

2008-09 Accord Airbag Inadvertent Deployment Safety Recall Q&A	
What is the reason for this recall?	The SRS threshold setting for the side impact sensor is such that with the vehicle ignition on, if there is a strong, non-vehicular collision impact to the lower body of the vehicle or if a door is shut with extraordinary force, the SRS control unit may interpret the input as a crash and command the side seat airbag and/or side curtain airbag to deploy. Airbags that unexpectedly deploy may increase the risk of injury.
Can you provide some examples of a strong non-vehicular collision impact to the lower body?	If the vehicle drives over an object in the roadway or off the roadway that collides with the underside of the vehicle, it may create enough shock force to simulate a side impact crash based on the original deployment threshold.
Why was the deployment threshold set too low?	Side impact crashes are different from frontal impact collisions in many ways, but a primary difference is the shorter distance between the exterior of the vehicle and the vehicle occupants. In a frontal collision, much of the crash energy can be absorbed by the structures in the front of the vehicle, representing several feet of materials between the passengers and the colliding object/vehicle. This distance can equate to time for the SRS to determine whether it should deploy the frontal airbags or not depending on the estimated severity of the crash. In a side impact crash, the distance between the point of impact and vehicle occupants is much shorter, and to protect occupants, the SRS must more quickly determine if a deployment is necessary. To help ensure that the airbags would properly deploy in a side impact and provide the intended protection to vehicle occupants, Honda set a low deployment threshold.
What will be done to recalled vehicles?	A Honda dealer will apply a SRS software update, free of charge.
How long will the inspection/repair take?	Customers should ask their dealers for a total time estimate when making an appointment, as each dealer's daily schedule is different. Once the technician has the vehicle, the update should take less than half an hour.
Is the 2008-2009 Accord included in the frontal airbag inflator recalls?	No. 2008 and later Accord models are not included in the ongoing Takata front inflator recalls.
Volkswagen and General Motors recently reported ruptures in their side airbags made by Takata. Does Honda use that type of Takata side airbag?	No Honda vehicles feature the type of Takata side airbag involved in the recent recalls announced by other automakers.
Have any Honda vehicles experienced any side airbag ruptures like those of Volkswagen and GM?	No. Honda vehicles do not feature the type of Takata side airbag involved in the recent recalls announced by other automakers.
How did Honda discover the issue?	Honda received its first customer complaint about this issue related to a door slam event in 2008. This type of deployment was not, at the time, considered a safety issue or even a warranty-related issue. Subsequently, Honda settled a class action lawsuit regarding the costs associated with replacing airbags that may have inadvertently deployed. That settlement included provisions for reimbursement for the costs under an extended warranty.
Why is Honda now issuing this recall when you've known about the issue since 2008?	While recent airbag deployment testing completed by the NHTSA and Honda produced potential injury values within permissible levels, the NHTSA advised that it believed the condition presented an unreasonable risk to motor vehicle safety. Honda considered NHTSA's position in the context of known incidents and decided to conduct a safety recall.
When will customers be notified?	Owners can check their vehicle recall status now at www.recalls.honda.com . Letters to owners of affected vehicles will be mailed starting in mid-December, 2015.
Can repairs begin immediately?	The required software will not be available for several months. Because of this delay, owners will likely receive initial mailed notification in mid-December followed later by a notification inviting them to bring their vehicles in for repair.
What should a customer do if their vehicle is experiencing a problem now?	This issue would not normally create an observable problem for a customer unless the airbags deploy under the indicated conditions. If a customer experiences an inadvertent deployment, they should contact their local Honda dealer or Honda ACS to determine the best course of action.
Are all 2008 and 2009 Accords	No. Only a limited number of specific 2008-2009 Accord sedans are a part of this recall.
Why aren't Accord Coupes included in the recall?	As a 2-door vehicle, the Accord Coupe has different SRS software coding as well as a different side curtain airbag design.
Have all of the vehicles being recalled been sold to customers?	Yes.
Is there a potential to include other vehicles in the future?	We are confident that we have identified all of the potentially affected vehicles and do not expect to add any in the future.
Where were these vehicles built?	Affected vehicles for the US market were built in Marysville, OH and Sayama, Japan.
How many countries does this affect?	This recall primarily affects vehicles sold in the US, Canada and Mexico with a small number of vehicles also sold in Latin America.
How many vehicles are affected by this recall?	US: 303,904 Canada: 20,247 Mexico: 10,581 Latin America: 2,032 Worldwide Total: 336,764