



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

September 18, 2009

MR. WILLIAM WILLEN
MANAGING COUNSEL
PRODUCT REGULATORY OFFICE
AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO.
1919 TORRANCE BLVD.
TORRANCE, CA 90501-2746

NVS-215kjs
09V-362

SUBJECT: SWINGARM WELD

DEAR MR. WILLEN:

This letter serves to acknowledge American Honda Motor Co.'s (Honda) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a defect in the vehicles listed below for which a safety recall campaign will be conducted pursuant to Federal law.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:
HONDA/VTX1800/2002

NHTSA Campaign Number: 09V-362 **Mfg's Report Date:** September 14, 2009

Components: STRUCTURE:FRAME AND MEMBERS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 688

Summary:

HONDA IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2002 VTX1800
MOTORCYCLES MANUFACTURED BETWEEN AUGUST 14 AND OCTOBER 4,
2001. THE SWINGARM MAY NOT HAVE BEEN PROPERLY WELDED.

Consequence:

THE SWINGARM COULD BREAK WHILE RIDING CAUSING THE RIDER TO LOSE CONTROL, POSSIBLY RESULTING IN CRASH.

Remedy:

HONDA WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND DEALERS WILL INSPECT THE WELD AND, IF NECESSARY, REPLACE THE SWINGARM FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT SEPTEMBER 25, 2009. OWNERS MAY CONTACT HONDA MOTORCYCLE CUSTOMER SERVICE AT 1-866-784-1870.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS MAY CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6.

We have received Honda's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete. Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227, by email at Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for the successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Person".

George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement