



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

December 15, 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  
2007-08 Model Year Honda Fit  
Low beam headlight**

Dear Mr. Smith:

On December 8, 2010, Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the low beam headlight of certain 2007-08 model year Honda Fit automobiles 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 Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC)  
**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>
Honda Fit	2007 model year	JHMGD37607S000026 - JHMGD38477S068661 Feb. 3, 2006 to July 20, 2007
Honda Fit	2008 model year	JHMGD37688S000003 - JHMGD38418S074487 July 31, 2007 to July 1, 2008

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

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

573.6(c)(3)

**Total number of potentially affected vehicles:** 143,083

573.6(c)(4)

**Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect:** Unknown

573.6(c)(5)

**Defect description:**

Due to a variation in the assembly sequence when installing the wiring harness for the combination switch that controls the headlights, the wires for the low beam headlight circuit can be pulled tighter than the wiring for the other functions controlled by the combination switch. After repeated use of the headlight switch, the electrical connector terminal for the low beam headlight circuit can become worn as a result of this tension, which can result in low conductivity and cause an accumulation of copper oxide in the area of the contacts. In some cases the poor conductivity may cause the terminal ends to melt within the wiring harness connector. If this occurs, the low beam headlights can become inoperative, increasing the risk of a crash.

573.6(c)(6)

**Chronology:**

Apr. 10, 2008	Quality Information Communiqué issued on first U.S. occurrence of low beam headlight failure in U.S.
Dec. 23, 2009	Investigation opened due to increasing trend of low beam headlight failures on Fit vehicles, cause was not identified
Sept. 27, 2010	AHM received a Preliminary Evaluation letter from NHTSA (PE10-037)
Nov. 9, 2010	AHM responded to PE10-037 Q1-11 (partial response to Q10)
Nov. 10, 2010	AHM responded to PE10-037 Q10 (remaining response to Q10)
Nov. 11, 2010	Investigation reveals that wiring harness slack resulting from installation sequence influences electrical contact durability
Dec. 8, 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 contacted by mail and asked to take their vehicle to a Honda automobile dealer. The dealer will inspect the low beam terminal; if the terminal is melted, the lighting switch will be replaced and the low beam terminal harness will be repaired; if the terminal is not melted, the low beam terminal harness will be repaired, free of charge.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

**The estimated date to e-mail preliminary notification to dealers:** December 15, 2010

**The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers:** December 23, 2010

**The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners:** January 21, 2011

**The estimated date of completion of the notification:** January 28, 2011

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:**

R58

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



Jay Joseph  
Senior Manager  
Product Regulatory Office

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