



Service Bulletin

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.

SAFETY RECALL

2001-2012 GL1800 DRAGGING REAR BRAKE (INTERIM BULLETIN)

Honda has determined that, in some cases, the secondary master cylinder repair campaign conducted since 2011 (S/B GL1800 #20) was not sufficient to prevent the rear brake from dragging. Under certain conditions there is still a possibility that component malfunction within the combined braking system may cause the rear brake to drag. A dragging rear brake increases the risk of a crash and may generate enough heat to cause the rear brake to catch fire.

Currently, a final repair remedy is not available, however this Service Bulletin will be revised to include it in the near future.

If any customer, whose vehicle falls within the affected VIN range, **requests an inspection for dragging brakes**, follow the instructions in the REPAIR VERIFICATION section of this bulletin.

CUSTOMER NOTIFICATION

Around the end of August 2014, Honda will mail a letter to all owners of affected vehicles advising them to perform pre-ride and post-ride inspections on their motorcycle to check for brake dragging. Customers who suspect their motorcycle's brakes are dragging are advised to make an appointment with a Honda motorcycle dealer for further inspection.

For your reference, a copy of the Customer Letter is reproduced on Pages 4 and 5 of this Service Bulletin.

AFFECTED UNITS

2001-2010 GL1800/A

All units and types within the above model year range.

2012 GL1800/A: All types, within the following VIN ranges:

Type	VIN Range
IVA	JH2SC68G*CK000001 thru JH2SC68G*CK002608
VA	JH2SC68H*CK000001 thru JH2SC68H*CK001746
VIIA	JH2SC68L*CK000001 thru JH2SC68L*CK001294
VIIIA	JH2SC68M*CK000001 thru JH2SC68M*CK000164

(*) denotes check digit

DEALER INVENTORY

If you suspect any new or used units within your inventory has a problem with dragging brakes, start with REPAIR VERIFICATION.

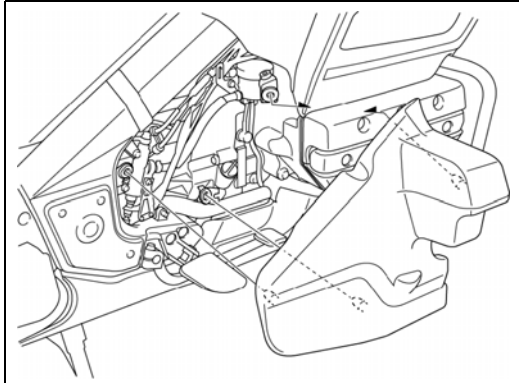
CUSTOMER INFORMATION: The information in this bulletin is intended for use only by skilled technicians who have the proper tools, equipment, and training to correctly and safely maintain your Honda. These procedures should not be attempted by "do-it-yourselfers," and you should not assume this bulletin applies to your Honda, or that your Honda has the condition described. To determine whether this information applies, contact an authorized Honda dealer.

REPAIR VERIFICATION

Before you begin the inspection procedure, check if this and the previous brake recall have been performed on the unit.

Check the frame for a punch mark(s) indicating that S/B GL1800 #20 and S/B GL1800 #22 has been performed on this vehicle.

Remove the right engine side cover.



Look for a punch mark(s) on the right frame spar, just above the rear master cylinder reservoir as shown.



- **If there are two punch marks** and there is no customer concern about dragging brakes, no further action is necessary.
- **If there are two punch marks** and the customer has a concern about dragging brakes, contact TechLine.
- **If there is only one punch mark** and the customer has a concern about dragging brakes, proceed to INSPECTION PROCEDURE.
- **If there is no punch mark**, the vehicle has not been inspected/repaired according

to S/B GL1800 #20, complete S/B GL1800 #20 first and note the following:

If the Secondary Master Cylinder (SMC) fails the inspection, contact TechLine.

If the SMC passes the S/B GL1800 #20 Inspection, proceed to the INSPECTION PROCEDURE of this bulletin.

- **If there are one or two punch marks** and the rear brake is locked or obviously dragging, contact TechLine for the *Interim Repair Procedure* manual.

INSPECTION PROCEDURE

TRIKE CONVERSIONS or MODIFIED BRAKES:

If the vehicle is a trike conversion, or has a modified, disabled, or removed secondary master cylinder and the SMC is non-functional, note these facts on the R.O. and contact TechLine for further instructions.

MOTORCYCLES:

With the motorcycle in neutral on its center-stand, depress with normal foot pressure and slowly release the brake pedal five times, then with the pedal released, wait five seconds, then try to rotate the rear wheel as shown.



- **If the rear wheel drags or is locked**, contact TechLine for interim repair procedures.
- **If there are obvious visual indications of a dragging rear brake** (blue rotor, excessive brake component wear considering mileage), take photos of any

damaged parts, note your findings on the repair order, and contact TechLine for interim repair procedures.

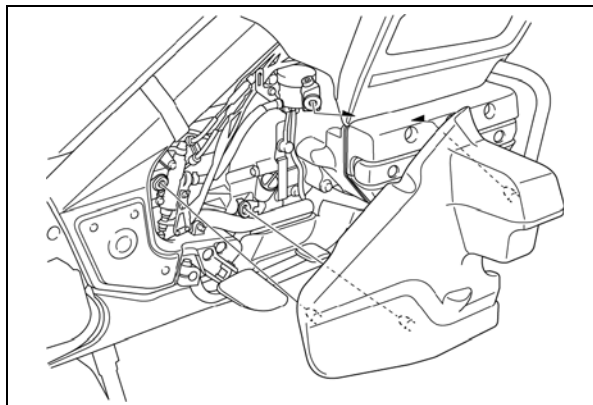
- **If the rear wheel rotates freely**, confirm the brake performance by test riding the vehicle for 15 miles at varying speeds. Be sure to firmly apply both front and rear brakes several times during the test ride to get heat into the brake components and move fluid through the system. After the test ride, perform the INSPECTION PROCEDURE one more time from the beginning.
 - If after the test ride and second inspection procedure the rear wheel drags or is locked, contact TechLine for interim repair procedures.
 - If after the test ride and second inspection procedure the rear wheel rotates freely, apply the IDENTIFICATION punch mark to the frame and then return the vehicle to the customer. Advise the customer to continue performing pre-ride and post-ride inspections for dragging brakes until Honda contacts them about a final remedy.

