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By Recall Management Division at 7:55 am, Sep 05, 2012

HONDA

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

August 31, 2012

12V-432
(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
2012 Honda Ridgeline
Passenger Airbag Indicator**

Dear Ms. Lewis:

The following information is submitted pursuant to the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573.6 as it applies to a determination by Honda Motor Co., Ltd. of a noncompliance involving the passenger airbag telltale required by section 4.5 of FMVSS No. 208 "Occupant Crash Protection" on certain 2012 Honda Ridgeline vehicles.

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 Ridgeline	Certain 2012 Model Year	Manufactured on April 18, 2012 See attached VIN List

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)(3)

Total number of potentially affected vehicles:

17

573.6(c)(4)

Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect:

100%

573.6(c)(5)

Defect description:

Honda Manufacturing of Alabama incorrectly installed the Canadian version of the passenger airbag telltale (which is incorporated into the hazard switch assembly) on a total of seventeen (17) 2012 Honda Ridgeline vehicles for the US market. This creates a failure to comply with FMVSS 208 S4.5.4.3b, which states that the indicator "shall have the identifying words "PASSENGER AIRBAG OFF" or "PASS AIRBAG OFF" on the telltale."

U.S.

Canada



Correct airbag indicator



Incorrect airbag indicator

573.6(c)(6)

Chronology:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| April 21, 2012 | An incorrect passenger airbag indicator was found during a Vehicle Quality check at HMA. A further investigation of in-house vehicles produced a total of 38 incorrect indicators. |
| April 23, 2012 | Factory and sales records showed that 17 vehicles in the suspect VIN range had been shipped to Honda dealers. |
| May 25, 2012 | Countermeasures were implemented on the assembly line at the factory. |
| August 24, 2012 | HMC completed the investigation, determined that a noncompliance exists and will conduct a 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 install the correct hazard switch incorporating the passenger airbag indicator free of charge.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

The estimated date to e-mail preliminary notification to dealers: 8/31/2012

The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers: 8/31/2012

The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners: 9/21/2012

The estimated date of completion of the notification: 9/21/2012

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.

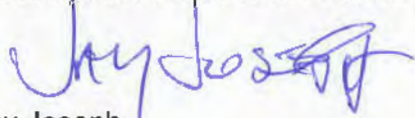
573.6(c)(11)

Manufacturer's campaign number:

S52

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



Jay Joseph
Senior Manager
Product Regulatory Office

JWJ:clm

2012 Honda Ridgeline Passenger Airbag Indicator Affected VIN list:

Manufacture Date: April 18, 2012

5FPYK1F50CB458186
5FPYK1F51CB458181
5FPYK1F51CB458195
5FPYK1F51CB458200
5FPYK1F52CB458173
5FPYK1F54CB458191
5FPYK1F55CB458197
5FPYK1F56CB458175
5FPYK1F56CB458189
5FPYK1F56CB458192
5FPYK1F57CB458198
5FPYK1F58CB458176
5FPYK1F58CB458193
5FPYK1F59CB458185
5FPYK1F59CB458199
5FPYK1F5XCB458177
5FPYK1F5XCB458180