



## Safety Recall: DC-DC Converter Output Cable Is Pinched by IPU Lid

### BACKGROUND

The Civic Hybrid's IPU (intelligent power unit) is behind the rear seat-back. On some vehicles, the DC-DC converter output cable terminal may contact the IPU lid. This can cause the IPU lid to pinch the rubber boot on the terminal when a passenger sits in the rear seat. If the rubber boot gets damaged, the terminal could short to body ground and blow the 100 A (BAT) power distribution fuse. A blown fuse will cause the engine to stall, increasing the risk of a crash.

### CUSTOMER NOTIFICATION

All owners of affected vehicles will be sent a notification of this campaign. An example of the customer notification is at the end of this service bulletin.

Before working on a vehicle, you **must** verify its eligibility by checking at least one of these items:

- The customer has a notification letter.
- The vehicle is shown on your campaign responsibility report.
- The vehicle is shown as eligible on a VIN status inquiry.

In addition to these verification items, check for a punch mark below the third character of the engine compartment VIN. A punch mark in that location means this campaign has already been completed.

Some vehicles affected by this campaign may be in your new or used car inventory. **These vehicles must be repaired before they are sold or leased.** To see if a vehicle is affected by this campaign, do a VIN status inquiry.

### CORRECTIVE ACTION

Install a terminal cover kit on the end of the DC-DC converter output cable.

### PARTS INFORMATION

Terminal Cover Kit:

P/N 06060-RMX-000, H/C 8621013

### WARRANTY CLAIM INFORMATION

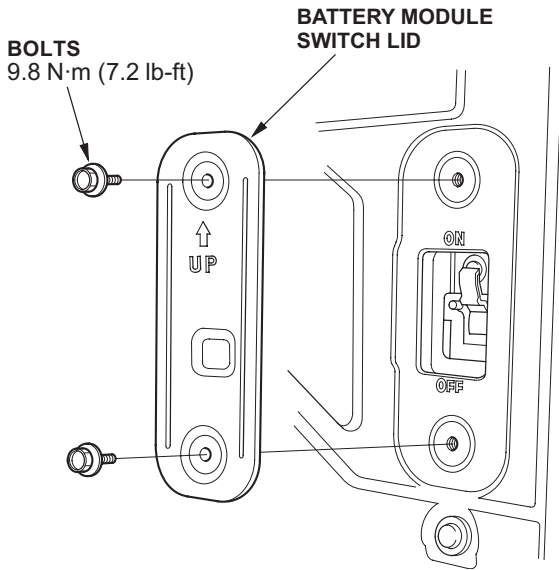
Operation Number: 1180A1  
 Flat Rate Time: 0.6 hour  
 Failed Part: P/N 1B830-RMX-A00  
 H/C 8202889  
 Defect Code: 5DZ00  
 Symptom Code: Q3500  
 Template ID: 07-009A  
 Skill Level: Repair Technician

### REPAIR PROCEDURE

**NOTE:** The area you will be working in contains high-voltage parts. To work in this area, you must be familiar with the IMA (integrated motor assist) system. Before continuing, make sure you have read the IMA service precautions in the service manual:

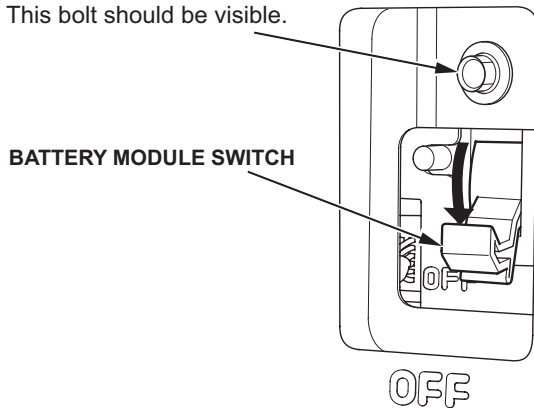
- Refer to page 12-3 of the *2006–2007 Civic Hybrid Service Manual*, or
  - Online, enter keyword **PRECAUTION** and select **IMA System Service Precautions** from the list.
1. Make sure you have the anti-theft code for the audio unit or the navigation system (if equipped).
  2. Turn the ignition switch to LOCK (0), then disconnect the negative cable from the 12 V battery.
  3. Remove the rear seat cushion and the rear seat-back:
    - Refer to page 20-117 of the *2006–2007 Civic Hybrid Service Manual*, or
    - Online, enter keyword **REAR SEAT** and select **Rear Seat Removal/Installation** from the list.

- Remove the battery module switch lid from the battery module.

