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Sent on 12 11 2012 Expires on 12 25 2012
From American Honda Parts & Service Division, Campaign Administration
Subject Stop Sale/Safety Recall: 2003-2006 MDX Shift Interlock

DATE: December 11, 2012

TO: All Acura Sales, Service & Parts Managers and Personnel

FROM: Acura Parts & Service Division, Campaign Administration

RE: Stop Sale/Safety Recall: 2003-2006 MDX Shift Interlock

On December 10, 2012, Acura notified NHTSA of a **Stop Sale** order and **Safety Recall** for some 2003-2006 MDX units. Any used units in dealer stock must be repaired per S/B 12-044 prior to sale. **Refer to VIN inquiry to determine which units in your inventory are affected.** Acura expects to begin client notification in early February 2013.

Note: Affected vehicles should not be sold until the repair has been performed. Should an unrepaired vehicle cause any injury or damage because of the required recall repair, the dealership will be solely responsible to the damaged party, and will be required to defend and indemnify Acura for any resulting claims.

Basic Problem

Under certain conditions, the interlock lever of the ignition switch may unexpectedly deform. The interlock ensures the transmission is in Park before the ignition key can be removed. Interlock failure may allow the ignition key to be removed when the shift lever is not in Park. If the driver fails to engage the parking brake, the vehicle could roll away, increasing the risk of a crash.

Campaign Information

Affected vehicles will be subject to an inspection. If the key can be removed when the shift lever is not in Park, the ignition switch will be replaced, and an improved shift interlock lever will be installed. In cases where the shift interlock functions normally, the improved shift interlock lever will be installed. Acura expects that roughly 80% of the affected vehicles will require only the improved shift interlock lever, while the remaining 20% will also require replacement of the ignition switch.

The repair for this recall is currently being evaluated by Acura Service Engineering, and special tools to perform the repair are in development. An iN message will be issued and S/B 12-044 updated once these components are in place, expected to be in late January 2013. In the interim, unsold affected units can be sold only if the ignition switch is replaced with a new switch from current parts stock.

Parts Information

Parts information will be available in the updated version of S/B 12-044. Additional information regarding parts handling will be issued via iN message when available. Ignition switch replacements for unsold vehicles can be claimed through goodwill; please contact your DPSM for additional details.

Warranty and Repair Information

Warranty and repair information will be detailed in the preliminary updated version of S/B 12-044, which is expected to post to ISIS in late-January 2013.

Client Information

Clients who are concerned about the safety of their vehicle should be advised that the vehicle can be safely operated if the shift lever is set to Park and the parking brake is firmly set before the key is removed from the ignition.

[Click here](#) for additional details.