

November 20, 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

**Re: Recall Notification  
2012 Model Year Honda Civic  
Steering Column**

Dear Ms. Lewis:

On November 13, 2012, Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the steering column of certain 2012 model year Honda Civic automobiles, and is providing 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 Indiana, LLC (HMIN)

**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 Civic	Certain 2012 model year	19XFB2F51CE103846 - 19XFB2F59CE103884 19XFB2F54CE386078 - 19XFB2F52CE387150 October 26, 2012 to October 30, 2012

**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 be equipped with an affected steering column.

573.6(c)(2)(iv)

**Identification of affected component:**

Component: Steering Column  
Country of Origin: USA  
Manufacturer: Yamada North America  
Contact Name: Rich Troops  
Address: 9000 Columbus-Cincinnati Road  
P.O. Box Y  
South Charleston, Ohio 45368  
Telephone No.: 937-462-7111

573.6(c)(3)

**Total number of potentially affected vehicles:** 157

573.6(c)(4)

**Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect:** Unknown

573.6(c)(5)

**Defect description:**

The steering columns of certain 2012 Civic vehicles were assembled with a tilt bracket designed for a 2013 model year Civic steering column assembly. Honda cannot assure proper performance of the energy absorbing characteristics of the steering column in a crash if the correct components have not been installed. An incorrectly assembled steering column could increase the risk of injury in the event of a crash.

573.6(c)(6)

**Chronology:**

October 30, 2012	Supplier identified that MY2013 parts were brought to their assembly line and assembled onto MY2012 steering columns. Supplier notified HMIN of the misassembled parts condition. HMIN stopped vehicle shipment and initiated investigation into how many suspect units entered the market.
November 1-9, 2012	HMIN intentionally assembled MY2012 steering columns with MY2013 tilt brackets and tested the energy absorbing characteristics.
November 13, 2012	HMIN completed its investigation and HMC determined that a safety related defect exists and decided to conduct a safety recall. Honda has not received any claims related to this issue.

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 inspect and if necessary, replace, the steering column, free of charge. Because the new vehicle warranty on all affected vehicles would have provided a free repair for the problem addressed by this recall, without any payment by the owner, reimbursement for pre-notification repairs will not be offered.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

**The estimated date to e-mail preliminary notification to dealers:** Nov. 20, 2012

**The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers:** Nov. 20, 2012

**The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners:** Dec. 4, 2012

**The estimated date of completion of the notification:** Dec. 4, 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:**

S69

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



Jay Joseph  
Senior Manager  
Product Regulatory Office

JWJ:cm