

April 4, 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 Odyssey**  
**Side Curtain Airbag Coupler**

Dear Ms. Lewis:

On March 28, 2014 Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the side curtain airbag of certain 2014 model year Honda Odyssey 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>
Honda Odyssey	Certain 2014 model year	5FNRL5H65EB036215 - 5FNRL5H61EB063184 October 2, 2013 to December 16, 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)(2)(iv)

**Identification of affected component:**

Component:	Side Curtain Air Bag
Country of Origin:	United States
Manufacturer:	Autoliv Corporation
Contact Name	Mike Anderson
Address:	1320 Pacific Dr, Auburn Hills, MI
Telephone No.:	(248)-475-0442

573.6(c)(3)

**Total number of potentially affected vehicles:**

24,889

573.6(c)(4)

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

Unknown

573.6(c)(5)

**Defect description:**

During assembly of the electrical coupler for the side curtain airbag on the passenger's side of the vehicle, it is possible that the shorting terminal of the wiring harness connector, which is used to prevent deployment of the airbag before it is assembled into the vehicle, may have been damaged. A damaged shorting terminal may illuminate the SRS indicator as well as prevent the side curtain airbag from deploying during a crash, increasing the risk of injury.

573.6(c)(6)

**Chronology:**

September 23, 2013

The supplier performed maintenance activity to the coupler electrical check equipment, creating a condition which could potentially damage the shorting terminal.

October 16 – November 8, 2013

HMA identified 103 vehicles with the SRS light illuminated during in-house quality checks. At that time HMA understood that all affected vehicles had been identified and repaired prior to leaving the factory.

November 11, 2013

HMA opened an investigation with the supplier to determine the cause for the SRS light being illuminated.

December 3, 2014

Honda received three (3) market claims for the SRS light being illuminated.

December 13, 2013

The supplier determined that the maintenance activity performed in September could have caused damage during an electrical check of the coupler, and new equipment was installed. HMA understood that all affected vehicles with the SRS light illuminated had been identified and repaired prior to shipment from the factory.

February 24, 2014

Honda started an investigation to determine if a damaged shorting coupler could affect the deployment of the side curtain airbag.

March 28, 2014

Honda completed the investigation and decided that a safety risk exists and to conduct a recall.

As of March 24, 2014 Honda has received a total of 101 warranty claims for an illuminated SRS light. There have not been any reports of crashes or injuries.

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 remove the damaged shorting pin from the side curtain airbag coupler and install a new shorting coupler, 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:** April 3, 2014

**The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers:** April 4, 2014

**The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners:** May 2, 2014

**The estimated date of completion of the notification:** May 2, 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:**

JE2

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

  
Jay Joseph  
Assistant Vice President  
Product Regulatory Office

JWJ:cmb