



Applies To: 2007–10 MDX – Check the iN VIN status for eligibility

August 3, 2012

## Warranty Extension: Steering Wheel Is Hard to Turn at Low Speeds

### BACKGROUND

On some 2007–10 MDXs, the power steering pump does not provide the intended amount of assistance while the vehicle is driven at slow speeds with low engine RPM, making the steering wheel hard to turn when driving in areas such as a parking lot. To increase client confidence, American Honda is extending the warranty on the power steering pump in affected vehicles to 7 years from the original date of purchase or 100,000 miles, whichever comes first.

The warranty extension does not apply to any vehicle that has ever been declared a total loss or sold for salvage by a financial institution or insurer, or has a branded or similar title under any state's law.

### CLIENT NOTIFICATION

Owners of affected vehicles will receive a notification of this warranty extension. An example of the client notification is included at the end of this service bulletin.

Before doing work on a vehicle, verify its eligibility by doing an iN VIN status inquiry.

### CORRECTIVE ACTION

Do the diagnosis and, if needed, replace the power steering pump.

### PARTS INFORMATION

Power Steering Pump Kit: P/N 06561-RYE-305  
(Includes a power steering pump outlet hose O-ring and a power steering pump without the pulley or nut.)

### REQUIRED MATERIALS

Acura Power Steering Fluid: P/N 08206-9002A  
(One bottle repairs one vehicle)

### REQUIRED SPECIAL TOOLS

Pulley Holder: T/N 07AAB-S5AA101

### WARRANTY CLAIM INFORMATION

Operation Number: 5121G4

Flat Rate Time: 0.3 hour

Failed Part: P/N 56110-RYE-A03

Defect Code: 5P500

Symptom Code: R8200

Template ID: 12-017A

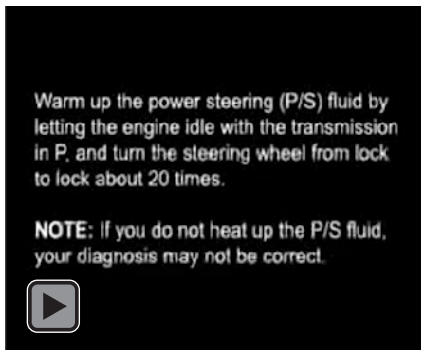
Skill Level: Repair Technician

## DIAGNOSIS

1. Make sure the tires are properly inflated. See the driver's doorjamb label for more information.
2. With the vehicle on the ground, start the engine, and warm it up to normal operating temperature (the radiator fan comes on).
3. Warm up the power steering (P/S) fluid by letting the engine idle with the transmission in P, and turn the steering wheel from lock to lock about 20 times.

NOTE: If you do not heat up the P/S fluid, your diagnosis may not be correct.

4. After the P/S fluid is warmed up, turn the steering wheel from lock to lock, and note the steering wheel effort.



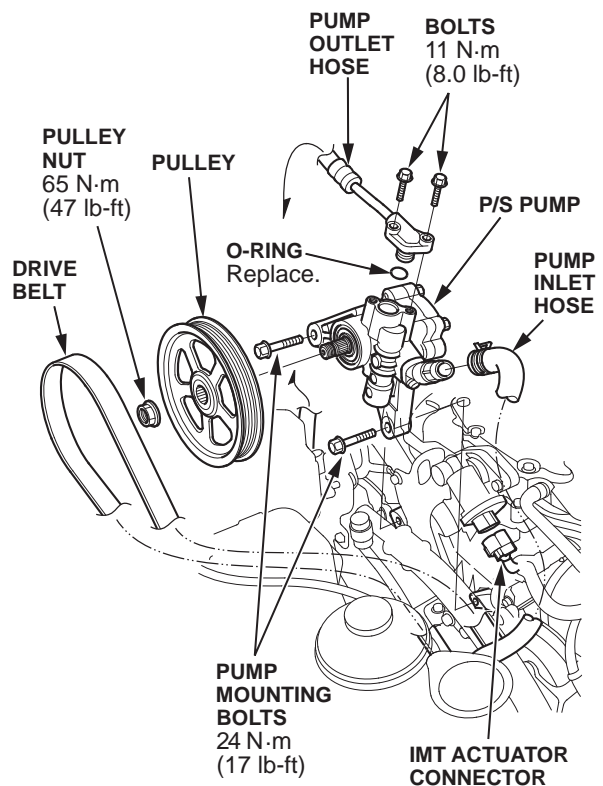
5. Continue turning the wheel from lock to lock, and raise the engine RPM to between 1,500 and 2,000. Note the steering wheel effort and compare it with the steering effort when the engine is idling.
  - If the steering wheel is easier to turn at high RPM, go to REPAIR PROCEDURE.
  - If the steering wheel effort at idle and high RPM is about the same, this bulletin does not apply. Compare your results against a known-good vehicle and continue with normal troubleshooting.

