



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

February 25, 2010

MR. JAY JOSEPH
SENIOR MANAGER
PRODUCT REGULATORY OFFICE
AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC
1919 TORRANCE BLVD.
TORRANCE, CA 90501-2746

NVS-215dgl
10V-055

Subject: POWER LIFTGATE SYSTEMS

DEAR MR. JOSEPH:

This letter serves to acknowledge American Honda Motor Co., Inc's safety improvement notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a problem in the products described below for which a safety improvement campaign shall be conducted.

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/ODYSSEY/2005

Mfg's Report Date: February 18, 2010

NHTSA Campaign Number: 10V-055

Components: STRUCTURE: BODY: HATCHBACK/LIFTGATE
STRUCTURE: BODY: HATCHBACK/LIFTGATE: SUPPORT DEVICE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 21,776

Summary:

HONDA IS CONDUCTING A SAFETY IMPROVEMENT CAMPAIGN INVOLVING MODEL YEAR 2005 ODYSSEY TOURING VEHICLES EQUIPPED WITH POWER OPERATED REAR LIFTGATE. THE POWER LIFTGATE GAS STRUTS MAY DETERIORATE UNEXPECTEDLY EARLY. STRUTS THAT HAVE WORN OUT PREMATURELY MAY FAIL TO HOLD THE POWER LIFTGATE IN THE FULLY OPEN POSITION, CAUSING THE POWER LIFTGATE TO CLOSE UNEXPECTEDLY.

Consequence:

INJURY MAY RESULT FROM A POWER LIFTGATE CLOSING UNEXPECTEDLY WHEN A PERSON IS WITHIN THE CLOSING PATH OF THE LIFTGATE.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL INSPECT THE GAS LIFTGATE STRUTS AND REPLACE IF WITHIN THE RECALL POPULATION. THIS SERVICE WILL BE PERFORMED FREE OF CHARGE. THE CAMPAIGN IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING MARCH 2010. OWNERS MAY CONTACT HONDA AUTOMOBILE CUSTOMER SERVICE AT 800-999-1009.

Notes:

THIS ACTION IS DEEMED A SAFETY IMPROVEMENT CAMPAIGN AND IS NOT BEING CONDUCTED UNDER THE SAFETY ACT. HOWEVER, HONDA HAS INFORMED NHTSA THAT IT WILL PROVIDE THE MODIFICATIONS DESCRIBED ABOVE AT NO COST.

This recall was the subject of an Engineering Analysis, EA08-015, conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

We have reviewed your proposed owner letter and it meets the requirements of 49 CFR Part 577.

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

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 the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Delia Lopez who may be reached by phone at 202-366-9525, or by email at Delia.lopez@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you toward a successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Person', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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