



Product Update: New Software to Help Prevent IMA Battery Deterioration

BACKGROUND

American Honda is announcing a product update to help prevent IMA battery deterioration.

Frequent stop-and-go driving with A/C use, especially during warm weather, can keep the IMA battery in a low state-of-charge (SOC). Over time, this may cause battery deterioration and eventual failure.

CUSTOMER NOTIFICATION

Owners of affected vehicles will be sent a notification of this product update. An example of the customer notification is at the end of this service bulletin.

To verify vehicle eligibility, check for at least one of these items:

- The customer has a notification letter.
- The vehicle is shown as eligible on a VIN status inquiry.

In addition, check for a punch mark below the fifth character of the engine compartment VIN. A punch mark in that location means this product update has already been completed.

Some of the vehicles affected by this product update may be in your used vehicle inventory. **These vehicles must be updated before they are sold or leased.** To see if a vehicle is affected by this campaign, do a VIN status inquiry before selling it or returning it to a service customer.

Should an unrepaired vehicle that was in inventory, or that came in for service after this service bulletin was issued, cause an injury or property damage because of the campaigned item, the dealership will be solely responsible to the damaged party, and will be required to defend and indemnify American Honda for any resulting claims.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

Update the PGM-FI software and the IMA battery software with the HDS. Then, if needed, update the A/T (CVT) software.

NOTE: This software update is needed even if the vehicle was repaired using Service Bulletin 09-058, Low-Charged IMA Battery Causes Low Power When Accelerating. As with the previous software update, the new software increases the IMA battery rate of charge, which helps to prevent early battery deterioration.

SOFTWARE INFORMATION

HDS Software Version:
2.022.101 (July 2010) (aqua) **or later.**

Control Module (CM) Update:
Database Update 02-JUL-2010 **or later.**

The updated PGM-FI, IMA battery, and A/T (CVT) software program IDs and P/Ns are shown below. If the HDS is loaded with the latest software, and it displays **No Update Needed** during the update, the software for this service bulletin is already installed.

Year/Model/System	Program ID	Program P/N
2006 Civic Hybrid PGM-FI	MXA630	37805-RMX-A63 (or later)
2007–08 Civic Hybrid PGM-FI	MX3250	37805-RMX-325 (or later)
2006–08 Civic Hybrid IMA Battery	MXA230	1K101-RMX-A23 (or later)
2006 Civic Hybrid CVT	MXA560	37806-RMX-A56 (or later)
2007–08 Civic Hybrid CVT	MX3050	37806-RMX-305 (or later)

WARRANTY CLAIM INFORMATION

NOTE: This product update ends on July 30, 2013. After that, any applicable warranty would apply.

OP#	Description	FRT
1255B2	Update the PGM-FI software.	0.3
A	Add for updating the IMA battery software.	0.3
B	Add for updating the A/T software.	0.3
C	Add for start clutch learning.	0.1
D	Add for CKP learning.	0.1
E	Add for PCM idle learning.	0.1

Failed Part: P/N 1K100-RMX-A07

Defect Code: 5KC00

Symptom Code: R4200

Skill Level: Repair Technician

REPAIR PROCEDURE

NOTE: After you do the software update(s), the IMA system will have the following differences. All of them are normal operating characteristics:

- When at an auto idle stop, the engine restarts sooner. It also now restarts with only two bars displayed on the IMA battery level gauge.
- Even with up to four bars displayed on the IMA battery level gauge, auto idle stop may not occur.
- The IMA system reserves battery power to ensure enough power is available to start the vehicle from a stop and for initial acceleration. This reduces the IMA assist as the vehicle speed increases. This change increases the battery's stored energy and overall performance.
- The IMA battery level gauge more accurately indicates the battery's state-of-charge. Customers will also notice that the level bars stay in the middle of the gauge much longer.

1. Use the HDS to update the PGM-FI software. If needed, also update the IMA battery software and the A/T (CVT) software. For updating information, refer to Service Bulletin 01-023, *Updating Control Units/Modules*.

NOTE: Three DTCs may be stored after the software is installed. These DTCs can be erased only after all updates (PGM-FI, A/T (CVT), and IMA battery) are completed. For more information on the three DTCs, refer to Service Bulletin 09-026, *2006–09 Civic Hybrid, 2010 Insight: New DTCs U0301, U0302, and U0312*.

