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By Recall Management Division at 8:31 am, Jun 13, 2014

**HONDA**

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

June 12, 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  
2013-2014 Model Year Acura ILX  
Headlights**

Dear Ms. Lewis:

On June 5, 2014 Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the halogen headlights of certain 2013-2014 model year base model Acura ILX 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 Indiana, LLC (HMIN)  
**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 ILX	Certain 2013 model year base model	19VDE1F34DE000003 - 19VDE1F38DE022599 January 16, 2012 to March 1, 2013
Acura ILX Hybrid	Certain 2013 model year base model	19VDE3F3XDE000003 - 19VDE3F34DE302550 January 12, 2012 to February 7, 2013
Acura ILX	Certain 2014 model year base model	19VDE1F30EE000002 - 19VDE1F33EE015299 May 2, 2013 to May 31, 2014
Acura ILX Hybrid	Certain 2014 model year base model	19VDE3F37EE300034 - 19VDE3F32EE300281 October 18, 2013 to February 19, 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)(2)(iv)

**Identification of affected component:**

Component:	Right and Left Headlight Assembly
Country of Origin:	USA
Manufacturer:	North American Lighting, Inc.
Contact Name	Randy Snyder
Address:	2275 S. Main Street, Suite B, Paris, IL 61944
Telephone No.:	(217) 465-6600 ext. 7371

573.6(c)(3)

**Total number of potentially affected vehicles:** 14,078

573.6(c)(4)

**Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect:** 100%

573.6(c)(5)

**Defect description:**

The halogen headlights in certain 2013-2014 model year Acura ILX vehicles may exhibit higher than normal temperatures around the bulb and reflector unit while the vehicle is not in motion. In certain use conditions higher temperatures may damage the reflector unit, potentially diminishing the output of the headlight in a way that may cause the vehicle to fail to comply with the requirements of FMVSS 108. During extreme usage, such as idling the vehicle without moving for extended duration (hours) with the headlights on, the headlights can overheat causing smoke, melting and in the worst case, fire.

573.6(c)(6)

**Chronology:**

November 6, 2013	An Acura ILX vehicle fire allegation was received by AHM from Flat Irons Acura (dealership) in Boulder, Colorado. The fire appeared to have started in the headlight area while the vehicle was idling in a stationary position with the headlights illuminated. The dealer reported that the vehicle had been idling in this position for approximately 2 hours to charge the battery when fire was observed.
February 5, 2014	Vehicle was released to American Honda from the dealer's insurance company.
February 27, 2014	Vehicle was received at HMIN and root cause investigation of the fire event began.
March 26, 2014	Initial Honda investigation narrowed down the possible fire origin to the headlight area. Investigation of headlight operating characteristics began.
April 23, 2014	Honda identified that the headlights were reaching temperatures above internal specification and there was evidence of heat deformation on the reflector unit. An additional investigation was initiated to determine if melting inside the headlight unit had any effect on photometrics. Honda was not able to recreate a fire through testing.

June 5, 2014                      Honda determined that melting inside the headlights could result in a noncompliance with FMVSS 108. Honda also determined that a safety defect exists and decided to conduct a recall.

As of June 5, 2014, Honda has received one field report for this issue. There have been no warranty claims 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 an Acura automobile dealer. The dealer will replace the headlights 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)

<b>The estimated date to e-mail preliminary notification to dealers:</b>	June 12, 2014
<b>The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers:</b>	June 13, 2014
<b>The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners:</b>	July 28, 2014
<b>The estimated date of completion of the notifications:</b>	July 28, 2014

573.6(c)(9)

**Representative copies of all notices, bulletins and other communications:**

A copy of the dealer service bulletin and other dealer communications will be submitted to your office as soon as possible.

573.6(c)(10)

**Proposed owner notification letter submission:**

June 12, 2014, submitted in conjunction with this notification.

573.6(c)(11)

**Manufacturer's campaign number:**

JE9

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



Jay Joseph  
Assistant Vice President  
Product Regulatory Office

JWJ:cmb