

HONDA

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

December 17, 2020

Mr. Jeffrey Giuseppe
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Part 573, Defect Information Report
2018-2020 Model Year Honda Africa Twin Adventure Sports Motorcycles
Fuel Filter Assembly

Dear Mr. Giuseppe:

In accordance with the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act and 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance and Responsibility Reports, Honda is submitting the enclosed Defect Information Report regarding a safety recall of 2018-2020 model year Honda Africa Twin Adventure Sports motorcycles to address a defect with the fuel filter assembly.

If you have any questions about this report, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



Jeff Chang
Senior Manager
Product Regulatory Office

JC:rq

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

573.6(c)(1)

Name of manufacturer: Honda Motor Co., Ltd., Kumamoto Factory

Manufacturer's agent: Jeff Chang
American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
1919 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90501-2746

573.6(c)(2)

Identification of potentially affected vehicles:

<u>Make/Model</u>	<u>Model Year</u>	<u>Dates of Manufacture</u>	<u>Number of Vehicles</u>
Honda CRF1000L Africa Twin Adventure Sports	2018	03/20/2018 – 07/24/2018	1,292
Honda CRF1000L Africa Twin Adventure Sports	2019	08/30/2018 – 03/27/2019	877
Honda CRF1100L Africa Twin Adventure Sports	2020	08/28/2019 – 05/27/2020	521

Description of the basis for the determination of the recall population:

The recall population was determined based on manufacturing records. The production range reflects all possible vehicles that could experience the problem.

Description of how the vehicles being recalled differ from similar vehicles not included in the recall:

All vehicles produced within the dates of manufacture ranges specified above are affected. As a process improvement, fuel tanks now undergo an additional cleaning process to remove contaminants after welding has been completed.

Identification of affected components:

Component: Fuel Filter Assembly

Part No.:

Model	Part Number
CRF1000L	16700-MKK-D22
CRF1100L	16700-MKK-E21

Country of Origin: Japan

Manufacturer: Mitsubishi Electric Corporation

573.6(c)(3)

Total number of potentially affected vehicles: 2,690

573.6(c)(4)

Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect: 100%

573.6(c)(5)

Defect description:

Zinc oxide, generated in the fuel tank manufacturing/welding process, can contaminate the fuel and clog the fuel filter. Under these conditions, the engine could potentially stall, increasing the risk of a crash.

573.6(c)(6)

Chronology:

August – September 2018

Honda received a report of engine hesitation/stalling under acceleration with a clogged fuel filter and debris in the fuel tank, respectively, in the U.S. and Canada markets and began an investigation.

October – December 2018

Investigations were closed, as Honda was unable to identify the root cause.

March 28, 2019

Honda received a report of contaminated fuel in the fuel tank from the Mexico market.

June – July 2019

Honda received initial reports of engine stalling/hesitation from the UK, Italy, and Japan markets.

August 2019

Honda received three reports for engine stalling/hesitation in the U.S. One report identified a clogged fuel filter and the other two reports identified fuel pump failure.

October 2019

Honda received two additional reports of failed fuel pumps in the U.S.

June – December 2019

Honda investigated and analyzed the issues but did not identify a root cause.

January – May 2020

Honda identified that zinc oxide was present in the fuel tank as a result of different welding methods, and undertook further investigation.

March – May 2020

Honda received three additional reports for engine stalling/hesitation that were related to, respectively, clogged fuel filter causing engine bogging and stalling and a failed fuel pump in the U.S.

June – August 2020

Honda received 18 additional claims and reports on the issue in the North American and European markets.

September – November 2020

Honda analyzed and reviewed the increase in occurrences to identify the population of potentially affected vehicles.

December 10, 2020

Honda determined that a defect related to motor vehicle safety exists and decided to conduct a safety recall.

As of December 10, 2020, Honda has received 180 warranty claims, 74 field reports, and no reports of crashes or injuries related to this issue.

573.6(c)(8)(i)

Program for remedying the defect:

Registered owners of all affected vehicles will be contacted by mail and asked to bring their vehicle to an authorized Honda motorcycle dealer. The dealer will drain, clean the fuel tank, and replace the fuel filter assembly, for free.

Owners who have paid to have these repairs completed at their own expense will be eligible for reimbursement, in accord with the recall reimbursement plan on file with NHTSA.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

The notification date to dealers:

December 15, 2020

The estimated date to start notifications to owners:

February 15, 2021

573.6(c)(10)

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.

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: KL4