

January 31, 2012

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

12V-030
 (4 Pages)

Re: Recall Notification
2012 Model Year Honda Accord and Crosstour
Driver-side or Passenger-side Side Curtain Airbag

Dear Ms. Lewis:

On January 26, 2012, Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the driver-side or passenger-side side curtain airbag inflators of certain 2012 model year Honda Accord and Crosstour automobiles, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports. Based on information received on January 31, 2012, HMC anticipates that additional vehicles (and models) may be affected. HMC will provide NHTSA with further information on or about February 8, 2012.

573.6(c)(1)

Name of manufacturer: Honda of America Manufacturing, Inc. (HAM)

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 Accord 2-door	Certain 2012 model year	TBD
Honda Accord 4-door	Certain 2012 model year	TBD
Honda Crosstour	Certain 2012 model year	TBD

Possible additional affected models are being investigated at this time; the affected models and VINs will be identified on or about February 8, 2012.

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

The recall population will be identified based on manufacturing records. The VIN range will reflect all possible vehicles (and models) that potentially could experience the problem.

573.6(c)(2)(iv)

Identification of affected component:

Component: Driver and Passenger Side Curtain Airbag Assemblies
Country of Origin: Mexico
Manufacturer: TK Holdings, Inc.
Contact Name: Kazuo Higuchi
Address: 888 16th Street, NW
Suite 800
Washington, DC 20006
Telephone No.: (202) 729-6332

573.6(c)(3)

Total number of potentially affected vehicles:

347 units confirmed; additional affected units to be confirmed on or about February 8, 2012.

573.6(c)(4)

Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect: Unknown

573.6(c)(5)

Defect description:

A secondary supplier used an incorrect propellant mixture when manufacturing the initiator component of the side curtain airbag inflator. Use of the wrong inflator initiator propellant may result in a failure of the pressurized gas that inflates the airbag to be released from the airbag inflator, which in turn would cause non-deployment of the side curtain airbag during a crash. If the side curtain airbag does not deploy in the event of a crash the vehicle may fail to comply with the requirements of FMVSS 214, and the risk of injury is increased.

573.6(c)(6)

Chronology

Oct. 27-28, 2011	Autoliv prepares 2 slurry mixes using incorrect grade of propellant material; initiator test failed.
Oct. 29, 2011	First group of side curtain airbag inflators built with suspect initiators; inflator test passed.
Oct. 31, 2011	Autoliv's cold inflator test results in non-deployment; suspect inflator lot contained and begins investigation.

Nov. 4, 2011	Investigation completed, root cause is identified based on one slurry mix and product is contained.
Nov. 12, 2011	Autoliv releases certain side curtain airbag inflators for shipment to Takata China, Takata Mexico, and another customer.
Jan. 8, 2012	Non-deployment of side curtain airbag inflator during Lot Acceptance Test (LAT) at Takata China.
Jan. 9, 2012	Takata China reports non-deployment to Autoliv and investigation begins.
Jan. 11, 2012	Autoliv indicates that the Takata China inflator is 1 of 1,365 that escaped containment and were sent to Takata China, Takata NA (Mexico) and another customer.
Jan. 12, 2012	After investigation, Autoliv informs Takata China that burst disk failed to open. Requests suspect inflators be returned.
Jan. 18, 2012	Takata informs HMC.
Jan. 26, 2012	HMC determines that a safety related defect exists.
Jan. 31, 2012	HMC is informed that the number of affected inflators may be greater than the number identified on January 11, 2012, and that affected inflators may include those used on models other than Accord and Crosstour. Investigation continues.

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 affected driver-side or passenger-side side curtain airbag assembly, as applicable, free of charge.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

The date to e-mail preliminary notification to dealers:	Jan. 27, 2012
The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers:	Feb. 3, 2012
The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners:	Feb. 10, 2012
The estimated date of completion of the notification:	Feb. 29, 2012

573.6(c)(9)

Representative copies of all notices, bulletins and other communications:

A copy of the dealer service bulletin(s), the final customer notification letter(s) and other dealer communication(s) 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 letters will be submitted to your office as soon as possible.

573.6(c)(11)

Manufacturer's campaign number:

S19, S20

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jay Joseph / JWA".

Jay Joseph
Senior Manager
Product Regulatory Office

JWJ:nis