



Applies To: **2005–07 RL – ALL**
2008 RL – From VIN JH4KB1...8C000001 thru JH4KB1...8C004322

December 5, 2007

Safety Recall: 2005–08 RL Power Steering Feed Hose Leak

(Supersedes 07-061, dated November 29, 2007, to update the information marked by the black bars)

BACKGROUND

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.

CLIENT NOTIFICATION

All owners of affected vehicles will be sent a notification of this campaign the week of December 17, 2007. An example of the client notification is at the end of this service bulletin.

To verify vehicle eligibility, check at least one of these items:

- The client has a notification letter.
- The vehicle is shown as eligible on a VIN status inquiry.

In addition, check for a punch mark above the fifth 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 vehicle inventory. **According to federal law, these vehicles cannot be sold or leased until they are repaired.** To see if a vehicle is affected by this campaign, do a VIN status inquiry before selling it.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

Install a power steering feed hose kit.

PARTS INFORMATION

Power Steering Feed Hose Kit
 (Contains P/S feed hose, right-side hose bracket, pressure switch O-ring, and extra trim clips):
 P/N 06535-SJA-A01

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Acura Precision Crafted Power Steering Fluid
 (Each vehicle may require up to three 12 oz. bottles):
 P/N 08206-9002A

WARRANTY CLAIM INFORMATION

Operation Number: 5121D3
 Flat Rate Time: 1.3 hours
 Failed Part: 06535-SJA-A01
 Defect Code: 5LR00
 Symptom Code: Q6500
 Template ID: 07-061A
 Skill Level: Repair Technician

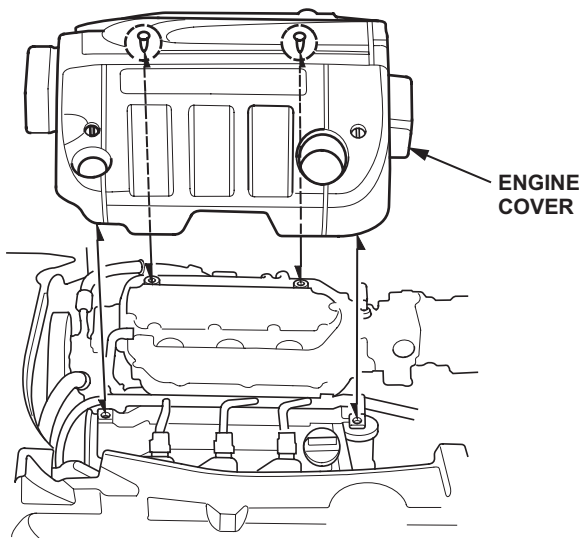
REPAIR PROCEDURE

1. Remove the right upper fender trim, and detach the washer reservoir tube from the bottom side of the trim.
 - Refer to page 20-159 of the *05–08 RL Service Manual*, or
 - Online, enter keyword **UPPER** and select **Upper Fender Trim Replacement** from the list.
2. Drain the P/S fluid.

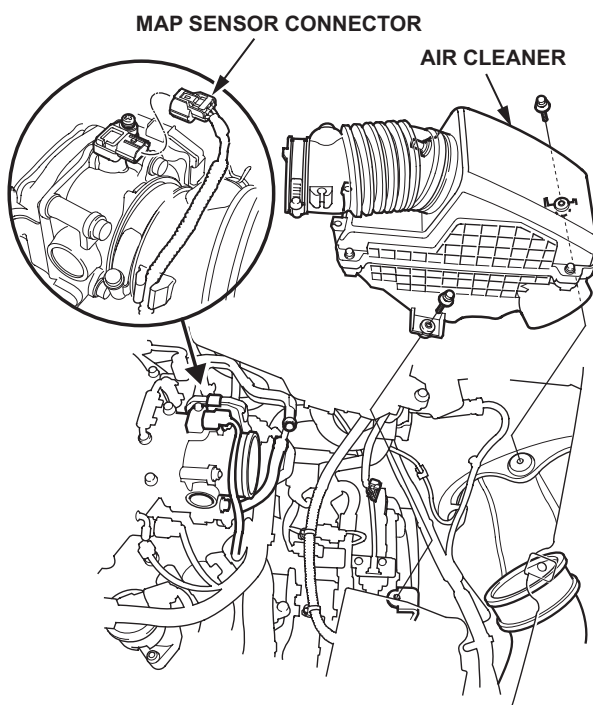
NOTE: Take care not to spill any fluid. Wipe off any spilled fluid immediately.

