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From American Honda Parts, Service & Technical Division, Campaign Administration
Subject Stop Sale/Safety Recall: 2013 Odyssey & Pilot Insufficient Piston Hardness

DATE: August 26, 2013

TO: All Honda Sales, Service & Parts Managers and Personnel
FROM: American Honda Parts, Service & Technical Division, Campaign Administration
RE: Stop Sale/Safety Recall: 2013 Odyssey & Pilot Insufficient Piston Hardness

On August 25, 2013, American Honda notified NHTSA of a **Stop Sale** order and **Safety Recall** for **120** 2013 Odyssey and **150** 2013 Pilot units. Any new or used units in dealer stock must be repaired per S/B 13-075, *Safety Recall: Pistons Out of Specification* prior to sale. **Refer to VIN Inquiry to determine which units in your inventory are affected.**

Note: Affected vehicles should not be sold until the repair has been completed. 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 American Honda for any resulting claims.

Basic Problem

During manufacturing, a small number of pistons were not properly heat-treated. Improperly heat-treated pistons may be insufficiently hardened, which may lead to piston damage.

The Repair

All affected vehicles require replacement of the short block.

Service Bulletin

In support of this recall, S/B 13-075 will be posted on ISIS on August 27, 2013, and will include repair, parts and warranty information related to the campaign. Make sure that all steps in the bulletin are followed to ensure a successful repair.

Parts Information

Parts will be allocated to address units on stop sale, and most dealers with unsold units can expect to receive them on August 27, 2013. Additional parts can be ordered to address customer owned units as necessary.

Warranty and Repair Information

Warranty and repair information will be detailed in S/B 13-075, which will be posted to ISIS on August 27, 2013.

Customer Notification

American Honda Motor Co. expects to begin customer notification in mid-September 2013.

As always, please be sure to check in VIN status to determine if a particular vehicle is eligible for this recall.

Click [HERE](#) for a Q&A File in PDF format.

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2013 Odyssey & Pilot Insufficient Piston Hardness Safety Recall Q&A	
What is the reason for this recall?	Engine pistons in these vehicles may not have been properly hardened during a heat treatment process. Pistons with lower hardness are more susceptible to premature durability-related wear. A damaged piston could cause the engine to stall, increasing the risk of a crash.
What is a heat treatment process?	Heat treatment involves the use of heating or chilling of metal, normally to extreme temperatures, to harden it to a particular specification.
Why could this cause a failure?	The pistons involved in this recall were not hardened properly, making them less durable against the extreme conditions experienced inside the engine.
What will be done to repair recalled vehicles?	A Honda dealer will replace the engine short block, which is the lower portion of the engine that includes the pistons, free of charge.
Why not just replace the pistons? Why replace the whole short block?	We want to ensure a complete repair for our customers with minimum inconvenience and repair time. It's impossible to know if this issue has caused damage to an engine without disassembling the engine which would take more time, and potentially reduce the customer's confidence in the repair.
How long will the short block replacement take?	Customers should ask their dealers for a time estimate when making an appointment for repair, as each dealer's daily schedule is different. The short block replacement itself takes around 10 working hours.
When will customers be notified?	Customer notification letters will be mailed during the week of September 16, 2013. Additionally, at that time, owners will be able to check their vehicle recall status online at www.recalls.honda.com .
What should a customer do if their vehicle is experiencing a problem now?	If a customer is currently experiencing an engine problem, they should contact their local Honda dealer to schedule an inspection. (All 2013 Odyssey and Pilot vehicles should be within the limited warranty period as of September 2013.) This recall applies to only 270 specific vehicles, and it is unnecessary for all owners of these vehicles to visit a dealer. However, we want each customer who receives a notification letter and has the condition to have their vehicle repaired.
Are all 2013 Odyssey and Pilot vehicles part of this recall?	No. Only 270 specific vehicles are affected by the recall in the US.
Is there a potential to include other vehicles in the future?	We are confident that we have identified all of the potentially affected vehicles and do not expect to add any in the future.
Where were these vehicles built?	Lincoln, Alabama.