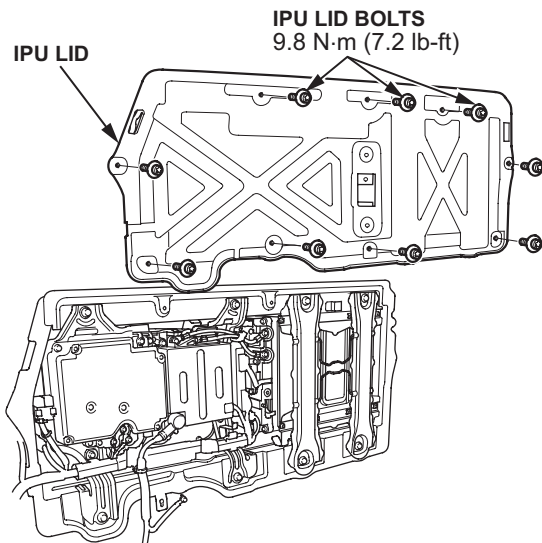


- Turn the battery module switch to OFF. Make sure the bolt above the switch is showing.

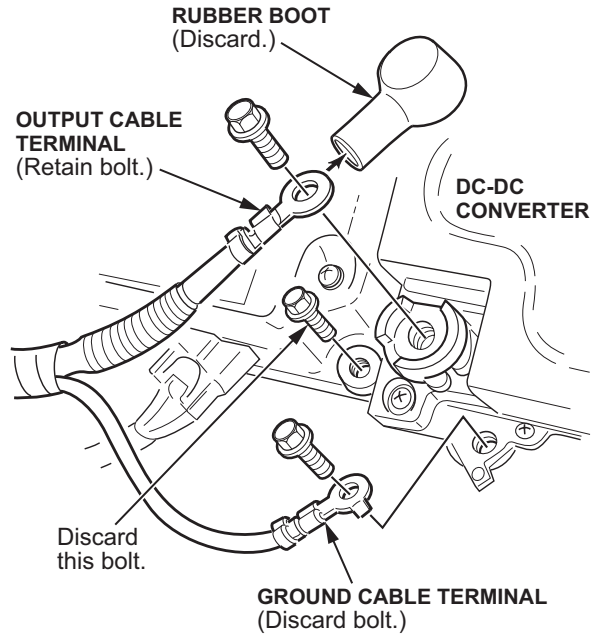
This bolt should be visible.



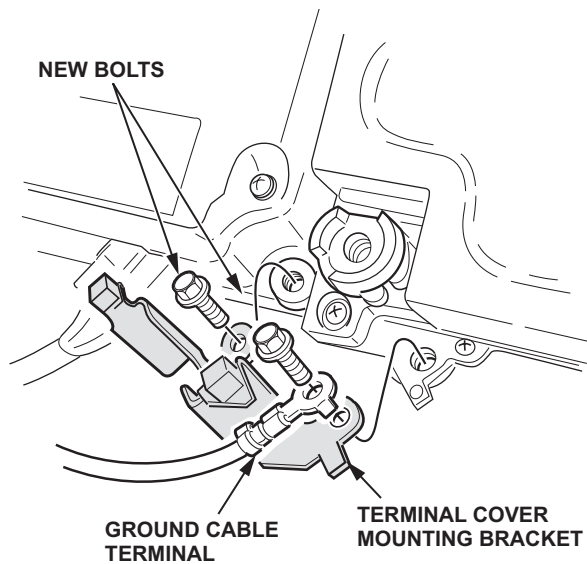
- Wait at least 5 minutes for the IMA system capacitors to discharge.
- Remove the IPU lid bolts and the IPU lid.



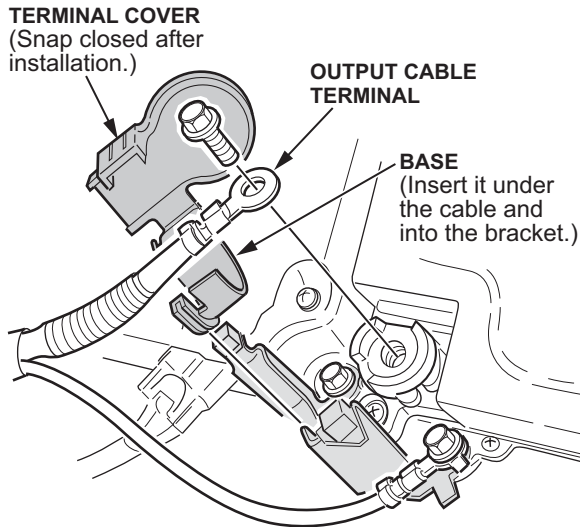
- Check the position of the DC-DC converter output cable terminal. If the terminal sticks up from the DC-DC converter, bend it down slightly with your hand.
- Disconnect the output cable terminal (one bolt). Remove the rubber boot covering the terminal.



- Disconnect the DC-DC converter ground cable terminal (one bolt). Also, remove the bolt to the left of the output cable terminal. Discard the bolts. These two bolt holes will be used to attach the terminal cover mounting bracket.
- Hold the mounting bracket over the two bolt holes, then attach it and the ground terminal using the two bolts from the terminal cover kit.



12. Insert the base of the terminal cover under the cable and into the mounting bracket. Reconnect the output cable terminal with its original bolt.



