)(11)

**Manufacturer's campaign number:**

Q56

Mr. Daniel Smith  
August 30, 2007  
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Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William R. Willen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" being more prominent and the last name "Willen" following in a similar style.

William R. Willen  
Managing Counsel  
Product Regulatory Office

WRW:nis