## REPAIR PROCEDURE

### NOTE:

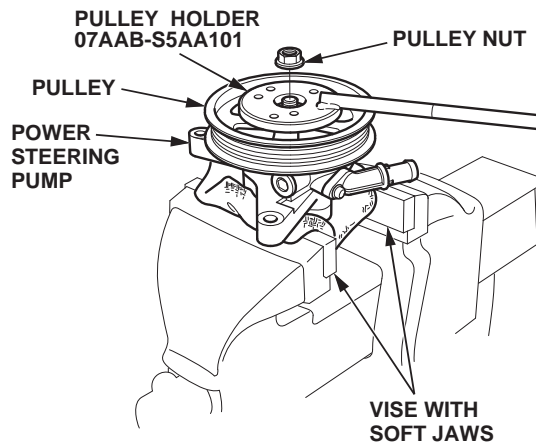
- Do not drain the P/S fluid to replace the pump because the issue with the pump does not affect the fluid.
- Take care not to spill any P/S fluid on the vehicle body or other parts. Wipe off any spilled fluid immediately.

1. Remove the engine cover.
2. Disconnect the IMT actuator connector (if applicable).



3. Remove the drive belt from the P/S pump pulley. Make sure no P/S fluid gets on the belt.
4. Cover the auto-tensioner, the alternator, and the A/C compressor with shop towels to protect them from any spilled P/S fluid.
5. Disconnect the inlet and outlet hoses from the P/S pump, and plug the open ends.
6. Remove the pump mounting bolts and the pump.

- Hold the pump in a vise with soft jaws, then remove the pulley nut and pulley using the pulley holder. Be careful not to damage the pump housing with the jaws of the vise.

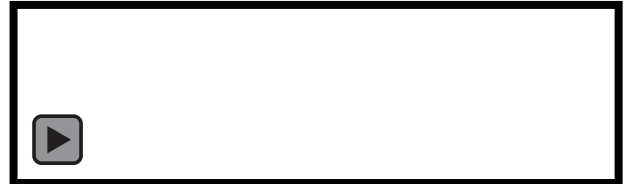


- Install the pulley and the pulley nut on the new P/S pump. Torque the nut to **64 N·m (47 lb-ft)**.
- Install the pump to its bracket with the mounting bolts, then torque the bolts to **24 N·m (17 lb-ft)**.
- Connect the inlet hose to the pump.
- Place a new O-ring on the outlet hose, then connect the outlet hose to the pump, and torque its bolts to **11 N·m (8 lb-ft)**.
- Reinstall the drive belt.
- Reconnect the IMT connector.
- Reinstall the engine cover.
- Make sure the P/S reservoir is filled to the upper line.

- Bleed the air from the P/S system:

- Start the engine, and with the vehicle in P, raise the engine speed to 2,000 RPM.
- Turn the steering wheel to the left until it stops. Hold it against the stop for 20 seconds.
- Turn the steering wheel to the right until it stops. Hold it against the stop for 20 seconds.

NOTE: If the pump is making a buzzing noise like in the sound file below, the pump is OK. There is still air trapped in the system. Repeat the air bleeding procedure.



- Recheck the reservoir to make sure it is filled to the upper line, and inspect for leaks.
- Return the original pump for remanufacturing. Refer to Parts Information Bulletin B08-0009, *Remanufactured Steering Pump Program*, for packing and return instructions. To avoid a core charge, return the pump as instructed.

#### Example of Client Letter

August 2012

#### Warranty Extension: Steering Wheel Is Hard to Turn at Low Speeds and Engine RPM

Dear MDX Owner:

This letter is to notify you of a warranty extension on your MDX.

#### What is the reason for this notice?

On some 2007–10 MDXs, the power steering pump may not provide the intended amount of assistance while the vehicle is driven at slow speeds with low engine RPM, making the steering wheel hard to turn when driving in areas such as a parking lot. To ensure your confidence in your vehicle, American Honda is extending the warranty on the power steering pump to 7 years from the original date of purchase or 100,000 miles, whichever comes first. This warranty extension provides coverage for the original owner and any subsequent owners. No action is required on your part unless you experience a problem. The warranty extension is valid except for any vehicle that has ever been declared a total loss or sold for salvage by a financial institution or insurer, or has a branded, or similar title, under any state's law.

**What should you do?**

If you believe your steering wheel is hard to turn at low speeds with low engine RPM, call any authorized Acura dealer and make an appointment to have your vehicle inspected. If the hard steering is related to the power steering pump not providing enough assistance, the power steering pump will be replaced at no cost. Please plan to leave your vehicle for half a day to allow the dealer flexibility in scheduling.

**What to do if you feel this notice is in error.**

Our records show that you are the current owner or lessee of a 2007–10 MDX involved in this warranty extension.

If you previously paid to have the power steering pump replaced because of hard steering at low speeds with low engine RPM, you may be eligible for reimbursement, even if you no longer own the vehicle. Refer to the attached Instructions for Reimbursement form for eligibility requirements and the reimbursement procedure.

**Lessor Information**

If you are the vehicle lessor receiving this warranty extension notice, please forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within 10 days.

**If you have questions**

If you have any questions about this notice, or need assistance with locating an Acura dealer, please call Acura Client Relations at **800-382-2238**, and select option 4. You can also locate a dealer online at *Acura.com*.

We apologize for any inconvenience this warranty extension may cause you.

Sincerely,

**American Honda Motor Co., Inc.**  
**Acura Automobile Division**