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14V-109
(3 pages)

HONDA

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

March 7, 2014

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 Honda Civic
Tire Bead Damage**

Dear Ms. Lewis:

On February 28, 2014 Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the tires of certain 2014 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 of Canada Mfg. (HCM)
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 LX Sedan	Certain 2014 model year	2HGFB2F58EH501001 - 2HGFB2F59EH512458 November 26, 2013 to January 21, 2014
Honda Civic LX Coupe	Certain 2014 model year	2HGFG3B56EH500054 - 2HGFG3B56EH507103 November 26, 2013 to January 21, 2014

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: 9,816

573.6(c)(4)

Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect: Unknown

573.6(c)(5)

Defect description:

During the mounting of the tires, it is possible that the bead of the tire may have been pinched between the assembly equipment and the steel wheel rims, creating a tear. A tear in the bead area of the tire may result in unexpected air loss by the tire, making the vehicle more difficult to maneuver, increasing the risk of a crash.

573.6(c)(6)

Chronology:

January 15, 2014	HCM vehicle inspection finds a vehicle with abnormal vibration while test driving due to low tire pressure. A bulge on the tire sidewall appeared after inflating the tire to the recommended pressure. Further inspection of the tire showed the bead of the tire had been torn.
January 15-20, 2014	An HCM investigation of 4,696 15-inch tires on steel wheels found 1,886 tires with a tear in the bead. A total of 119 16-inch tires on steel wheels out of 1,150 inspected were also found to have a torn bead.
January 16, 2014	The supplier responsible for installing tires onto wheels began teardown analysis and investigation
February 24, 2014	HCM concluded its investigation.
February 27, 2014	HMC determined that a safety defect exists and decided to conduct a recall.

As of February 28, 2014, Honda has not received any warranty claims, field reports or injuries 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, any damaged tire 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:	March 6, 2014
The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers:	March 7, 2014
The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners:	March 28, 2014

The estimated date of completion of the notification:

March 28, 2014

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:

JD8

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Joseph", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jay Joseph
Senior Manager
Product Regulatory Office

JWJ:cmb