TechLine Connect:
iN > Service > TechLine > TechLine Connect

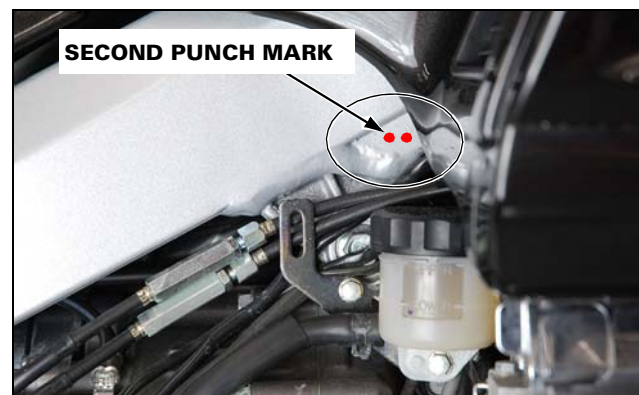
Motorcycle TechLine:
(800) 421-1900, Option 9

IDENTIFICATION

Remove the right engine side cover.



After you have completed the inspection procedure, apply a second punch mark on the right frame spar, just above the rear master cylinder reservoir as shown.



WARRANTY INFORMATION

The inspection procedure in this bulletin is temporary and is subject to change or cancellation when a final remedy is determined.

After inspecting the unit, submit one warranty claim per unit using the following information.

WARRANTY CLAIM TEMPLATE

Inspection

Template: JG6A

Flat Rate Time: 0.5 hrs.

If TechLine advised you to perform an interim repair procedure, they will provide you with claim filing instructions.

TEXT OF CUSTOMER LETTER

September 2014 - NHTSA Recall 14V-472

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

Dear GL1800 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 has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in 2001-2012 model year GL1800 motorcycles. The secondary master cylinder repair conducted in 2011, pursuant to NHTSA recall 11V-567, was not sufficient enough in preventing the rear brake from dragging. Under certain conditions there is still a possibility that the combined braking system's secondary master cylinder may cause the rear brake to drag. Unexpected braking increases the risk of a crash and riding the motorcycle with the rear brake dragging may generate enough heat to cause the rear brake to catch fire.

What should you do?

You can continue to ride your motorcycle if you carefully inspect it before and after each ride. Please read and follow the accompanying instructions regarding steps you can take to inspect your motorcycle for this issue.

A permanent repair remedy is not yet available and Honda will send you another letter when a permanent repair becomes available. If you suspect that your rear brake is dragging, contact your Honda Motorcycle dealer to set an appointment for an inspection, free of charge.

If you have questions:

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please call Honda Motorcycle Customer Service at 1-866-784-1870. Customers can also locate a dealer online at <http://www.powersports.honda.com>.

Owners may also contact:

Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

What to do if you feel this notice is in error.

Registration records indicate that you are the current owner of a 2001-2012 GL1800 involved in this campaign. 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.

What if you already had your motorcycle repaired for this issue?

If you previously paid to have the secondary master cylinder repaired or replaced, you may be eligible for reimbursement. Refer to the attached *Instructions for Reimbursement* for the eligibility requirements and the reimbursement procedure.

Lessor Information:

Federal law requires that any motorcycle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within 10 days.

We apologize for any inconvenience this campaign may cause you.

Sincerely,

**American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
Motorcycle Division**

Campaign #JG6 / Service Bulletin: GL1800 #22

MTB 13938-15110

TEXT OF CUSTOMER LETTER (CONT.)

2001-2012 Honda GL1800 Rear Brake Pre-ride and Post-ride Inspection

The following symptoms are an indication that your motorcycle's brakes may be dragging. If you experience any of these symptoms please stop riding, park your motorcycle in a safe area outdoors, and call your Honda Motorcycle Dealer.

Symptoms of Dragging Brakes:

- Increased throttle opening is required to maintain speed
- A sudden loss of speed when the clutch is disengaged
- A sudden loss of power or speed even after the brakes are released
- When closing the throttle, engine RPM and vehicle speed drops too quickly
- Starting from a stop requires excessive throttle to avoid stalling
- Burning smell

NOTICE: If you continue to ride with the brakes binding, it is possible to overheat the brake system, resulting in the rear brake catching on fire.

Inspection before and after riding:

- 1) Put the motorcycle in neutral.
- 2) Depress and release the rear brake pedal with normal foot pressure at least five times and then wait five seconds.
- 3) Place the motorcycle onto the centerstand or push the bike along a firm, level surface to check that the wheels rotate freely.
- 4) If you feel a strong resistance or cannot push the motorcycle easily, the brakes may be dragging
OR If you cannot rotate the wheel by hand while on the centerstand, the brakes may be dragging.

What Should You Do?

If you detect any brake binding/dragging during riding, park the motorcycle in a safe area outdoors to allow the brake to cool down.

If your motorcycle's brakes are dragging or you suspect they are dragging, contact your Honda Motorcycle Dealer for inspection. Your dealership will contact the Honda Technical Support group for specific instructions.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Customer safety is Honda's top priority and we appreciate your cooperation as we resolve this matter.

Sincerely,

**American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
Motorcycle Division**