13. Snap the terminal cover in place over the output cable terminal.
14. Reinstall the IPU lid. Torque the IPU lid bolts to **9.8 N.m (7.2 lb-ft)**.
15. Turn the battery module switch to ON.
16. Reinstall the battery module switch lid. Torque the switch lid bolts to **9.8 N.m (7.2 lb-ft)**.
17. Reinstall the rear seat-back and the rear seat cushion.
18. Reconnect the negative cable to the battery.
19. Enter the anti-theft code for the audio unit or the navigation system (if equipped). Set the clock (vehicles without navigation system).
20. With the transmission in P, start the engine. Hold the engine speed at 3,500 rpm until the IMA battery level indicator shows 50 percent or more charge.
21. Center-punch a completion mark below the third character of the engine compartment VIN:
  - Slide open the FRAME NUMBER door on the center cowl cover.
  - Use a long punch to reach the VIN.

JHMFA3XXX6HXXXXXX

Center-punch here.

Example of Customer Letter

February 2007

**Safety Recall: Integrated Motor Assist Cable Can Develop Electrical Short**

Dear 2006 Civic Hybrid Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

**What is the reason for this notice?**

Honda Motor Co., Ltd. has decided that a defect related to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2006 Civic Hybrid vehicles. Certain parts of your vehicle's integrated motor assist (IMA) system are located under a metal cover behind the rear seat-back. Over time, the weight of rear seat passengers may cause the metal cover to come into contact with a rubber cap covering an electrical terminal. The rubber cap may get pinched, exposing the electrical terminal. The terminal may come into contact with the metal cover, which could result in an electrical short that may blow the IMA fuse. A blown fuse will cause the engine to stall, increasing the risk of a crash.

**What should you do?**

Call any authorized Honda dealer and make an appointment to have your vehicle repaired. The dealer will install a protective cover over the terminal wires of the IMA part. This work will be done *free of charge*. Please plan to leave your vehicle at the dealer for half a day to give the dealer some flexibility in scheduling.

**Who to contact if you experience problems.**

If you are not satisfied with the service you receive from your Honda dealer, you may write to:

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.  
 Honda Automobile Customer Service  
 Mail Stop 500-2N-7A  
 1919 Torrance Blvd.  
 Torrance, CA 90501-2746

If you believe that American Honda or the dealer has failed or is unable to remedy the defect in your vehicle, without charge, within a reasonable period of time (60 days from the date you first contact the dealer for a repair appointment), you may submit a complaint to:

Administrator  
 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
 400 Seventh Street, SW  
 Washington, DC 20590

You can also call the toll-free Safety Hotline at (888) 327-4236 [TTY (800) 424-9153], or go to [www.safercar.gov](http://www.safercar.gov).

**What to do if you feel this notice is in error.**

Our records show that you are the current owner or lessee of a 2006 CivicHybrid involved in this campaign. If this is not the case, or if the name/address information is not correct, please fill out and return the enclosed, postage-paid *Information Change Card*. We will then update our records.

**Lessor Information.**

Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within 10 days.

**If you have questions.**

If you have any questions about this notice, or need assistance with locating a Honda dealer, please call Honda Automobile Customer Service at (800) 999-1009.

We apologize for any inconvenience this campaign may cause you.

Sincerely,

**American Honda Motor Co., Inc.  
Honda Automobile Division**

February 6, 2007

Dear Service Manager:

Honda Motor Co., LTD. is announcing a safety recall campaign for certain 2006 Civic Hybrids. The vehicle's IPU (intelligent power unit) is behind the rear seat-back. On some vehicles, the DC-DC converter output cable terminal may contact the IPU lid. This can cause the IPU lid to pinch the rubber boot on the terminal when a passenger sits in the rear seat. If the rubber boot gets damaged, the terminal could short to body ground and blow the 100 A (BAT) power distribution fuse. A blown fuse will cause the engine to stall, increasing the risk of a crash.

#### **Repair Strategy**

The repair is to remove the rubber boot from the DC-DC converter output cable terminal and install a terminal cover kit. The kit contains a metal bracket for the cover, two bolts, and a plastic terminal cover. For repair, warranty, and affected vehicle information, refer to Service Bulletin 07-009, *Safety Recall: DC-DC Output Cable Terminal Is Pinched by IPU Lid*.

Some vehicles affected by this campaign may be in your new or used car inventory. **These vehicles must be repaired before they are sold or leased.** To see if a vehicle is affected by this campaign, do a VIN status inquiry.

#### **Customer Notification**

Customers will be sent a notification of the campaign during the week of February 26.

#### **Parts Information**

You may have already received a small quantity of Terminal Cover Kits to repair any unsold vehicles under the stop-sale order. This week, a quantity of kits equaling 20 percent of your sold vehicles will be allocated. Next week, additional kits will be available through the controlled parts ordering system.

Sincerely,

**American Honda Motor Co., Inc.**  
**Honda Automobile Division**