



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

August 5, 2010

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

NVS-215dgl  
10V-361

SUBJECT: GEAR SELECTOR

DEAR MR. JOSEPH:

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

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/ELEMENT/2010

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 10V-361

**Mfg's Report Date:** August 3, 2010

**Components:** POWER TRAIN AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION GEAR POSITION INDICATION (PRNDL)

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 585

**Summary:**

HONDA IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2010 ELEMENT AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION VEHICLES MANUFACTURED FROM APRIL 1, 2010 THROUGH JUNE 25, 2010. DURING ASSEMBLY PROCESS, THE CABLE THAT CONNECTS THE SHIFT LEVER TO THE TRANSMISSION WAS NOT SET CORRECTLY AT THE SHIFT LEVER BRACKET. AS A RESULT THE DRIVER MAY MOVE THE GEAR SHIFT LEVER BUT THE TRANSMISSION MAY NOT BE PLACED IN THE SELECTED GEAR.

**Consequence:**

THIS CAN CAUSE THE KEY TO BE STUCK IN THE IGNITION SWITCH, AN INABILITY TO SHIFT INTO OR OUT OF PARK, OR AN INABILITY TO SHIFT INTO REVERSE, INCREASING THE RISK OF A CRASH.

**Remedy:**

HONDA HAS CONTACTED SOME OWNERS BY PHONE AND ARRANGED TO, HAVE, OR HAS HAD, THEIR VEHICLES REPAIRED FREE OF CHARGE. ALL OTHER OWNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED BY MAIL. DEALERS WILL CORRECTLY SET THE SHIFT CABLE BUSHING. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT AUGUST 9, 2010. OWNERS MAY CONTACT HONDA AT 1-800-999-1009.

**Notes:**

HONDA'S RECALL CAMPAIGN NUMBER IS R45. 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 reviewed your proposed owner letter and it meets the requirements of 49 CFR Part 577.

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](mailto:Delia.lopez@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto: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 "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jennifer Timian  
Acting Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement