

September 20, 2013

Mr. Scott Yon, Chief
Vehicle Integrity Division
Office of Defects Investigation
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

**Re: PE13-020
2003-2004 Honda Odyssey
Inadvertent airbag deployments**

Dear Mr. Yon:

In reply to your letter dated July 30, 2013, we are submitting our response to Q1-Q9 regarding allegations of inadvertent airbag deployment in certain model year (MY) 2003-2004 Honda Odyssey vehicles. We are also including information for the MY 2003 Acura MDX vehicle which is equipped with the same subject component as the 2003 Odyssey. Per our agreement during our phone conversation on September 9, 2013, due to the decision by Honda to conduct a safety recall on vehicles equipped with this SRS control unit, it is not necessary for Honda to respond to questions 9-14.

1. **State within the body of the response letter a summary table**, by make, model and model year, the number of subject vehicles Honda has manufactured for sale or lease in the United States. Separately, for each subject vehicle manufactured to date by Honda, state the following:
 - a. Vehicle identification number (VIN);
 - b. Make;
 - c. Model;
 - d. Model Year;
 - e. Date of manufacture (in "yyyy/mm/dd" date format);
 - f. Date warranty coverage commenced (in "yyyy/mm/dd" date format); and
 - g. The State in the United States where the vehicle was originally sold or leased (or delivered for sale or lease).

Provide the detailed information in Microsoft Access 2007, or a compatible format, entitled "Q1_PRODDATA.accdb" as needed. Multiple model vehicle data can be provided in separate tables within a single database file providing that the overall file size does not exceed 1GB.

Response:

The data elements "a" through "g" are provided in the file titled "Q1_PRODDATA.MDB" on the enclosed CD. There are separate tables for each model year.

Make	Model	Model Year	# Manufactured for Sales/Lease
Honda	Odyssey	2003	166,011
		2004	152,664
Acura	MDX	2003	55,809

2. **State the number of each of the following reports**, received by Honda, or of which Honda is otherwise aware, which relate to, or may relate to, the alleged defect or problem condition in the subject vehicles and peer vehicles:
- Consumer complaints, including those from fleet operators;
 - Field reports, including dealer field reports;
 - Reports involving a fire, crash, injury, or fatality, based on claims against the manufacturer involving a death or injury, notices received by the manufacturer alleging or proving that a death or injury was caused by a possible defect in a subject vehicle, property damage claims, consumer complaints, or field reports;
 - Property damage claims; and
 - Third-party arbitration proceedings where Honda is or was a party to the arbitration; and
 - Lawsuits, both pending and closed, in which Honda is or was a defendant or codefendant.

For subparts "a" through "f" **state within the body of the response letter a summary table** containing the total number of each item (e.g., a. consumer complaints, b. field reports, etc.) separately. Multiple incidents involving the same vehicle are to be counted separately. Multiple reports of the same incident are also to be counted separately (i.e., a consumer complaint and a field report involving the same incident in which a crash occurred are to be counted as a crash report, a field report and a consumer complaint).

In addition, for items "c" through "f," provide a summary description of the alleged problem and causal and contributing factors and Honda's assessment of the problem, with a summary of the significant underlying facts and evidence. For items "e" and "f" identify the parties to the action, as well as the caption, court, docket number, and date on which the complaint or other document initiating the action was filed.

Response:

The total number of reports for items "a" through "f" is stated in the table below. We included rows indicating which of the following categories the complaint or report falls into: "Airbag Deployed" and "SRS light illuminated"

See Attachment #Q2 on enclosed CD for summary description for items "c" through "f".

Note: Honda does not have any fleets or participate in fleet sales.

Make	Model	Model Year	Allegation	A Owner/ Fleet Reports	B Field/ Dealer Reports	C-1 Fire Reports	C-2 Crash Reports	C-3 Injury Reports	C-4 Fatality Reports	D Property Damage	E Third-Party Arbitration	F Claims/ Lawsuits
Honda	Odyssey	2003	A/B	25	14	0	0	8	0	0	1	3
			SRS	373	92	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
		2004	A/B	7	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
			SRS	214	54	0	0	0	0	0	2	1
Acura	MDX	2003	A/B	3	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
			SRS	29	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

Source(s): Customer Relations, Tech Line, Field Reports, Claims and Lawsuits.
 As of: August 1, 2013

3. Separately, for each item (complaint, report, claim, notice, or matter) within the scope of your response to Request No. 2, state the following information:
- Honda's file number or other identifier used;
 - The category of the item, as identified in Request No. 2 (i.e., a. consumer complaint, b. field report, f. lawsuits etc.);
 - Vehicle owner or fleet name (and fleet contact person), address, and telephone number;
 - Vehicle's VIN;
 - Vehicle's make, model and model year;

- f. Vehicle's mileage at time of incident;
- g. Incident date (in "yyyy/mm/dd" date format);
- h. Report or claim date (in "yyyy/mm/dd" date format);
- i. Which air bag deployed (driver and/or passenger air bag)?
- j. Whether the seat belt tensioner actuated (driver and/or passenger side);
- k. Occurred at vehicle startup (within 10 sec of starting the vehicle)?, if not, provide the following:
 - i) Transmission Position;
 - ii) Vehicle Speed (stop, rolling (1-25 mph), Moving Speed (26-45 mph) or highway Speed (45+mph);
 - iii) Whether the owner stated if the air bag warning light was illuminated prior to the air bag deployment?
- l. Whether there was a stored fault code;
- m. Which ASIC chip failed if known?
- n. Whether property damage is alleged;
- o. Number of alleged injuries, if any; and
- p. Number of alleged fatalities, if any.

Provide this information in Microsoft Access 2002, or a compatible format, entitled "Q3_ORDATA.accdb." as needed. Multiple model vehicle data can be provided in separate tables within a single database file providing that the overall file size does not exceed 1GB.

Response:

The data elements "a" through "p" are provided in the file titled "Q3_ORDATA.accdb" on the enclosed CD. We included an additional column indicating which of the following categories the complaint or report falls into: 1) Airbag deployed and 2) SRS light illuminated.

*Source(s): Customer Relations, Tech Line, Field Reports, Claims and Lawsuits.
As of: August 1, 2013*

4. Produce copies of all documents related to each item within the scope of Request No. 2. Organize the documents separately by category (i.e., a. consumer complaints, b. field reports, f. lawsuits etc.) and describe the method Honda used for organizing the documents.

Response:

See Attachment #Q5 for copies of all documents on enclosed CD.

The documents are organized by category (i.e., consumer complaints, field reports, etc.) and within each category files are organized by model, model year, category (1. Airbag deployed and 2. SRS light illuminated) then the last six digits of the VIN.

*Source(s): Customer Relations, Tech Line, Field Reports, Claims and Lawsuits.
As of: August 1, 2013*

5. **State within the body of the response letter a summary table**, by model and model year, a total count for each of the following categories of claims, collectively, that have been paid by Honda to date that relate to, or may relate to, the alleged defect or problem condition in the subject vehicles and peer vehicles: warranty claims; extended warranty claims; claims for good will services including field, zone, or similar adjustments and reimbursements; or a customer satisfaction campaign.

Separately, for each such claim, state the following information:

- a. Honda's claim number;

- b. Vehicle owner or fleet name (and fleet contact person) and telephone number;
- c. VIN;
- d. Repair date (in "yyyy/mm/dd" date format);
- e. Vehicle mileage at time of repair;
- f. Repairing dealer's or facility's name, telephone number, city and state or ZIP code;
- g. Labor operation number;
- h. Problem code;
- i. Replacement part number(s) and description(s);
- j. Concern stated by customer; and
- k. Comment, if any, by dealer/technician relating to claim and/or repair.