 - Refer to page 17-13 of the service manual, or
 - Online, enter keywords **STEERING FLUID**, and select **Power Steering Fluid Check/Replacement** from the list.
3. Check the condition of the drained fluid:
 - If the fluid is contaminated, dark, or discolored, discard it; do not reuse it.
 - If the fluid is light colored with no contamination, save it in a covered container. It will be reused in step 23.
4. Reinstall the return hose on the P/S reservoir, and attach the reservoir to its mount. If the hose clamp on the return hose is damaged, replace it.
5. Remove the battery trim and the left upper fender trim:
 - Refer to page 20-159 of the service manual, or
 - Online, enter keyword **UPPER** and select **Upper Fender Trim Replacement** from the list.

6. Remove the engine cover (two clips).



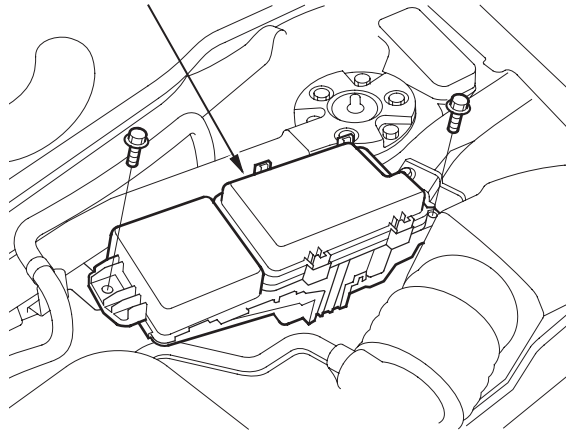
7. Disconnect the MAP sensor connector.



8. Remove the air cleaner by loosening the intake air duct clamp and removing the two bolts.

9. Remove the two bolts from the under-hood fuse/relay box, then lift the fuse box up and out of the way, behind the battery.

UNDER-HOOD FUSE/RELAY BOX



10. Detach the engine harness (two clips), then rotate the harness downward to give you more room.

CLIPS



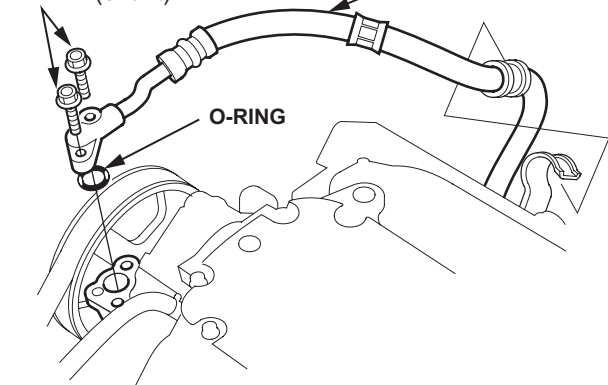
ENGINE HARNESS
(Rotate out of the way.)

11. Remove the end of the feed hose from the P/S pump.

NOTE: To prevent fluid from dripping, remove the white plastic cap from the new feed hose, and tape it to the end of the original hose.

