

April 26, 2012

12V-030
(3 Pages)
Amended

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

Re: 12V-030 Recall Notification Expansion
2012 Model Year Honda Accord, Crosstour, Civic and MDX
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. We furnished notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports on January 31, 2012. Based on information received on January 31, 2012, HMC anticipated that additional vehicles (and models) might be affected.

On February 9, 2012, HMC determined that additional vehicles and models (certain 2012 Acura MDX and Honda Civic vehicles) were affected; therefore, we submitted an updated recall notification letter.

After further analysis, HMC determined that the additional models (Acura MDX and Honda Civic) included on the February 9, 2012 submission should not have been included in the expansion and we provided NHTSA with an updated list of affected vehicles on March 16, 2012. Today we are confirming that the March 16, 2012 vehicle list is correct, and explaining how we reached that conclusion. We are also providing a final list of affected vehicles to avoid any customer confusion.

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	1HGCS1B86C. - 1HGCS1B37C Dec. 5, 2011 – Jan. 12, 2012
		1HGCS2B83C - 1HGCS2B86C Dec. 14, 2011
Honda Accord 4-door	Certain 2012 model year	1HGCP2F3XC - 1HGCP2F67C Dec 6, 2011 – Jan. 5, 2012

		1HGCP3F76C - 1HGCP3F89 Dec. 6, 2011 – Dec. 22, 2011
		HGFB2F50CH - 2HGFB2F52CH: Jan. 17, 2012 – Jan. 25, 2012
Honda Crosstour	Certain 2012 model year	5J6TF1H30CL - 5J6TF1H53CL Dec. 5, 2011 – Dec. 22, 2011
		5J6TF2H52CL - 5J6TF2H52CL Dec. 7, 2011 – Dec. 23, 2011

Subsequent to HMC's decision that a defect exists in the original vehicle population, Autoliv, the producer of the side curtain airbag inflator assemblies, informed Honda that additional inflator modules may contain propellant that also was produced with a granular structure that does not match the design specifications. Autoliv conducted testing on those modules and determined that despite not meeting the original design specifications, the inflators would inflate properly if a side curtain airbag were required to deploy. Autoliv informed Takata, the side curtain assembly supplier, of its conclusion and Takata, in turn, informed HMC. Honda then requested additional durability testing by Autoliv to assure performance throughout the expected life of the vehicle. That testing has now been completed, and Honda agrees with Autoliv's conclusion that the side curtain airbags will perform as designed. Therefore HMC no longer finds it necessary to increase the original vehicle population, and the Civic and MDX vehicles tentatively identified on February 9, 2012 are being excluded from this recall. Owners of all affected vehicles have been notified at this time, and no notification was sent to unaffected Civic or MDX vehicles.

573.6(c)(6)

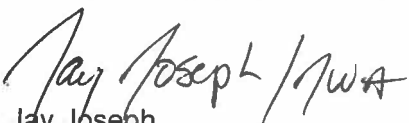
Chronology

- 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 investigation begins.
- 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.
Feb. 8, 2012	HMC determines that additional vehicles and models are affected based on information provided by suppliers, which were cross-referenced with manufacturing records.
Apr. 19, 2012	HMC determines that Civic and MDX vehicles are not affected based on information provided by suppliers, which were cross-referenced with manufacturing records.

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



Jay Joseph
Senior Manager
Product Regulatory Office

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