

November 28, 2007

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
RECALL MGMT DIV.

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-551
(3 Pages)

Dear Mr. Smith:

On November 20, 2007, Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the power steering hose of certain 2005-08 model year Acura RL 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 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>
Acura RL	Certain 2005 model year	JH4KB165X5C000001 - JH4KB16515C021598 March 1, 2004 – June 29, 2005
	Certain 2006 model year	JH4KB16506C000002 - JH4KB16546C012556 June 2, 2005 – Sept. 7, 2006
	Certain 2007 model year	JH4KB16597C000002 - JH4KB16557C004905 July 26, 2006 – May 30, 2007
	Certain 2008 model year	JH4KB16648C000001 - JH4KB16518C004322 June 14, 2007 – Nov. 16, 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: approx 43,200

573.6(c)(4)

Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect: unknown

573.6(c)(5)

Defect description:

Prolonged high under-hood temperatures may cause the power steering hose to deteriorate prematurely and may cause the hose to crack and leak power steering oil. Oil leaking onto a hot catalytic converter, will generate smoke and possibly lead to an under-hood fire.

573.6(c)(6)

Chronology:

August 20, 2007	HMC received a report of fire in Japan
Sept. 4, 2007	HMC received second report of fire in Japan, forms special project team and an investigation is initiated.
Nov. 20, 2007	HMC completed the investigation and determined that a safety-related defect exists.

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 an Acura dealer. The dealer will install a new heat resistant power steering hose, free of charge.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

The estimated date to e-mail preliminary notification to dealers: Nov. 28, 2007

The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers: Dec 5, 2007

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

The estimated date of completion of the notification: Dec. 21, 2007

573.6(c)(9)

Representative copies of all notices, bulletins and other communications:

A copy of the dealer service bulletin 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:

Q65

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

 ON BEHALF OF

William R. Willen
Managing Counsel
Product Regulatory Office

WRW:nis