Multiple repairs/incidents involving the same vehicle are to be counted separately, but duplicate repair claims are not to be included. If desired, the warranty claim can be tagged as a "duplicate to an owner report" in the summary table and in the data file.

Provide the detailed information in Microsoft Access 2002, or a compatible format, entitled "Q5_WRNTYDATA.accdb" as needed. Multiple model vehicle (peer vehicle) data can be provided in separate tables within a single database file providing that the overall file size does not exceed 1GB.

Response:

The total warranty counts are provided in the table below. The data elements "a" through "k" are provided in the file titled "WARRANTY DATA" on the enclosed CD.

Make	Model	Model Year	Warranty Claims	Extended Warranty	Goodwill Claims	Vehicle Service Contracts
Honda	Odyssey	2003	1948	34	288	244
		2004	967	4	13	43
Acura	MDX	2003	440	12	80	24

Source(s): Warranty claim data.
As of: August 1, 2013

6. Describe in detail the search criteria used by Honda to identify the claims identified in response to Request No. 5, including the labor operations, problem codes, part numbers and any other pertinent parameters used. Provide a list of all labor operations, labor operation descriptions, problem codes, and problem code descriptions applicable to the alleged defect or problem condition in the subject vehicles and peer vehicles. State, by make and model year, the terms of the new vehicle warranty coverage offered by Honda on the subject vehicles and peer vehicles (i.e., the number of months and mileage for which coverage is provided and the vehicle systems that are covered). Describe any extended warranty coverage option(s) that Honda offered for the subject vehicles and peer vehicles and state by option, model, and model year, the number of vehicles that are covered under each such extended warranty.

Response:

Search Criteria: Using warranty data for all subject and peer vehicles, claims were included based on the SRS component part numbers (SRS unit, seatbelts, airbags). The contention text description was reviewed for each claim to identify the following symptoms: 1) Alleged unintended deployment of airbags, and 2) SRS indicator light illuminated.

Coding and Descriptions: See Attachment #Q6

Warranty Coverage: All subject vehicles are covered by a new vehicle limited warranty for three years or 36,000 miles, whichever comes first. Under the terms of the new vehicle limited warranty, Honda will repair or replace any part that is defective in material or workmanship under normal use. This warranty covers all systems except emission control systems, accessories, battery, tires or IMA which have their own warranties. Honda has not issued extended warranty coverage related to the alleged defect in any of the subject or peer vehicles.

These vehicles are also covered by a lifetime seatbelt warranty, however none of the subject components involved in this inquiry are subject to the seatbelt warranty.

Source(s): Warranty claim data.
As of: August 1, 2013

7. Provide a list of all air bag fault codes (with a short description) that may indicate a potential for inadvertent deployment of the frontal air bags for the subject vehicles.

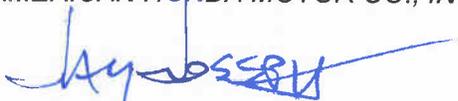
Response: See Attachment #Q7

8. Describe the similarities and differences between the each make, model & model year subject vehicle ECU including functionality (seat belt pretensioner, frontal and/or side air bag (incl. curtain air bags) functions), and how the air bag firing circuits are assigned to each ASIC circuit (number of ASIC circuits used, and the part number designation/identification/ revisions level of the ASIC circuit(s)).

Response: See Attachment #Q8

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



Jay Joseph
Senior Manager
Product Regulatory Office

JWJ:nis

Attachments

PE13-020

HONDA

9/20/2013

ATTACHMENT

Q7

Q7: Airbag fault code

ODYSSEY 03-04M、MDX 03M

SRS stored DTC in the event ASIC is burned or damaged

DTC	Description of fault		Note
51-20	Booster circuit output fault		Only Japanese MDX(1case) No case in U.S.
53-40	Self diagnostic circuit system fault (Squib ASIC failure)		
53-41	Self diagnostic circuit system fault (Squib ASIC failure)		
53-43	Self diagnostic circuit system fault (Squib ASIC failure)		
54-50	Safing transistor failure		
54-60	Safing transistor failure		
11-10	Outside Failure of the SRS Unit	L-side Front A/B 1 st Squib Resistance Open	Stored after deployment
12-10		R-side Front A/B 1 st Squib Resistance Open	Stored after deployment

