

November 14, 2013

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
2014 Model Year Acura MDX AWD
Propeller Shaft (Driveshaft)**

Dear Ms. Lewis:

On November 7, 2013 Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the propeller shaft of certain 2014 model year Acura MDX AWD 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 Alabama LLC (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>
Acura MDX AWD	Certain 2014 model year	5FRYD4H4XEB001122 – 5FRYD4H82EB020962 May 6, 2013 to October 14, 2013

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:

19,197

573.6(c)(4)

Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect: Unknown

573.6(c)(5)

Defect description:

During assembly, it is possible that one or two of the four bolts that attach the propeller shaft to the automatic transmission transfer assembly were not properly tightened. An incorrectly torqued bolt could loosen over time, possibly causing the propeller shaft to detach. If the propeller shaft detaches while driving it could cause excessive noise and possibly damage the vehicle, increasing the risk of a crash.

573.6(c)(6)

Chronology:

- October 12, 2013 An MDX was found with missing propeller shaft bolts during a vehicle quality check at HMA. Further investigation of in-house vehicles yielded a total of 15 vehicles with bolts missing.
- October 14, 2013 An investigation began and a production confirmation was initiated.
- November 7, 2013 HMA completed the 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 an Acura automobile dealer. The dealer will inspect all the bolt connections on the propeller shaft and repair if necessary, 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. 13, 2013

The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers: Nov. 14, 2013

The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners: Dec. 6, 2013

The estimated date of completion of the notification: Dec. 7, 2013

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:

JC8

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



Jay Joseph
Senior Manager
Product Regulatory Office

JWJ:cmb