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By Recall Management Division at 2:47 pm, Sep 07, 2011

HONDA

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.

1919 Torrance Boulevard
Torrance, CA 90501-2746
Phone (310) 783-2000

September 6, 2011

11V-456
(4 Pages)

Mr. Claude Harris
Acting 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
2006 Model Year CR-V
Driver Side Power Window Switch

Dear Mr. Harris:

On August 29, 2011, Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the power window master switch of certain 2006 model year Honda CR-V 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 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 CR-V	Certain 2006 model year	JHLRD68596C003553 – JHLRD68556C029745 October 4, 2005 to July 20, 2006
		JHLRD77816C009719 – JHLRD78556C063643 October 3, 2005 to July 21, 2006

All of the potentially affected vehicles were assembled at the Sayama factory in Japan. Other 2006 model year CR-V vehicles produced at other factories are excluded from this recall because they are equipped with a different master power window switch design from a different supplier and have not exhibited the same phenomenon to date.

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

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

573.6(c)(2)(iv)

Identification of affected component:

Component: Power Window Master Switch
Country of Origin: Thailand
Manufacturer: Thai Toyo Denso Co., Ltd.
Contact Name: Motonari Tateyama
Quality assurance department general manager
Toyo Denso Co., Ltd.
Address: 1053 Ohtagaya, Tsurugashima, Saitama, 350-2280 Japan
Telephone No.: +81-49-285-1236

573.6(c)(3)

Total number of potentially affected vehicles: 80,111

573.6(c)(4)

Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect: 100%

573.6(c)(5)

Defect description:

The master power window switch contains a resin-material switch unit, the structure of which allows residues to accumulate over time. If silicone based cleaning agents are used near the master power window switch, silicone residue can adhere to the electrical contact point and, after repeated operation of the switch, may accelerate wear of the contact. The silicone particles may accumulate between the power source and the ground in the switch unit and become heated when electrical power is supplied to the circuit. If this occurs, the resin material of the switch unit can be carbonized and form an electrically conductive path, allowing current leakage to flow through the circuit, which causes resin material to heat up. As a result, the switch may melt, fail and produce smoke. In the worst case, the switch cover itself may burn. If the switch fails, the power windows may become inoperative, preventing them from being rolled up or down. The possibility of fire is a potential safety risk.

573.6(c)(6)

Chronology:

Oct. 4, 2005	HMC applied a switch unit made of a new resin material.
March 4, 2008	HMC received the first claim of smoke from the master power window switch for a model other than CR-V in Japan.
March 10, 2008	HMC initiated an investigation of the claim.
April 4, 2008	The cause was determined to be heat generation from contact due to presence of foreign silicone containing product and the occurrence rate was low; therefore, HMC determined market action was not necessary.

Aug. 21, 2009	HMC received additional claims of smoke and odor from the switch for models other than CR-V in Japan, and re-opened the investigation.
March 2, 2010	HMC received the first claim of smoke from the switch for 2006 MY CR-V in the U.S.
Nov. 23, 2010	AHM received a Preliminary Evaluation letter from NHTSA (PE10-047).
Dec. 23, 2010	HMC confirmed that the switch generated a greater amount of heat due to the electrical tracing phenomenon (described above) due to the new resin material; therefore, HMC reconsidered the need for market action.
Jan. 14, 2011	AHM responded to PE10-047.
April 12, 2011	AHM received an Engineering Analysis opening resume from NHTSA (EA11-004).
June 4, 2011	HMC confirmed that it is possible for burning to spread in vehicles equipped with the specified switches with the new resin material since the temperature can exceed the burning point of the switch cover.
Aug. 23, 2011	A total of 18 warranty claims for 2006 model year CR-V were received in the U.S.
Aug. 29, 2011	HMC determines that a safety-related defect exists and decides 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 change the power window master switch assembly in all affected vehicles, free of charge. The replacement power master window switches utilize an updated design with a resin material that was selected because it is not subject to the conditions that cause the smoke, melting and potential for fire in the original switches.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

The estimated date to e-mail preliminary notification to dealers:	Sept. 5, 2011
The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers:	Sept. 7, 2011
The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners:	Sept. 27, 2011
The estimated date of completion of the notification:	Oct. 4, 2011

573.6(c)(9)

Representative copies of all notices, bulletins and other communications:

A copy of the dealer service bulletin, the final customer notification letter and other dealer communication 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:

R93

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.


Jay Joseph
Senior Manager
Product Regulatory Office

JWJ:nis