

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

REVIEWED BY:
JOHN TURLEY
JAN-24-2019
John Turley

573.6(c)(1)

Name of manufacturer: Honda of America Mfg., Inc.
Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, LLC

Manufacturer's agent: John Turley
American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
1919 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90501-2746

573.6(c)(2)

Identification of potentially affected vehicles:

<u>Make/Model</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates of Manufacture</u>
Acura ILX	2014 model year	08/09/2013
Acura ILX	2015 model year	09/16/2014
Acura ILX	2016 model year	04/2/2015 to 10/05/2015
Acura ILX	2017 model year	03/08/2017 to 08/03/2017
Acura ILX	2018 model year	10/05/2017 to 09/25/2018
Acura ILX	2019 model year	08/20/2018 to 11/02/2018

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

The recall population was determined based on manufacturing records and dealership service parts records. The production range reflects all possible vehicles that could potentially experience the problem.

Description of how the vehicles being recalled differ from similar vehicles not included in the recall:

Supplier manufacturing records identified specific fuel tank production periods when an improper manufacturing process occurred. For fuel tanks used in mass production, there is 100% traceability to a VIN, which allows similar vehicles to be excluded from the recall as they were equipped with parts manufactured using a proper process. For fuel tanks used as service parts, Honda is recalling all vehicles identified by service parts records as receiving a replacement fuel tank after the date that the first suspect fuel tanks were manufactured and distributed into the supply chain.

Identification of affected component:

Component: Fuel Tank
Part No.: 17044-TR0-A30
Country of Origin: U.S.
Manufacturer: US Yachiyo

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Total number of potentially affected vehicles: 4,455

<u>Make/Model</u>	<u>Model Year</u>	<u>Number of Vehicles</u>
Acura ILX	2014	1
Acura ILX	2015	1
Acura ILX	2016	4
Acura ILX	2017	6
Acura ILX	2018	3,648
Acura ILX	2019	795

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Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect: 89%

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Defect description:

An improper manufacturing process led to deformities in the bottom of certain fuel tanks that can raise the height of the fuel pump and reduce the clearance between the fuel float and the tank's inner wall. Fuel movement within the tank can cause the fuel float to stick along the inner wall, resulting in inaccurate fuel gauge measurements. In the worst case, based on an inaccurate fuel gauge display, a vehicle can unexpectedly run out of fuel and stall, increasing the risk of a crash.

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Chronology:

February 2018

Honda received the first report of an inaccurate fuel gauge. Troubleshooting did not result in replacement of the fuel tank.

October 2018

Honda received additional reports of inaccurate fuel gauges. A fuel tank from a reported failure was sent to the supplier for analysis.

November 2018

Supplier analysis of the returned part confirmed that deformations in the bottom of the fuel tank raised the fuel pump's height. In order to identify irregularities in fuel pump height, the supplier investigated how the cooling jig and the amount of cooling water used affected fuel tank formation.

December 2018

Re-creation tests performed by the supplier confirmed that the increased height of the fuel pump reduced clearance between the fuel float and the fuel tank's inner wall. This reduced clearance could cause the fuel float to stick along the inner wall.

The supplier also reviewed the cooling jig adjustment records and found that an inappropriate setting was used during a specific production period, resulting in deformed fuel tanks.

January 2019

Supplier review of production records also identified that cooling water flow rate was inadequate during a production period separate from the production period affected by the inappropriately adjusted cooling jigs. Dimensional records of sample fuel tanks produced during this period confirmed that the tanks would shrink and deform due to improper cooling water flow rate.

January 17, 2019

Honda determined that a defect related to motor vehicle safety existed and decided to conduct a safety recall.

As of January 17, 2019, Honda has received 621 warranty claims, 264 field reports, and no reports of crashes or injuries related to this issue.

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Program for remedying the defect:

Registered owners of all affected vehicles will be contacted by mail and asked to take their vehicle to an Acura dealer. For affected vehicles identified by service parts records as having received a replacement fuel tank, the dealer will inspect the blow mold date on the fuel tank and, if the tank was manufactured during one of the periods in question, replace the fuel tank for free. All other vehicles subject to recall will receive a replacement fuel tank for free.

Owners that have paid to have these repairs completed at their own expense will be eligible for reimbursement, according to the recall reimbursement plan on file with NHTSA.

The estimated date to start notification to dealers: January 25, 2019

The estimated date to start notifications to owners: March 8, 2019

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Representative copies of all notices, bulletins and other communications:

A copy of the dealer service bulletin, the final owner notification letter and other dealer communication will be submitted to your office as soon as possible.

A draft of the owner notification letter will be submitted to your office as soon as possible.

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Manufacturer's campaign number: H3U, Z3T