

February 25, 2011

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: 11V-101 Recall Notification
2009-10 Model Year Honda Fit
Lost Motion Spring**

Dear Mr. Smith:

On February 9, 2011, Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the lost motion spring assemblies (4) in the valvetrain of the cylinder head of certain 2009-10 model year Honda Fit automobiles, and furnished notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

Today, Honda is submitting a revised chronology for our recall notification letter at NHTSA's request.

573.6(c)(6)

Chronology:

July 1, 2008	HMC received a claim of engine noise in Japan, and initiated an investigation into the cause of this claim.
July 30, 2008	HMC confirmed lost motion spring breakage.
August 29, 2008	First claim of an engine stall received in the United States. Subsequent claims are summarized below.
January 29, 2009	The occurrence trend of the failure was low, and vehicles could be stopped safely, so HMC determined market action was not necessary, and implemented one-year market monitoring.
March 10, 2009	First claim of a broken lost motion spring received in Europe.
March 23, 2009	First claim of a broken lost motion spring received in the Asia region.
May 11, 2009	First claim of a broken lost motion spring received in China.
November 24, 2009	HMC changed the specification of the spring to prevent future occurrences.
January 15, 2010	First claim of a broken lost motion spring received in South America.
March 17, 2010	The occurrence trend of the failure was still low at the end of the one year monitoring period, so HMC concluded market monitoring.

June 6, 2010

HMC observed an increase in claims for vehicles one year old or older. Based on this trend HMC re-opened the investigation to reconsider the need for a market action.

February 8, 2011

A total of 34 warranty claims (about 0.03% of all warranty claims) were received in the United States in the period of August 29, 2008 through February 8, 2011 that we have attributed to this cause. The claims include: engine noise (23 claims); engine stall/can't be started (10 claims); or engine misfire (1 claim). These and similar claims from the same timeframe in other markets were considered in the market action decision.

February 9, 2011

HMC completed the investigation and determined that a safety-related defect exists, deciding to conduct a safety recall.

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jay Joseph". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Jay Joseph
Senior Manager
Product Regulatory Office

JWJ:nis