



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

November 17, 2008

MR. WILLIAM R. WILLEN
MANAGING COUNSEL
PRODUCT REGULATORY OFFICE
AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.
1919 TORRANCE BOULEVARD
TORRANCE CA 90501-2746

NVS-215dgl
08V-593

SUBJECT: DRIVER'S AIR BAG INFLATOR

DEAR MR. WILLEN:

This letter serves to acknowledge American Honda Motor Company, Inc.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety defect in the products described below for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30119.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

HONDA/ACCORD/2001
HONDA/CIVIC/2001

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08V-593

Mfg's Report Date: November 11, 2008

Components: AIR BAGS: FRONTAL: DRIVER SIDE INFLATOR MODULE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 3,940

Summary:

HONDA IS RECALLING 3,940 MY 2001 ACCORD AND CIVIC VEHICLES. THE DRIVER'S AIR BAG INFLATOR COULD PRODUCE EXCESSIVE INTERNAL PRESSURE. IF AN AFFECTED AIR BAG DEPLOYS, THE INCREASED INTERNAL PRESSURE MAY CAUSE THE INFLATOR TO RUPTURE.

Consequence:

METAL FRAGMENTS COULD PASS THROUGH THE AIRBAG CUSHION MATERIAL POSSIBLY CAUSING INJURY TO VEHICLE OCCUPANTS.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL REPLACE THE AIR BAG INFLATOR FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 22, 2008. OWNERS MAY CONTACT HONDA AT 1-800-999-1009.

Notes:

HONDA RECALL NO. Q96. CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6.

Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at Patricia.wallace@dot.gov, Delia.lopez@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Person". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and "P".

George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement