February 11, 2017 05608 Version 2

2012–15 MDX: Judder from the Torque Converter Lock-Up Clutch After Software Update

Supersedes 16-063 dated November 2, 2016, to revise the information highlighted in yellow

AFFECTED VEHICLES

Year	Model	Trim	VIN Range
2012	MDX	ALL	2HNYD2H...CH513517 thru 2HNYD2H...CH550713
2013	MDX	ALL	ALL
2014–15	MDX	ALL	ALL

REVISION SUMMARY

Added information for 2012–13 model year.

BACKGROUND

After the software update, some vehicles based on how they are driven (extreme conditions) may still experience ATF deterioration after updating the PGM-FI or A/T system and the shudder may return. The problem is typically diagnosed as a bad torque converter (TC). There is no damage to the TC, but because the ATF has deteriorated, it needs to be changed even though the "ATF Service Due" message has not appeared. Make sure the vehicle is updated by referring to the INSPECTION PROCEDURE.

If the vehicle has not been updated, do 16-062, *2012–15 MDX: Judder from the Torque Converter Lock-Up Clutch*. **Do this bulletin first to apply the software and flush the transmission as indicated in the REPAIR PROCEDURE.**

If the vehicle has been updated, refer to the INSPECTION PROCEDURE because the fluid may need to be flushed again.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

Do the INSPECTION PROCEDURE and check if the software has been updated. **If the software is updated**, take an automatic transmission snapshot and review the data and confirm that the judder is coming from the torque converter. If the snapshot indicates the judder is coming from the torque converter flush the transmission as indicated in the REPAIR PROCEDURE.

PARTS INFORMATION

Part Name	Part Number	Quantity
Drain Plug Washer (18 mm)	90471-PX4-000	1
ATF Fill Sealing Washer (24 mm)	11107-PWA-300	1

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Part Name	Part Number	Quantity
Acura ATF DW-1	08200-9008A	10

CLIENT INFORMATION: The information in this bulletin is intended for use only by skilled technicians who have the proper tools, equipment, and training to correctly and safely maintain your vehicle. These procedures should not be attempted by "do-it-yourselfers," and you should not assume this bulletin applies to your vehicle, or that your vehicle has the condition described. To determine whether this information applies, contact an authorized Acura automobile dealer.

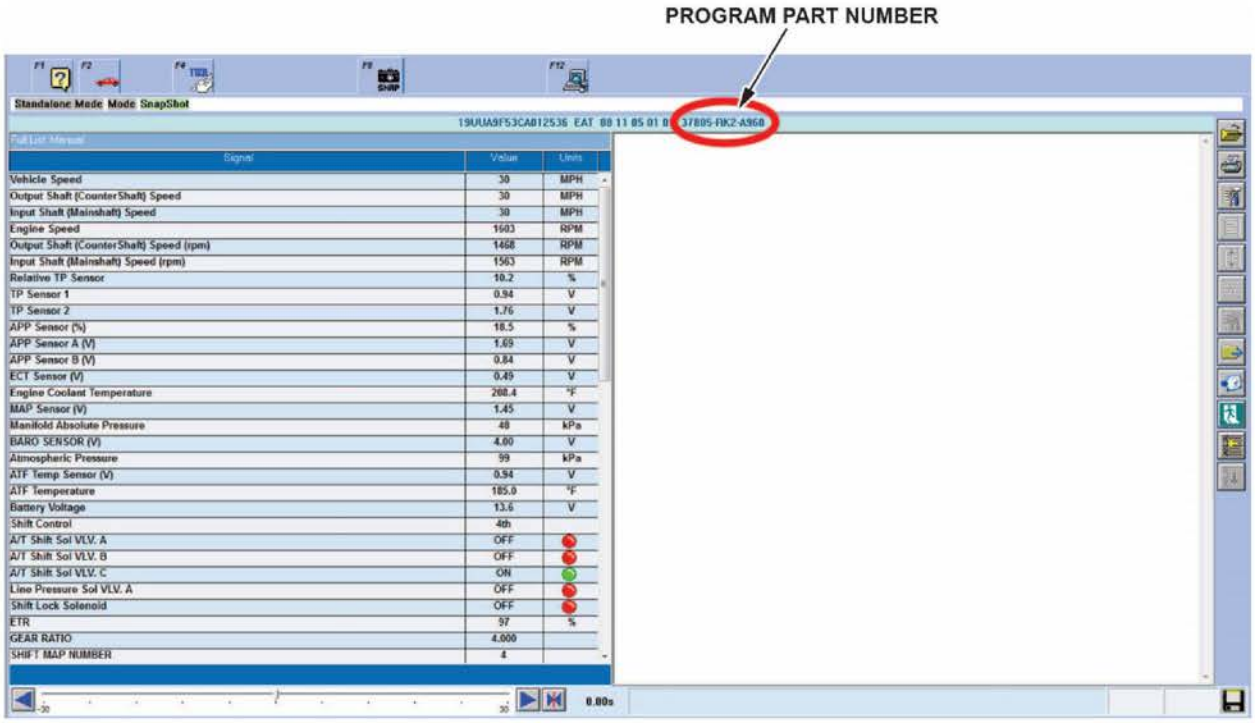
WARRANTY CLAIM INFORMATION

The warranty is 8 years or 80,000 miles, whichever comes first.

Operation Number	Description	Flat Rate Time	Defect Code	Symptom Code	Template ID	Failed Part Number
2180A5	Flush the ATF (includes test drive).	1.4 hr	01102	03505	16-063N	37805-5J6-3050

INSPECTION PROCEDURE

1. Connect the i-HDS and go to the A/T Data List. Check to see if the software has been updated by comparing the program P/N against the table below.



- **If the program P/N is listed below** (or later), the vehicle has been updated. Go to step 2.

Program P/N (or later)
37806-RYE-3080
37806-RYE-3090
37805-5J6-3050
37805-5J6-3060
37805-5J6-3070
37805-5J6-3080

- **If the program P/N is not listed**, the vehicle has not been updated. Go to Service Bulletin 16-062, *2012–15 MDX: Judder from the Torque Converter Lock-Up Clutch*.

2. Take an automatic transmission snapshot and forward it to Tech Line using the RO number. For more information about capturing and interpreting the data, refer to the job aid *Torque Converter Clutch Shudder* and Vibration and the *Tech2Tech®* video "Interpreting Torque Converter Judder Snapshot Data."

   - If the snapshot indicates there is a judder, go to step REPAIR PROCEDURE.
   - If the snapshot does not indicate a judder, this bulletin does not apply. Continue with normal troubleshooting.
     NOTE: **You do not need to contact Tech Line after sending the snapshot**. However, if you do not send a snapshot, your claim may be subject to debit.

REPAIR PROCEDURE

NOTE: The term “flushing” refers to repeatedly draining and filling the transmission with Acura Genuine ATF-DW1. **Other aftermarket flush systems are available, but American Honda strongly recommends that you avoid using them on any Acura vehicles.**

1. Start the engine. Hold the engine speed at 3,000 rpm without load (in Park or Neutral) until the radiator fan comes on, then let it idle.
2. Position the vehicle on a lift and turn off the engine.
3. Remove the ATF filler bolt and sealing washer.
4. Raise the vehicle and make sure it is securely supported.
5. Remove the drain plug and drain the ATF.
6. Install the drain plug and original washer and torque it to **49 N·m (36 lb-ft).**
7. Lower the vehicle and fill the transmission with **3.3 US qts (3.1 L)** of ATF-DW1 through the filler hole.

   NOTE: Do not use non-Acura ATF because it can affect shift quality.
8. Install the ATF filler bolt and original sealing washer and torque it to **44 N·m (32 lb-ft).**
9. Check that the fluid is filled to the proper level.
10. Raise the vehicle and make sure it is securely supported.
11. Start the engine.
12. Press the VSA Off button.
13. Press the brake pedal and shift to Drive.
14. Release the brake pedal. Press the accelerator pedal and bring the speedometer up to 50 mph. Make sure the transmission shifts through the first three lower gears and into fourth gear and the torque converter is locking up.
15. Apply the brakes to stop the front wheels.
16. Shift to Reverse, then Neutral.
17. Repeat the shifting procedure (steps 12 through 15) four more times.
18. Turn off the engine.
19. Repeat the above drain, fill, and shifting procedure (steps 2 through 17) one more time.
20. After the second refill and drive cycle, drain the transmission.
21. Install the drain bolt with a new washer and torque to **49 N·m (36 lb-ft)**.
22. Fill the transmission with **3.3 US qts (3.1 L)** of ATF-DW1.

    Automatic Transmission Fluid Capacity

    AWD: 3.3 US qts (3.1 L) at change

    2WD: 3.3 US qts (3.1 L) at change

    NOTE: Do not use non-Acura ATF because it can affect shift quality.
23. Install the ATF filler bolt with a new sealing washer and torque the bolt to **44 N·m (32 lb-ft)**.
24. Confirm the judder is gone and clear any DTCs that were set while driving on the lift.
25. If the Maintenance Minder did not indicate the ATF needed replacement, reset the Maintenance Minder with the HDS. For more information about resetting individual maintenance items, refer to the service information. If the Maintenance Minder indicated the ATF needed replacement and a full service was done, reset the maintenance minder with the multi-information display.

END