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By Recall Management division at 9:07 am, Feb 14, 2014

HONDA

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.

1919 Torrance Boulevard
Torrance, CA 90501-2746
Phone (310) 783-2000

February 13, 2014

14V-056
(4 Pages)

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
2013 Model Year Honda CB/CBR500
Rocker Arm Shaft Retaining Bolt**

Dear Ms. Lewis:

On February 6, 2014 Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC) determined that a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the rocker arm shaft retaining bolt of certain 2013 model year Honda CB/CBR500 motorcycles, 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: Asian Honda Motor Co., Ltd.

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:

<u>Make/Model</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>VIN Range/Dates of Manufacture</u>
Honda CB500FA	Certain 2013 model year	MLHPC4506D5000001 - MLHPC4504D5000191 January 31, 2013 – July 8, 2013
Honda CB500F	Certain 2013 model year	MLHPC4515D5000001 - MLHPC4519D5000762 January 31, 2013 – April 3, 2013
Honda CB500XA	Certain 2013 model year	MLHPC4600D5000008 - MLHPC4600D5000008 April 22, 2013 – July 11, 2013
Honda CB500X	Certain 2013 model year	MLHPC4619D5000002 - MLHPC4612D5001265 April 18, 2013 – July 11, 2013

Honda CBR500RA	Certain 2013 model year	MLHPC4404D5000001 - MLHPC4402D5000868 January 24, 2013 – August 8, 2013
Honda CBR500R	Certain 2013 model year	MLHPC4415D5000002 -MLHPC441XD5003719 January 24, 2013 – August 8, 2013

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:	Bolt, Retention 12mm
Country of origin:	Thailand
Manufacturer:	C.R.A. Engineering Co.,Ltd
Contact name:	Niti Janto, Product Manager
Address:	636/8-10 Moo 3 Putharaksa Rd., T.Pakkasa, Muang Samutprakarn, Samutprakarn 10280 Thailand
Telephone No.:	+66-2-382-6952

573.6(c)(3)

Total number of potentially affected vehicles: 6,954

573.6(c)(4)

Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect: Unknown

573.6(c)(5)

Defect description:

During manufacture of the rocker arm shaft retaining bolts, certain lots failed to receive the proper anti-corrosion treatment and instead received an unapproved coating that affects bolt retention after engine assembly. This may result in the bolt loosening during operation. A loose bolt will initially result in a slow leak of engine oil, but if not addressed the bolt can come out of the cylinder head entirely. A retention bolt that has fallen out may allow the rocker arm shaft to migrate out of its bore and no longer support the rocker arm, resulting in a reduction in engine power and the potential for an engine stall, increasing the risk of a crash.

573.6(c)(6)

Chronology:

July 6, 2013	AHM issued a quality information report citing three warranty claims for leaking oil from either a loose or missing retaining bolt.
July 19, 2013	The Honda factory identified a motorcycle in another market with a retaining bolt that did not have the correct coating, however, other units inspected had the correct coating.
August 13, 2013	AHM issued a second quality information report concerning one additional claim of an oil leak from a missing retaining bolt.
August 18, 2013	The Honda factory ensured the proper specification bolts were being used on the engine assembly line and were being torqued to the proper specification.
Sept ~ Jan., 2013	The Honda factory continued to study supplier and in-house manufacturing records to understand when, how, and to what degree incorrectly coated bolts may have been supplied and subsequently installed during the manufacturing period, and analyzed the effects of thread accuracy, tightening torque, rocker arm shaft torsion, and thermal cycling on bolt loosening to estimate the potential for future occurrences.
February 6, 2014	Honda Motor Company determined that a defect that potentially impacts motor vehicle safety exists in the affected motorcycles and decided to conduct a recall.

As of February 12, 2014, AHM has received 17 warranty claims and zero reports of injury related to this issue.

573.6(c)(8)(i)

Program for remedying the defect:

The owners of all affected motorcycles will be contacted by mail and asked to take their motorcycle to a Honda motorcycle dealer. The dealer will replace the rocker arm shaft retaining bolt, 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: Feb 13, 2014

The estimated date to provide service bulletin to dealers: Feb 14, 2014

The estimated date to begin sending notifications to owners: Mar. 5, 2014

The estimated date of completion of the notification: Mar. 6, 2014

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:

JD7

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



Jay Joseph
Senior Manager
Product Regulatory Office

JWJ:cmb