

YEAR
1996 – 99
1996 – 98

MODEL
3.5RL
3.2TL

VIN APPLICATION
See **VEHICLES
AFFECTED**

BULLETIN NO.
99-038



Safety Recall: Extension Shaft Sealing Bolt

(Supersedes 99-038, dated August 19, 1999)

BACKGROUND

The 36 mm sealing bolt on the side of the transmission housing may loosen and fall out. If this occurs, the extension shaft may back out and disconnect from the differential. If this happens while driving, the car loses power to the drive wheels without warning. If the car is stopped with the transmission in Park and the parking brake not engaged, the car could move unexpectedly.

VEHICLES AFFECTED

1996–98 3.2TL – All

3.5RL:

1996–98 – All

1999 – Thru VIN JH4KA9. . .XC012694

CUSTOMER NOTIFICATION

All owners of affected vehicles will be mailed a notification of this recall. An example of the notification is at the end of this service bulletin.

Some of the affected vehicles may still be in dealer inventory. By Federal law, these vehicles cannot be sold or leased until they are repaired.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

Replace and properly torque the 36 mm sealing bolt.

PARTS INFORMATION

36 mm Sealing Bolt Set: P/N 90082-PY5-305
(The set includes a new sealing bolt and O-ring.)

WARRANTY CLAIM INFORMATION

Operation number: 218147

Flat rate time: 0.3 hour

Failed P/N: 90082-PY5-000

Defect code: 509

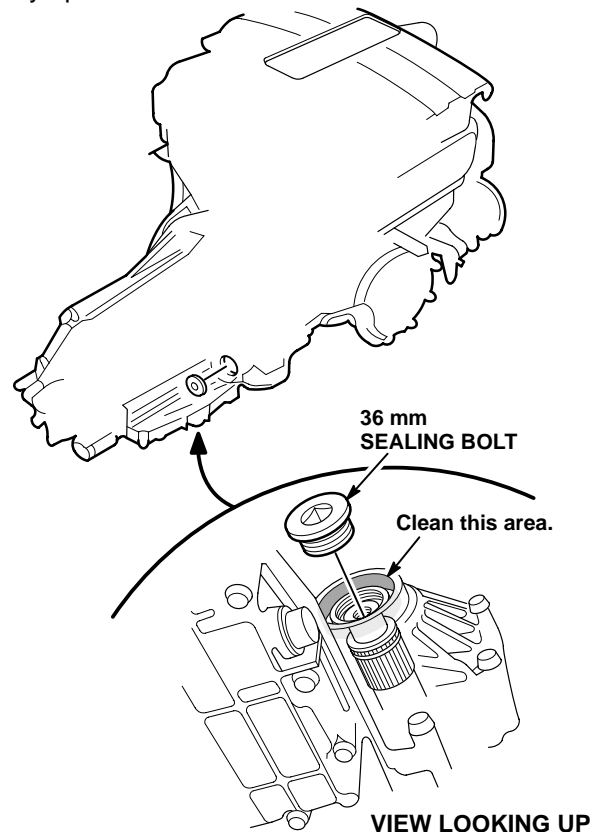
Contention code: K68

Template ID: 99-038A

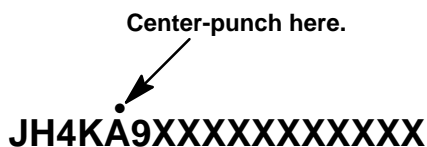
Skill Level: Repair Technician

REPAIR PROCEDURE

1. Make sure the vehicle is in Park, then raise the vehicle on a hoist.
2. Use brake cleaner and compressed air to clean the area around the 36 mm sealing bolt. Wear eye protection.



3. Remove the 36 mm sealing bolt.
4. Use brake cleaner and compressed air to clean the threads in the transmission housing. Wear eye protection.
5. Install the O-ring on the new sealing bolt.
6. Install the new 36 mm sealing bolt. Do not use any thread lock or thread sealer. Torque the bolt to 78 N·m (58 lb-ft).
7. Lower the vehicle.
8. Center-punch a completion mark above the fifth character (A) of the engine compartment VIN.



Example of Customer Letter

September 1999

Safety Recall: Transmission Case Bolt

Dear Acura Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

What is the reason for this notice?

Honda Motor Company, Ltd., has determined that a defect relating to vehicle safety exists in the transmission of certain 1996–99 3.5RL and 1996–98 3.2TL automobiles. A transmission case bolt can loosen and fall out, allowing the transmission to disengage from the differential. If this condition occurs, the vehicle would lose power to the drive wheels without warning. Also, shifting the transmission into the Park position would not lock the wheels, and a parked vehicle could move unexpectedly if the parking brake is not set.

What should you do?

Call any authorized Acura automobile dealer and make an appointment to have your car repaired. They will replace the bolt with an improved design. *This repair will be done free of charge.* Parts are now available. This repair takes about an half an hour; however, please plan to leave your car for at least half a day to allow the dealer flexibility in scheduling.

Until your car is repaired, make sure you always set the parking brake whenever you park your car.

Who to contact if you experience problems.

If you are not satisfied with the service you receive from your Acura dealer, you may write to:

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
Acura Client Services
Mail Stop 500-2S-2A
1919 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90501-2746

If you believe that American Honda or the dealer has failed or is unable to remedy the defect in your car, without charge, within a reasonable period of time (60 days from the date you first contact the dealer for a repair appointment), you may submit a complaint to:

Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Or call the toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at (800) 424-9393. Residents of Washington D.C. should call (202) 366-0123.

What to do if our information is incorrect.

This notice was mailed to you according to the latest information we have. If you no longer own this vehicle, or some information in this notice is incorrect, please fill out and return the included, postage-paid *Information Change Card*. This will help us update our records.

If you have questions.

If you have questions about this notice, or need assistance with contacting an Acura dealer, please call Acura Client Services at (800) 382-2238.

Thank you for your cooperation. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you.

Sincerely,

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.
Acura Automobile Division