2. Do the CKP pattern learn procedure with the HDS:
 - In the ADJUSTMENT MENU of the HDS, select CRANK PATTERN.
 - Select CRANK PATTERN LEARNING, and follow the screen prompts.
3. Do the idle learn procedure:
 - Make sure all electrical accessories (A/C, radio, lights, etc.) are off.
 - Start the engine, and let it run until it reaches normal operating temperature (the cooling fans have cycled twice).
 - Let the engine idle for 10 minutes.
4. If you updated the CVT software, select START CLUTCH FEEDBACK LEARN in the HDS, and follow the screen prompts to calibrate the start clutch pressure control.
5. If needed, use the HDS to clear all DTCs from all systems.

6. Center-punch a completion mark below the fifth character of the engine compartment VIN:

- Slide open the FRAME NUMBER door on the center cowl cover.
- Use a long punch to reach the VIN.

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Example of Customer Letter

August 2010

Product Update: New Software Is Needed for Integrated Motor Assist (IMA) Battery

Dear Civic Hybrid Owner:

This letter is to notify you of a potential problem with your vehicle and what you should do to resolve it.

What is the problem?

Your vehicle's integrated motor assist (IMA) battery may deteriorate and eventually fail before its normal usable life is reached. Frequent stop-and-go driving with A/C use during warm weather speeds up the IMA battery deterioration. **To help prevent early IMA battery deterioration, a software update is needed for the IMA battery.**

What should you do?

Contact any authorized Honda dealer to schedule an appointment. If you need help locating your local dealer, go to automobiles.honda.com or call Honda Automobile Customer Service at 800 999-1009. **The dealer will update the IMA battery software, free of charge.** Please plan to leave your vehicle at the dealer for half a day to allow some flexibility in scheduling. If you cannot leave your vehicle for half a day, please contact the dealer to discuss other options.

After your vehicle is updated, you may notice one or more of the following changes to the IMA system. All of them are normal, and will greatly improve the life of the IMA battery:

- When the vehicle is in auto idle stop, the engine restarts sooner. It also now restarts with only two bars displayed on the IMA battery level gauge.
- Even with up to four bars displayed on the IMA battery level gauge, auto idle stop may not occur.
- To ensure there's plenty of power for engine starting and accelerating from a stop, the IMA system reserves more battery power. This reduces the IMA assist as the vehicle speed increases.
- The IMA battery level gauge more accurately indicates the battery's state-of-charge. You will also notice that the level bars stay in the middle of the gauge much longer.

What to do if you feel this notice is in error

Our records show that you are the current owner or lessee of a 2006, 2007, or 2008 Civic Hybrid involved in this product update. If this is not the case, or the name/address information is not correct, please fill out and return the enclosed, postage-paid Information Change Card. We will then update our records.

This product update ends on July 30, 2013. After that, any applicable warranty would apply.

We apologize for any inconvenience this product update may cause you. Our goal is to ensure that your vehicle continues to be as reliable and enjoyable as possible.

Sincerely,

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.

Honda Automobile Division

July 23, 2010

Dear Service Manager:

Honda is announcing a product update campaign for 2006–08 Civic Hybrids.

Frequent stop-and-go driving with A/C use, especially during warm weather, can keep the IMA battery in a low state-of-charge (SOC). Over time, this may cause battery deterioration and eventual failure.

Repair Strategy

The repair is to update the IMA battery software and, if needed, the PGM-FI software and the CVT software. For repair and warranty information, refer to Service Bulletin 10-034, *Product Update: New Software to Help Prevent IMA Battery Deterioration*.

Customer Notification

Customers will be sent a notification of this campaign on July 30, 2010. Before beginning work on a vehicle, verify its eligibility by checking at least one of these items:

- The customer has a notification letter.
- The vehicle is shown as eligible on a VIN status inquiry.

Some vehicles affected by this product update may be in your used vehicle inventory. **These vehicles must be updated before they are sold.** To see if a vehicle is affected by this campaign, do a VIN status inquiry before selling it, leasing it, or returning it to a service customer.

Should an unrepaired vehicle that was in inventory, or that came in for service after this service bulletin was issued, cause an injury or property damage because of the campaigned item, the dealership will be solely responsible to the damaged party, and will be required to defend and indemnify American Honda for any resulting claims.

Parts Information

No parts are needed.

Sincerely,

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
Honda Automobile Division