

HONDA

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
1919 Torrance Boulevard
Torrance, CA 90501-2746
Phone (310) 783-2000

September 2, 2021

Mr. Joseph Kolly
Acting Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Part 573, Defect Information Report
2019-2020 Model Year Honda CB500X and CBR500R ABS
ABS Modulator

Dear Mr. Kolly:

In accordance with the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act and 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance and Responsibility Reports, Honda is submitting the enclosed Defect Information Report regarding a safety recall of certain 2019-2020 model year Honda CB500X and CBR500R ABS motorcycles to address a defect with the ABS modulator.

If you have any questions about this report, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



Jeff Chang
Senior Manager
Product Regulatory Office

JC:wvt

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

573.6(c)(1)

Name of manufacturer: Thai Honda Manufacturing Co. Ltd.

Manufacturer's agent: Jeff Chang
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>Model Year</u> | <u>Dates of Manufacture</u> | <u>Number of Vehicles</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Honda CB500X | 2019 | 09/19/2019 – 09/26/2019 | 12 |
| Honda CB500X | 2020 | 11/14/2019 – 01/13/2020 | 48 |
| Honda CBR500R ABS | 2019 | 08/14/2019 – 08/27/2019 | 16 |
| Honda CBR500R ABS | 2020 | 11/13/2019 – 01/15/2020 | 186 |

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

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

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

All vehicles produced within the dates of manufacture ranges specified above may be affected. Vehicles produced outside the specified range were equipped with Anti-lock Braking System (ABS) modulators assembled with the appropriate amount of grease.

Identification of affected components:

Component: ABS Modulator
Part No.: CB500X: 57110-MKP-J81
CBR500R ABS: 57110-MKP-J01
Country of Origin: Japan
Manufacturer: Hitachi Astemo Ltd.

573.6(c)(3)

Total number of potentially affected vehicles: 262

573.6(c)(4)

Percentage of affected vehicles that contain the defect: 1%

573.6(c)(5)

Defect description:

Excessive grease was applied to the O-ring of the reservoir piston of the ABS modulator. After continued use, foreign matter may adhere to the grease, which can be pinched in the check valve during braking and cause brake fluid to leak. If this occurs, the braking distance (without ABS activation) will increase, increasing the risk of a crash.

573.6(c)(6)

Chronology:

February – March 2021

Honda recalled certain 2020MY CRF1100A/D motorcycles globally for ABS modulators assembled with excessive grease. The U.S. market was not affected by this recall and NHTSA was notified in a Foreign Recall Notice (21F-022) submitted pursuant to 49 CFR 579.12.

In parallel with the foreign recall, Honda continued its investigation into the impact of excessive grease application to the ABS modulator installed on other motorcycles as it was a common component and there was a report from the Italian market of a different motorcycle model with a similar complaint of reduced braking performance.

April – August 2021

Honda continued its investigation of several motorcycle models and the impact of excessive grease application on non-ABS braking performance. Based on certain characteristics such as vehicle weight, whether the excessive grease was applied to front or rear brake oil passages on the ABS modulator, and brake disc/caliper specifications, Honda confirmed the non-ABS braking performance for one family of motorcycles did not meet internal specifications.

August 26, 2021

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

As of August 26, 2021, Honda has not received any warranty claims, field reports, or reports of crashes or injuries related to this issue for the US market.

573.6(c)(8)(i)

Program for remedying the defect:

Registered owners of all affected vehicles will be contacted by mail and asked to bring their vehicle to an authorized Honda Powersports dealer. The dealer will visually inspect the lot number on the ABS modulator and replace affected ABS modulators for free.

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

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

The notification date to dealers:

September 1, 2021

The estimated date to start notifications to owners:

October 29, 2021

573.6(c)(10)

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.

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: KM6