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By Recall Management Division at 12:28 pm, Dec 28, 2011

HONDA

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

December 22, 2011

Ms. Nancy Lewis
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

11V-602
(3 Pages)

**Re: Recall Notification
2012 Model Year Honda Odyssey
Front Suspension Damper Bolt**

Dear Ms. Lewis:

On December 19, 2011, Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the front suspension damper bolt of certain 2012 model year Honda Odyssey 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 Manufacturing of Alabama (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 2012 model year | Oct. 31, 2011 Nov. 1, 2011 Nov. 1, 2011 Nov. 7, 2011 Nov. 14, 2011 Nov. 14, 2011 Nov. 15, 2011 Nov. 22, 2011 Nov. 30, 2011 |

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

The recall population was based on manufacturing records. The VINs listed reflect all possible vehicles that could potentially experience the problem.

573.6(c)(3)

Total number of potentially affected vehicles:

9

573.6(c)(4)

Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect:

Unknown

573.6(c)(5)

Defect description:

The retention nut for the front right lower suspension damper bolt may not have been tightened to the proper torque, potentially allowing the nut to loosen. If the nut loosens, it is possible for the bolt to come out. If the bolt entirely comes out of its position, the front hub assembly would only be attached by one bolt, allowing the wheel assembly to shift to an extreme inward angle, resulting in a loss of steering and increasing the risk of a crash.

573.6(c)(6)

Chronology:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| Dec. 1, 2011 | AHM received a dealer report of a missing bolt from the right front suspension damper attachment, and HMA initiated an investigation. |
| Dec. 2, 2011 | HMA reviewed equipment data. |
| Dec. 5-7, 2011 | HMA initiated re-creation testing in order to determine possible causes for the problem and began confirming the integrity of the production equipment data. |
| Dec. 19, 2011 | HMA concluded its investigation, and HMC determined that a safety-related defect exists. Suspect vehicles at dealerships (6 units) were inspected and, if necessary, repaired. |
- Retail customers (3) were contacted by phone, notified of the condition, and assisted with identifying dealers that inspected the vehicles and performed any necessary repairs.
- All 9 affected units have been inspected and, if needed, repaired.

573.6(c)(8)(i)

Program for remedying the defect:

The owners of all affected vehicles have been contacted by telephone and have taken their vehicles to a Honda automobile dealer for inspection and repair, as necessary. All affected unsold vehicles in dealer inventory have been inspected and repaired, as necessary. The dealers tightened the damper bolt to specification, free of charge.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

| | |
|---|----------------|
| The date dealers were notified by phone: | Dec. 19, 2011 |
| The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers: | Not Applicable |
| The date owner notification began by phone: | Dec. 19, 2011 |
| The date owner notification was completed by phone: | Dec. 19, 2011 |

573.6(c)(9)

Representative copies of all notices, bulletins and other communications:

At this time, the necessary repairs have been completed on all affected vehicles. No service bulletins or other dealer communications will be developed.

573.6(c)(10)

Proposed owner notification letter submission:

All owners of affected vehicles were contacted by phone, informed of this safety recall, and assisted with identifying a conveniently located dealer that would inspect the vehicle. All vehicles have been inspected and, as necessary, repaired. Therefore, owner notification letters will not be prepared for this safety recall.

573.6(c)(11)

Manufacturer's campaign number:

S13

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



Jay Joseph
Senior Manager
Product Regulatory Office

JWJ:nis