PE13-020

HONDA

9/20/2013

ATTACHMENT

Q8

Q8: Difference of models

Affected model

Affected model equip TRW SRS Unit + N/S ASIC

DEST.	2002		2003		2004		2005	
	P/N	M/L	P/N	M/L	P/N	M/L	P/N	M/L
ODYSSEY	77960-S0X-A92	SIEMENS	S0X-L81	TRW(N/S)	S0X-L81	TRW(N/S)	SHJ-A01	TRW(F/S)
MDX	S3V-A02	SIEMENS	S3V-A81	TRW(N/S)	S3V-C01	TRW(F/S)	S3V-C11	TRW(F/S)
ACCORD	S84-A77	SIEMENS	SDA-A61	TRW(N/S)	SDA-A71	TRW(F/S)	SDA-C13	TRW(F/S)
TSX					SEC-A81	TRW(N/S)	SEC-A82	TRW(F/S)
FCX			SEL-L410	TRW(N/S)	SEL-L410	TRW(N/S)	SEL-L410	TRW(N/S)

(Note) ASIC Supplier

N/S: National Semiconductor

F/S: Free Scale

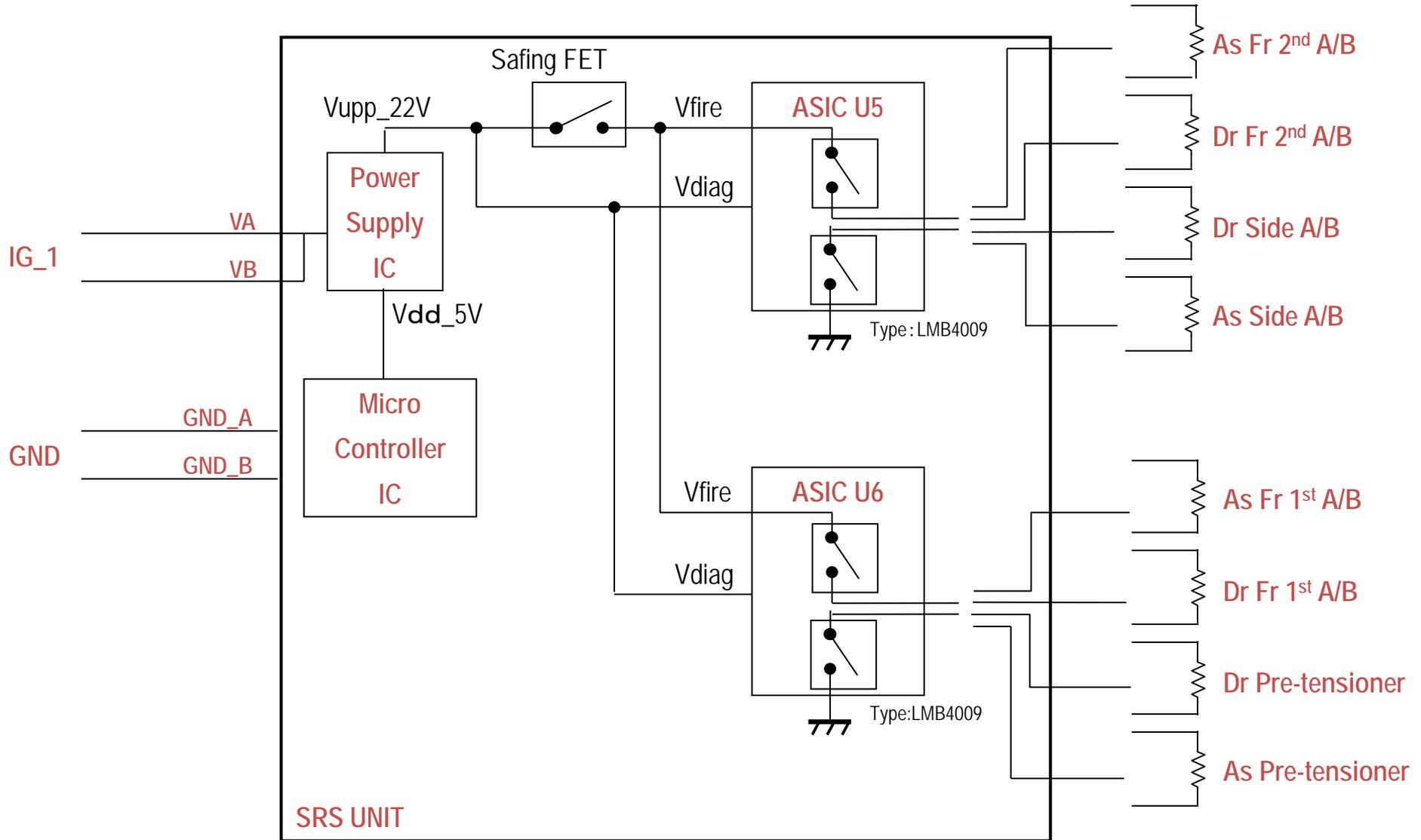
MY	Model	SRS Unit Parts No.				Device			
		@M/P start	M/P Design Change			Front A/B	Retractor P/T	Side A/B	Curtain A/B
03	US Accord 4Dr	77960-SDA-A613-M1	77960-SDA-A614-M1	77960-SDA-A615-M1	77960-SDA-A630-M1	L+R (Dual)	L+R	—	—
		77960-SDA-A813-M1	77960-SDA-A814-M1	77960-SDA-A815-M1	77960-SDA-A840-M1	L+R (Dual)	L+R	L+R	—
		77960-SDA-L813-M1	77960-SDA-L814-M1	77960-SDA-L815-M1	77960-SDA-L820-M1	L+R (Dual)	L+R	L+R	—
		77960-SDA-C013-M1		77960-SDA-C014-M1	77960-SDA-D020-M1	L+R (Dual)	L+R	L+R	L+R
03	US Accord 2Dr	77960-SDN-A620-M1		77960-SDN-A621-M1		L+R (Dual)	L+R	—	—
