

March 25, 2008

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OFFICE OF RECALL
MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Mr. Daniel C. Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

08V-141
(4 Pages)

Dear Mr. Smith:

On March 18, 2008, Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the fuel valve (petcock) of certain 2006-07 model year VT600 and certain 2007-08 model year VT750 and VTX1300 motorcycles, and is furnishing 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 Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC)
Honda of America Mfg., Inc. (HAM)

Manufacturer's agent: William R. Willen
American Honda Motor Co., Inc. (AHM)
1919 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90501-2746

573.6(c)(2)

Identification of potentially affected vehicles: Will be provided

Description of the basis for the determination of the recall population:

The recall population was based on manufacturing records. The VIN range reflects all possible vehicles that could potentially experience the problem.

573.6(c)(3)

Total number of potentially affected vehicles: 38,934

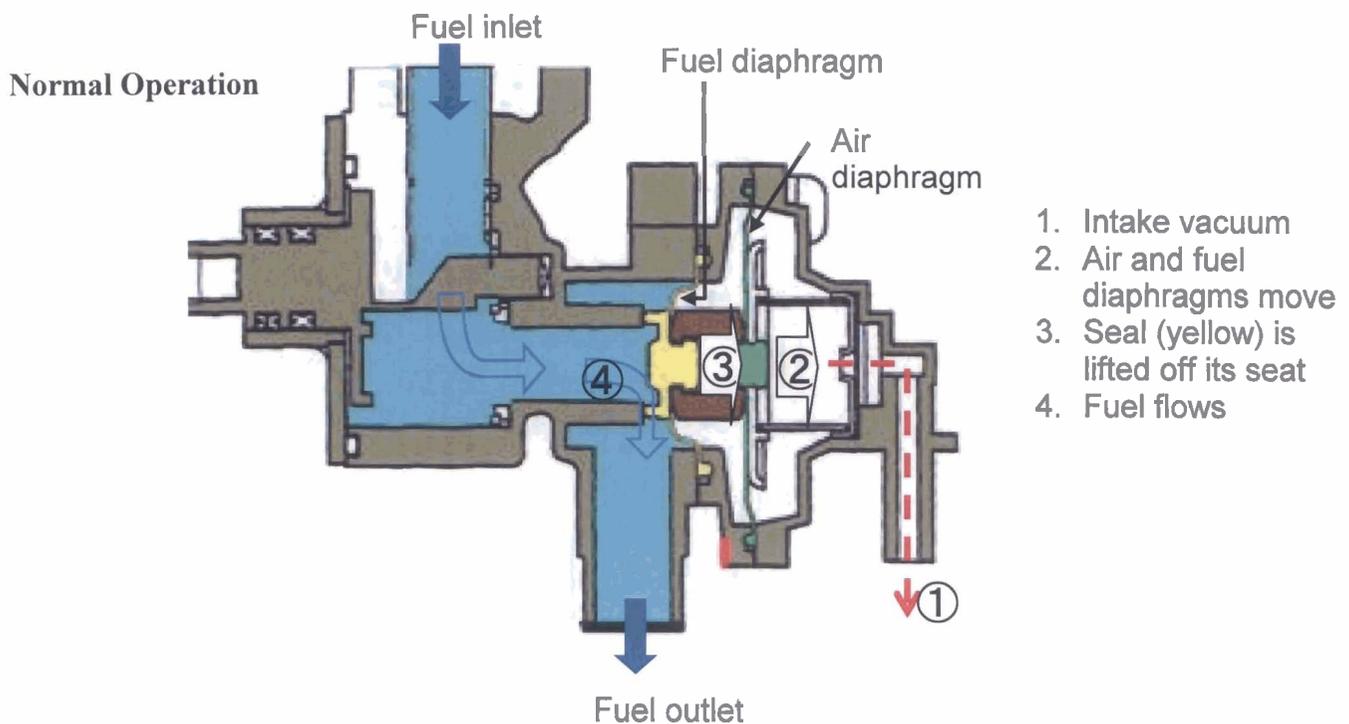
573.6(c)(4)

Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect: unknown

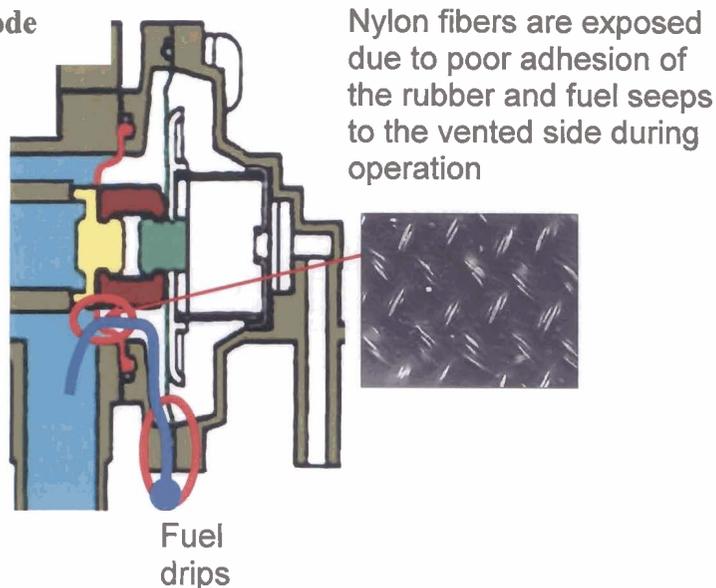
573.6(c)(5)

Defect description:

The affected motorcycles may have an improperly manufactured fuel control valve diaphragm. The diaphragm, which is constructed of rubber and a nylon backing material, is used to control the flow of fuel from the fuel tank to the carburetor based on vacuum input from the engine. Due to poor adhesion of the rubber to the nylon backing material, fuel can seep through the nylon fibers to the vented side of the diaphragm. While the motorcycle is stationary with the engine idling, the seeping fuel can result in a slow drip. While riding, the seeping fuel evaporates before it drips. In the presence of an ignition source, dripping fuel poses the risk of fire.



Failure Mechanism & Mode



573.6(c)(6)

Chronology:

- May 31, 2007 AHM issued a quality information report regarding an occurrence of fuel dripping from the fuel valve.
- July 10, 2007 Keihin (Supplier) opened an investigation.
- Sept 13, 2007 Keihin preliminary investigation report to HMC.
- Mar. 18, 2008 HMC decided to conduct a safety-related recall.

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 motorcycle dealer. The dealer will replace the fuel control valve diaphragm assembly, free of charge.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

- Date of e-mail notification to dealers:** March 19, 2008
- The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers:** April 3, 2008
- The estimated date to begin sending notification to owners:** April 10, 2008
- The estimated date of completion of the notification:** April 17, 2008

573.6(c)(9)

Representative copies of all notices, bulletins and other communications:

A copy of the dealer service bulletin and text of the final customer notification letter 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.

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573.6(c)(11)

Manufacturer's campaign number:
Q75

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William R. Willen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

William R. Willen
Managing Counsel
Product Regulatory Office

WRW:nis