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13V-016
(4 pages)

HONDA

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

January 17, 2013

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
2009-2013 Honda Pilot
2011-2013 Honda Odyssey
Driver's Airbag Module Rivets**

Dear Ms. Lewis:

On January 10, 2013 Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the driver's airbag module of certain 2009-2013 model year Honda Pilot and 2011-2013 model year Honda Odyssey vehicles, 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 Alabama (HMA)

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:

See attached VIN list.

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: Driver's Airbag Module
Country of Origin: USA
Manufacturer: Neaton Rome, Inc.
Contact Name: Craig Cole
Address: 975 South Franklin Street
Eaton, Ohio 45320
Telephone No.: 937-456-7014

573.6(c)(3)

Total number of potentially affected vehicles: 748,481

573.6(c)(4)

Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect: Unknown

573.6(c)(5)

Defect description:

During assembly of the driver's airbag modules it is possible that not all of the six rivets that attach the airbag cover to the airbag module were installed. The absence of more than one of the rivets could alter the performance of the driver's airbag during deployment, potentially increasing the risk of injury during a crash.

573.6(c)(6)

Chronology:

July 17, 2012 – An HMA associate observed noise in the area of the steering wheel and found the source to be a rivet missing from the vehicle's driver's airbag module cover. Inspection of other vehicles and components at the time led to the conclusion that this was an isolated incident. A subsequent investigation determined that a single missing airbag cover rivet would not affect compliance, and may only minimally affect safety.

November 13, 2012 – An HMA associate discovered a second driver's airbag cover missing rivets, this time 4 of the 6 rivets were not present. Further inspection of on-hand parts inventory and vehicles found 5 additional suspect parts, each missing 1 of the 6 rivets. This initiated an investigation of supplier manufacturing processes and production records. HMA implemented visual inspection of all airbag modules to confirm that all of the airbag cover rivets were installed.

January 10, 2013 – The results of HMA's investigation were reported to HMC. HMC concluded that the risk of airbag modules missing cover rivets could exist in the US market and this represented a defect. HMC decided to conduct a safety recall.

Honda has not received any warranty claims or complaints from customers for this issue, nor have there been any claims alleging death or injury related to this concern.

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 a Honda automobile dealer. The dealer will inspect the driver's airbag module and replace if necessary, 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)

The estimated date to e-mail preliminary notification to dealers: January 18, 2013

The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers: January 18, 2013

The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners: February 16, 2013

The estimated date of completion of the notification: March 16, 2013

573.6(c)(9)

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.

573.6(c)(10)

Proposed owner notification letter submission:

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:

S75

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



Jay Joseph
Senior Manager
Product Regulatory Office

JWJ:cm

Identification of Potentially Affected Vehicles

Make/Model	Description	VIN Range/Dates of Manufacture
Honda Pilot	Certain 2009 model year	5FNYP389X9B000401 – 5FNYP38409B028597 4/22/2008 to 4/21/2009 5FNYP48999B000167 – 5FNYP48559B701995 3/13/2008 to 4/21/2009
	Certain 2010 model year	5FNYP3H85AB001001 – 5FNYP3H54AB023531 4/22/2009 to 2/23/2010 5FNYP4H97AB001001 – 5FNYP4H66AB041284 4/17/2009 to 2/22/2010
	Certain 2011 model year	5FNYP3H58BB001002 – 5KBYF3828BB801208 2/24/2010 to 8/31/2011 5FNYP4H54BB001004 – 5KBYF4852BB801608 2/23/2010 to 8/29/2011
	Certain 2012 model year	5FNYP3H27CB001001 – 5FNYP3H50CB044346 8/30/2011 to 9/4/2012 5FNYP4H93CB001001 – 5FNYP4889CB702679 8/24/2011 to 9/5/2012
	Certain 2013 model year	5FNYP3H52DB001001 – 5FNYP3H95DB016420 9/4/2012 to 12/19/2012 5FNYP4H46DB001001 – 5FNYP4H95DB031652 8/27/2012 to 12/21/2012
Honda Odyssey	Certain 2011 model year	5FNRL5H46BB001001 – 5FNRL5H6XBB105086 8/17/2010 to 9/22/2011
	Certain 2012 model year	5FNRL5H44CB001001 – 5KBRL5899CB806134 8/23/2011 to 9/12/2012
	Certain 2013 model year	5FNRL5H24DB001001 – 5FNRL5H63DB038219 8/28/2012 to 12/21/2012