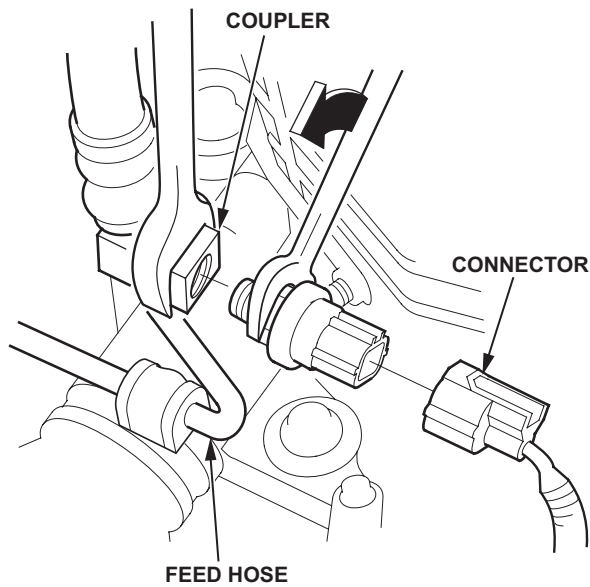
BOLTS

11 N·m (8 lb-ft)

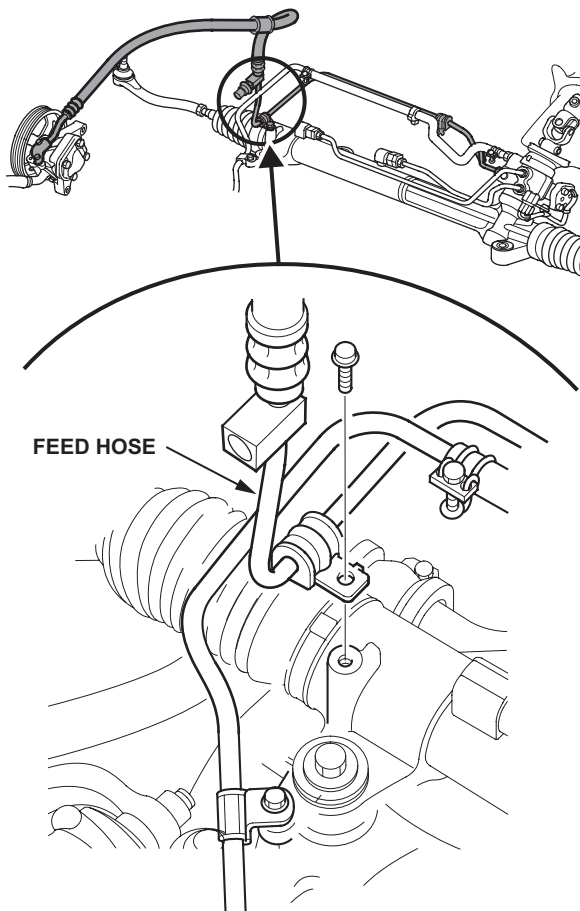


12. Disconnect the P/S pressure switch connector, then remove the switch from the feed hose.

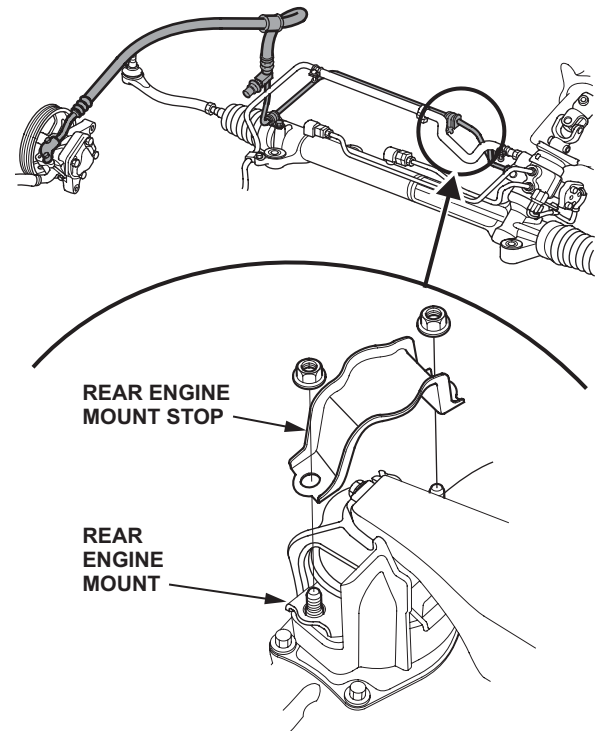
NOTE: To prevent fluid from dripping, stuff the end of a clean shop towel into the feed hose coupler.



