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By Recall Management Division at 7:43 am, Mar 16, 2011

HONDA

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

March 15, 2011

11V-180
(3 Pages)

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
2011 Model year Odyssey
Front windshield wiper**

Dear Mr. Smith:

On March 8, 2011, Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the front windshield wiper mechanism of certain 2011 model year Honda Odyssey 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 Manufacturing of Alabama L.L.C. (HMA)

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 Odyssey | Certain 2011 model year | 5FNRL5H46BB001001 - 5FNRL5H62BB034420 Aug. 17, 2010 to Dec. 20, 2010 |

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: 33,341

573.6(c)(4)

Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect: Unknown

573.6(c)(5)

Defect description:

If the front windshield wiper blades become frozen to the windshield and the wiper motor is switched on, one of the front windshield wiper linkage rods may bend or separate from the motor due to insufficient stiffness of the rod. If this occurs, the windshield wipers can become inoperative, decreasing the driver's visibility in adverse weather conditions and increasing the risk of a crash.

573.6(c)(6)

Chronology:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| November 14, 2010 | Received first claim of an inoperative wiper in Canada. |
| November 17, 2010 | Received first claim of an inoperative wiper in the United States. |
| November 18, 2010 | HMA initiated an investigation into the cause of the U.S. claim. |
| December 14, 2010 | HMA confirmed the bending rigidity of the rod was insufficient. |
| December 15, 2010 | HMA decided to change the specification of the rod. |
| February 22, 2011 | A total of 129 warranty claims were received in North America, mainly cold weather areas, that are attributed to this cause. |
| March 8, 2011 | HMC determined that a safety-related defect exists and has decided to conduct a safety recall. |

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 replace the front windshield wiper rod, free of charge.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

The estimated date to e-mail preliminary notification to dealers: Mar. 16, 2011

The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers: Mar. 17, 2011

The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners: April 14, 2011

The estimated date of completion of the notification: May 5, 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:

R72

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



Jay Joseph
Senior Manager
Product Regulatory Office

JWJ:nis