		77960-SDN-A820-M1		77960-SDN-A821-M1		L+R (Dual)	L+R	L+R	—
		77960-SDN-L820-M1		77960-SDN-L821-M1		L+R (Dual)	L+R	L+R	—
		77960-SDN-C020-M1		77960-SDN-C021-M1		L+R (Dual)	L+R	L+R	L+R
03	US Odyssey	77960-S0X-L612-M1	77960-S0X-L613-M1	77960-S0X-L614-M1		L+R (Dual)	L+R	—	—
		77960-S0X-L812-M1	77960-S0X-L813-M1	77960-S0X-L814-M1		L+R (Dual)	L+R	L+R	—
03	MDX	77960-S3V-A814-M1		77960-S3V-A815-M1		L+R (Dual)	L+R	L+R	—
03	FCX	77960-SFL-L410-M1				L+R (Single)	L+R		
04	TSX	77960-SEC-A813-M1				L+R (Dual)	L+R	L+R	—
		77960-SEC-C013-M1				L+R (Dual)	L+R	L+R	L+R
04	US Odyssey	03M Common							
04	FCX	03M Common							

C/M for "Deployment by small stone impact"

Software update: To address conditions when a high G-level exceeds the forward or side impact crash sensors capacity. No impact on performance. SRS ECU was already designed to perform properly in this condition

Software update: Squib time change (No actual impact for squib performance)

SRS system diagram (Without side curtain)



Micro Controller IC controls SW in each FET.

Vfire: power source for deployment, Vdiag: power source for ASIC control

SRS system diagram (With side curtain)

