

RECEIVED

By Recall Management Division at 9:12 am, Aug 06, 2010

HONDA

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

August 4, 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

10V-364
(4 Pages)

**Re: Recall Notification
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 is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

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>
-------------------	--------------------	---------------------------------------

See Attached List

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

The recall population was based on manufacturing records and market occurrence situation. The VIN range reflects all possible vehicles that could potentially experience the problem.

573.6(c)(3)

Total number of potentially affected vehicles: 384,220

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.

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 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)

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

The estimated date to e-mail preliminary notification to dealers: Aug. 4, 2010

The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers: Sep. 22, 2010

The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners: Sep. 29, 2010

The estimated date of completion of the notification: Oct. 29, 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 will be submitted to your office as soon as possible.

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	1HGCM72213A014272 - 1HGCM72623A037448 Jan. 28, 2003 - Sept. 3, 2003
		1HGCM82693A015971 - 1HGCM82623A038170 Jan. 28, 2003 - Sept. 3, 2003
Honda Accord 4-door	Certain 2003 model year	3HGCM56313G702801 - 3HGCM56323G713869 Jan. 28, 2003 - Sept. 23, 2003
		1HGCM563X3A051103 - 1HGCM56603A147378 Jan. 28, 2003 - Aug. 27, 2003
		1HGCM66803A037762 - 1HGCM66503A104253 Jan. 28, 2003 - Aug. 27, 2003
Honda Civic 2-door	Certain 2003 model year	1HGEM22973L038931 - 1HGEM22993L088293 Feb. 13, 2003 - Sept. 11, 2003
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	5J6YH18553L004687 - 5J6YH18593L022397 Feb. 12, 2003 - Dec. 8, 2003
		5J6YH28273L009269 - 5J6YH28553L054401 Feb. 12, 2003 - Dec. 8, 2003
	Certain 2004 model year	5J6YH18324L000001 - 5J6YH18214L004502 Dec. 9, 2003 - Feb. 24, 2004
		5J6YH28554L000002 - 5J6YH283X4L011043 Dec. 12, 2003 - Feb. 27, 2004