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By Recall Management Division at 10:13 am, May 17, 2012

HONDA

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

May 16, 2012

12V-222
(4 Pages)

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: Recall Notification
2007-08 Model Year Acura TL
Power Steering Hose**

Dear Ms. Lewis:

On May 10, 2012, Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the Power Steering Hose of certain 2007-08 model year Acura TL 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 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>
Acura TL	Certain 2007 model year	19UUA76507A - 19UUA76507A Mar. 20, 2006 to Jul 10, 2007
Acura TL	Certain 2008 model year	19UUA76558A - 19UUA76508A Jul. 10, 2007 to Mar 28, 2008
		19UUA66298A - 19UUA66248A Aug. 1, 2007 to Mar 28, 2008

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: 52,615

573.6(c)(4)

Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect: Unknown

573.6(c)(5)

Defect description:

Prolonged high under-hood and power steering fluid temperatures may cause the power steering hose to deteriorate prematurely in a manner that can result in the cracks in the hose that can lead to leaking power steering fluid. These temperatures are achieved despite a design change from prior model year TL vehicles to incorporate cooling fins on the power steering fluid-to-air heat exchanger unit to reduce fluid temperatures. Power steering fluid leaking onto a hot catalytic converter will generate smoke and a burning smell, and could potentially result in an under-hood fire.

573.6(c)(6)

Chronology:

June 23, 2010	Honda of America Manufacturing, Inc. (HAM) received and confirmed a power steering hose leak on base model 2008 TL
Feb. 22, 2011	Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) requested analysis by Honda R&D Americas (HRA) of components in the US
Mar. 9, 2011	HMC analysis confirmed leak of 2008 a TL base model hose due to heat damage, these results are shared with HRA for its ongoing investigation
June 29, 2011	HAM received and confirmed a power steering hose leak on base model 2008 TL
Sept. 15, 2011	HMC analysis confirmed leaking of a TL Type-S hose due to heat damage, these results are shared with HRA for its ongoing investigation
Oct. 28, 2011	HAM/HRA confirmed the possibility of a power steering hose leak, began analysis of failure rate forecast and comparison to previously recalled models

Jan. 24, 2012	HRA study of underhood airflow initiated, evaluating potential temperature characteristics for static and dynamic conditions including various speed ranges and crosswind conditions
Mar. 1, 2012	HMC and HRA review available data and reports
April 25, 2012	Underhood airflow study completed, reported to AHM
May 10, 2012	Results of underhood airflow study reported to HMC completing the investigation. HMC determined that a safety-related defect exists

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 an Acura dealer. The dealer will install a new heat resistant power steering hose, free of charge.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

The estimated date to e-mail preliminary notification to dealers: May 17, 2012

The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers: May 17, 2012

The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners: June 15, 2012

The estimated date of completion of the notification: June 22, 2012

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:

S39

Ms. Nancy Lewis
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Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jay Joseph". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Jay Joseph
Senior Manager
Product Regulatory Office

JWJ:nis