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By delia.lopez at 9:35 am, Sep 23, 2010

HONDA

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
1919 Torrance Boulevard
Torrance, CA 90501-2746
Phone (310) 783-2000

September 22, 2010

Mr. Daniel C. Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY
ADMINISTRATION
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

**Re: Recall Notification – Expand 10V-364
2003 Model Year Honda Accord and Civic;
2003-04 Model Year Honda Element
Ignition Interlock**

Dear Mr. Smith:

On July 29, 2010, Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the ignition interlock of certain 2003 model year Honda Accord and Civic and certain 2003-04 model year Honda Element vehicles, and we furnished notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

On September 15, 2010, HMC determined that the VIN range for recall 10V-364 should be expanded within the already announced 2003 model year Accord and 2003-04 model year Element vehicles and we are furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports. HMC reached this decision following additional review of NHTSA complaint records.

573.6(c)(1)

Name of manufacturer: Honda of America Manufacturing, Inc. (HAM)
Honda Canada Manufacturing, Inc. (HCM)
Honda de Mexico, S.A. de C.V. (HDM)

Manufacturer's agent: Jay Joseph
American Honda Motor Co., Inc. (AHM)
1919 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90501-2746

573.6(c)(2)

Identification of potentially affected vehicles:

<u>Make/Model</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>VIN Range/Dates of Manufacture</u>
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See Attached List

Description of the basis for the determination of the recall population:

The expanded recall population was based on additional review of manufacturing and complaint records from Honda and NHTSA. The VIN range reflects all possible vehicles that could potentially experience the problem.

573.6(c)(3)

Total number of potentially affected vehicles:	(Original no. of vehicles)	384,220
	(Expanded no. of vehicles)	<u>167,278</u>
	Total	551,498

573.6(c)(4)

Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect: Unknown

573.6(c)(5)

Defect description:

Under certain conditions the interlock lever of the ignition switch may unexpectedly deform, which can allow the interlock function of a vehicle with an automatic transmission to be defeated if the driver does not follow the typical shut-down procedure of shifting the gear selector to the Park position before rotating the ignition key to the off position. Removal of the ignition key when the gear selector of a vehicle with an automatic transmission has not been shifted to the Park position can allow the vehicle to roll away, increasing the risk of a crash.

573.6(c)(6)

Chronology:

Sept. 30, 2008	AHM received a recall query letter from NHTSA (RQ08-006).
Nov. 12, 2008	AHM responded to NHTSA RQ08-006.
Jan. 5, 2009	AHM received letter from NHTSA notifying AHM that RQ08-006 has been upgraded to Engineering Analysis EA09-001.
June 1, 2009	AHM responded to NHTSA EA09-001.
Oct. 2, 2009	AHM received additional questions from NHTSA.
Oct. 23, 2009	AHM submitted reply to additional questions.
July 7, 2010	AHM and NHTSA meeting.
July 29, 2010	HMC determined that a safety-related defect exists.
Sept. 15, 2010	HMC decided to expand this recall based on a review of manufacturing records and complaint records by Honda and NHTSA.

573.6(c)(8)(i)

Program for remedying the defect:

The owners of all affected vehicles will be notified by mail and asked to take their vehicle to an authorized Honda dealer. The dealer will inspect the ignition interlock switch and, if necessary, will remove the original interlock pin and lever within the ignition switch and replace them with new, redesigned components. The details of the repair procedure are being prepared at this time, and will be provided to NHTSA and dealers once completed. The repairs will be performed free of charge for all affected vehicles.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

The date of e-mail initial notification to dealers:	Aug. 4, 2010
The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers:	Oct. 1, 2010
The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners:	Oct. 6, 2010
The estimated date of completion of the notification:	Nov. 30, 2010

573.6(c)(9)

Representative copies of all notices, bulletins and other communications:

A copy of the dealer service bulletin and text of the final customer notification letter will be submitted to your office as soon as possible.

573.6(c)(10)

Proposed owner notification letter submission:

A draft of the owner notification letter has been approved by your office.

573.6(c)(11)

Manufacturer's campaign number:

R44

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



Jay Joseph
Senior Manager
Product Regulatory Office

JWJ:nis

Identification of potentially affected vehicles

Honda Accord 2-door	Certain 2003 model year	1HGCM72783A000039 - 1HGCM72623A037448 Aug. 21, 2002 - Sept. 3, 2003
		1HGCM82773A000037 - 1HGCM82623A038170 June 25, 2002 - Sept. 3, 2003

Honda Accord 4-door	Certain 2003 model year	3HGCM56343G700010 - 3HGCM56323G713869 Oct. 16, 2002 - Sept. 23, 2003
		1HGCM56663A000028 - 1HGCM56603A147378 June 6, 2002 - Aug. 27, 2003
		1HGCM66853A000030 - 1HGCM66503A104253 June 6, 2002 - Aug. 27, 2003

Honda Civic 2-door	Certain 2003 model year	1HGEM22973L038931 - 1HGEM22993L088293 Feb. 13, 2003 - Sept. 11, 2003
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Honda Civic 4-door	Certain 2003 model year	2HGES16513H545697 - 2HGES16523H627468 Feb. 13, 2003 - Sept. 9, 2003
		2HGES26763H542947 - 2HGES26713H627257 Feb. 13, 2003 - Sept. 8, 2003
		1HGEN265X3L000033 - 1HGEN26583L000452 Feb. 21, 2003 - Aug. 8, 2003
		1HGES165X3L021760 - 1HGES16503L038440 Feb. 14, 2003 - Sept. 5, 2003
		1HGES26793L021580 - 1HGES26803L038020 Feb. 13, 2003 - Sept. 5, 2003

Honda Element	Certain 2003 model year	5J6YH18523L000001 - 5J6YH18593L022397 Sept. 5, 2002 - Dec. 8, 2003
		5J6YH28643L000046 - 5J6YH28553L054401 Oct. 16, 2002 - Dec. 8, 2003
	Certain 2004 model year	5J6YH18324L000001 - 5J6YH186X4L016571 Dec. 9, 2003 - Dec. 13, 2004
		5J6YH28554L000002 - 5J6YH28634L039857 Dec. 12, 2003 - Dec. 13, 2004