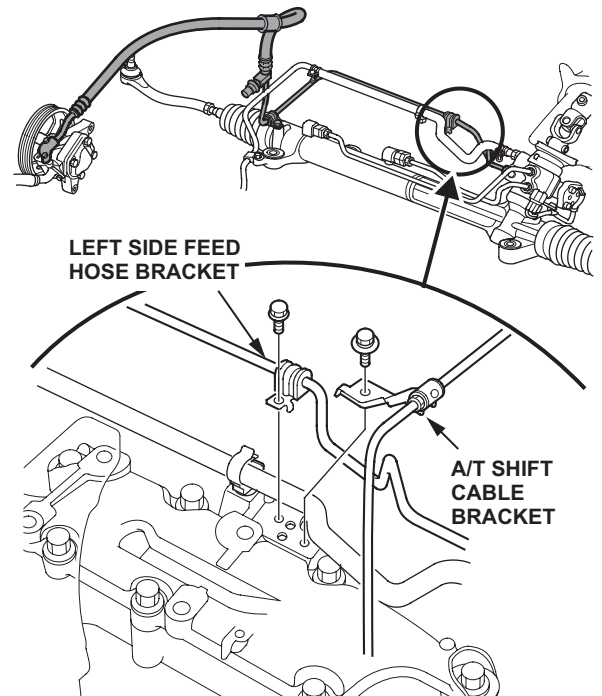
13. Remove the right side feed hose bracket from the subframe (one bolt).



14. Remove the rear engine mount stop (two nuts).

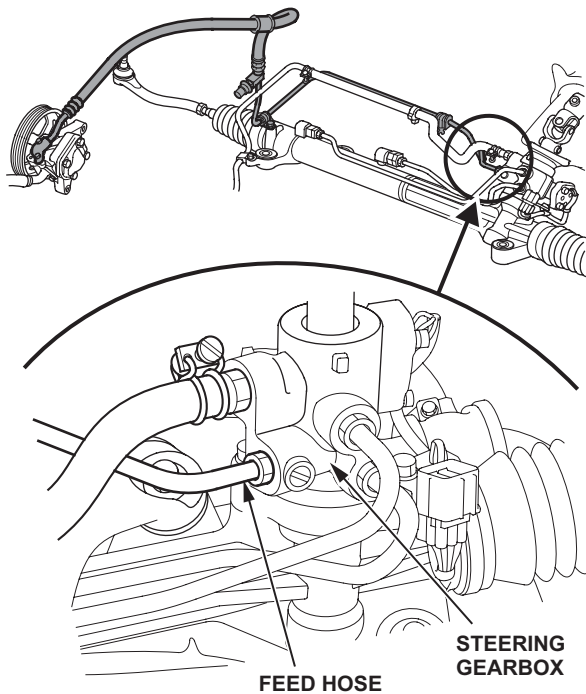


15. Remove the left side feed hose bracket and the A/T shift cable bracket from the gearbox stiffener (two bolts).



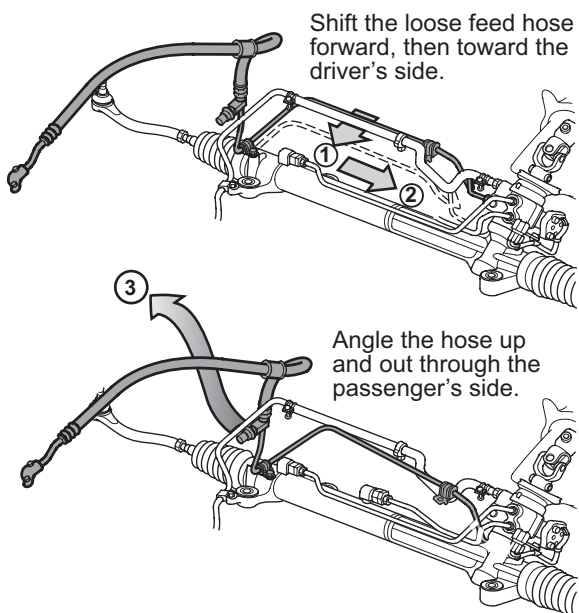
16. Disconnect the feed hose from the gearbox by loosening its flare nut.

NOTE: To prevent fluid from dripping, place several shop towels under the feed hose connection, and wrap a towel around the exposed joint end.



17. Remove the feed hose from the engine compartment:

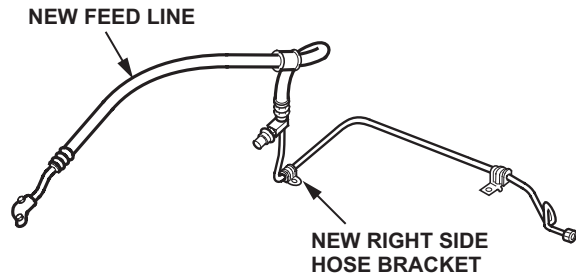
- Lift the left end of the feed hose over the return hose.
- Push the feed hose in, towards the driver's side a little, then lift up on the 90 degree bend of the hose to clear the A/C receiver line.
- Remove the feed hose out through the passenger's side.



18. Remove the original O-ring from the P/S pressure switch, and install a new one.

19. Install the pressure switch on the new feed hose. Tighten the switch to **12 N·m (8.7 lb-ft)**.

20. Attach a new right side hose bracket to the new feed hose.



21. Install the new feed hose in the reverse order of removal, using these tightening torques:

- Torque the feed hose flare nut to **37 N·m (27 lb-ft)**.
- Torque the feed hose bracket bolts and the A/T shift cable bracket bolt to **9.8 N·m (7.2 lb-ft)**.
- Torque the rear engine mount stop nuts to **64 N·m (47 lb-ft)**.
- Torque the P/S pump feed hose bolts to **11 N·m (8 lb-ft)**.

22. Reinstall all removed parts except the right upper fender trim. Use the extra clips from the kit to replace any damaged ones.

23. Using the clear P/S fluid you removed from the system (or new fluid if the original fluid was contaminated or discolored), fill the P/S reservoir to the upper level line.

NOTE:

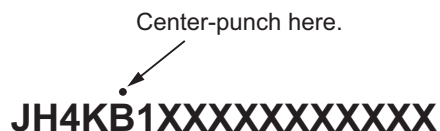
- Use Acura Precision Crafted Power Steering Fluid.
- The system capacity is **1.1 L (37.2 oz)**.
- The reservoir capacity is **0.32 L (10.8 oz)**.

24. Start the engine, run it at a fast idle, and turn the steering wheel lock-to-lock several times. This will bleed any air from the P/S system.

25. Stop the engine, then recheck the fluid level, and add more if needed. Do not fill the reservoir above the upper level line.

26. Reinstall the right upper fender trim, and make sure the washer reservoir tube is attached to the bottom of it. Use the extra clips from the kit to replace any damaged ones.

27. Center-punch a completion mark above the fifth character of the engine compartment VIN.



Example of Client Letter

December 2007

Safety Recall: Power Steering Fluid Leak

Dear RL 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 relating to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2005–2008 model year RL vehicles. 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.

What should you do?

Call any authorized Acura dealer and make an appointment to have your vehicle repaired. The dealer will inspect and replace the power steering hose *free of charge*. Please plan to leave your vehicle for half a day to allow the dealer flexibility in scheduling.

Who to contact if you experience problems.

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

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
Acura Client Services
Mail Stop 500-2N-7E
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
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

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

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

Our records show that you are the current owner of a 2005–2008 RL potentially affected by this campaign. If this is not the case, or 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 an Acura dealer, please call Acura Client Services at (800) 382-2238.

We apologize for any inconvenience this campaign may cause you.

Sincerely,

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
Acura Automobile Division

December 5, 2007

Dear Service Manager:

Honda Motor Co., Ltd., is announcing a safety recall campaign for all 2005–07 RLs and some 2008 RLs. On affected vehicles, 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.

Repair Strategy

The repair is to install a power steering feed hose kit. For repair, affected vehicle, and warranty information, refer to Service Bulletin 07-061, *Safety Recall: 2005–08 RL Power Steering Feed Hose Leak*.

Client Notification

All affected vehicle owners will receive a notification of this campaign the week of December 17. An example of the client notification is on the last page of S/B 07-061.

To verify vehicle eligibility, check at least one of these items:

- The client has a notification letter.
- The vehicle is shown as eligible on a VIN status inquiry.

In addition, check for a punch mark above the fifth 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 vehicle inventory. **According to federal law, these vehicles cannot be sold or leased until they are repaired. To see if a vehicle is affected by this campaign, do a VIN status inquiry before selling it.**

Parts Information

On or before December 10, you will receive enough power steering feed hose kits to complete the campaign on the unsold vehicles in your inventory. In the next two weeks, you will be receiving additional kits to repair client vehicles. The ordering method for additional kits will be announced at a later date.

Sincerely,

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