



Service Bulletin

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.

2008-2009 CRF450X Decompressor Shaft Pin PRODUCT UPDATE CAMPAIGN

Campaign end date: June 30, 2015

American Honda's Motorcycle Division is conducting a Product Update Campaign to replace the decompressor shaft and decompressor plunger on all 2008-2009 CRF450X models.

During high-load operation at extremely low rpm, the crankshaft may experience instantaneous reverse rotation that momentarily extends the decompressor plunger. The extended decompressor plunger can collide with the rocker arm with enough force to possibly damage the actuation pin on the decompressor shaft. If the decompressor actuation pin is bent or broken the engine will not start. The UPDATE PROCEDURE outlined in this Service Bulletin will replace the decompressor shaft and plunger on 2008-2009 CRF450X models with more durable components.

CUSTOMER NOTIFICATION

American Honda is sending a letter to owners of 2008 and 2009 CRF450X models informing them they are entitled to receive this Product Update at no charge. They will be instructed to call their dealer to make an appointment. For your reference, a copy of the Customer Letter is reproduced on pages 7 and 8 of this Service Bulletin.

AFFECTED UNITS

2008 CRF450X

JH2PE060*8K300001 - JH2PE060*8K302133

2009 CRF450X

JH2PE060*9K400001 - JH2PE060*9K402260

* denotes check digit

DEALER INVENTORY

All units in your inventory must be updated with new decompressor parts before delivery to the customer. Refer to the PARTS INFORMATION and the UPDATE PROCEDURE sections of this Service Bulletin.

REPAIR VERIFICATION

Before you begin the repair procedure, check if the update has been performed on the unit by looking for a punch mark at the beginning of the VIN, as shown in the IDENTIFICATION section of this Service Bulletin.

- If there is a punch mark – No further action is necessary.
- If there is no punch mark – You must proceed with the UPDATE PROCEDURE section of this Service Bulletin.

Your Dealer Responsibility Report and **IN** can be used to identify units that have not been repaired; however, if a punch mark is present, do not perform this update.

If you have any questions about repair verification, please contact TechLine at: (800) 421-1900, option 9.

UPDATE PROCEDURE

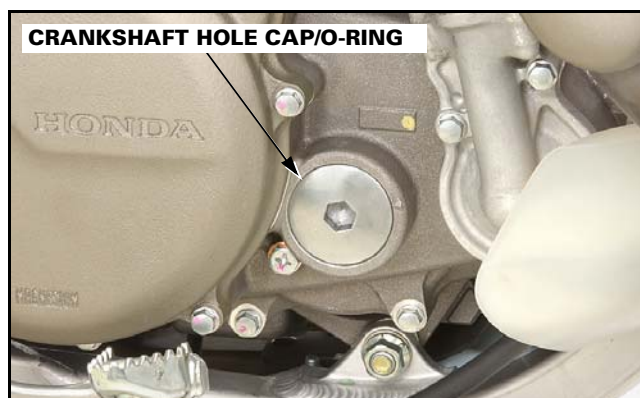
1. To gain access to the cylinder head cover, remove following components using the

procedures in the *2005-2009 CRF450X Service Manual*.

- fuel tank
- spark plug cap
- crankcase breather hose
- left engine hangar plate

2. Remove the cylinder head cover using the procedures on page 9-7 of the Service Manual.

3. Remove the crankshaft hole cap and O-ring.

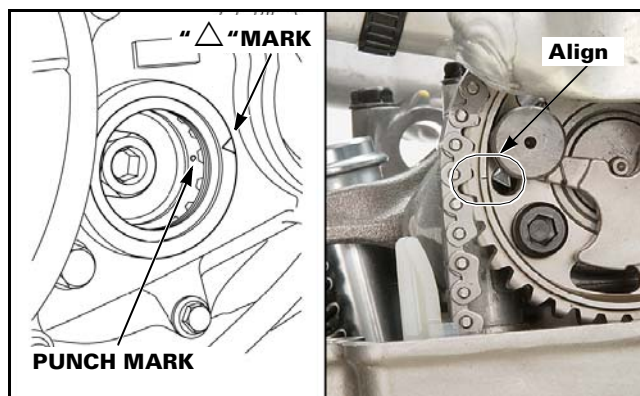


4. Turn the crankshaft clockwise to align the punch mark on the primary drive gear with the "△" mark on the right crankcase cover.

Make sure the piston is at TDC (Top Dead Center) on the compression stroke.

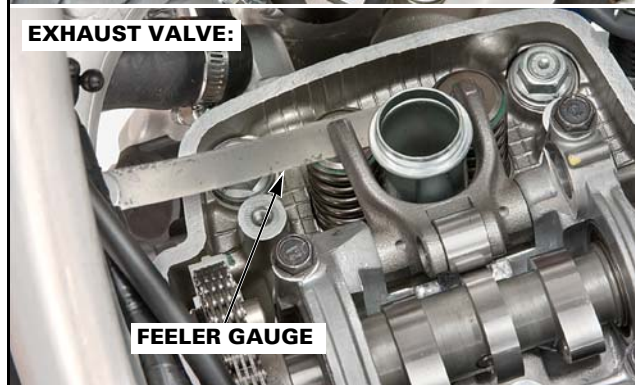
This position can be obtained by confirming that there is slack in the rocker arms. If there is no slack, rotate the crankshaft clockwise one full turn and align the punch mark on the primary drive gear with "△" mark on the right crankcase cover again.

Check that the index line on the cam sprocket aligns with the "△" mark on the camshaft holder.

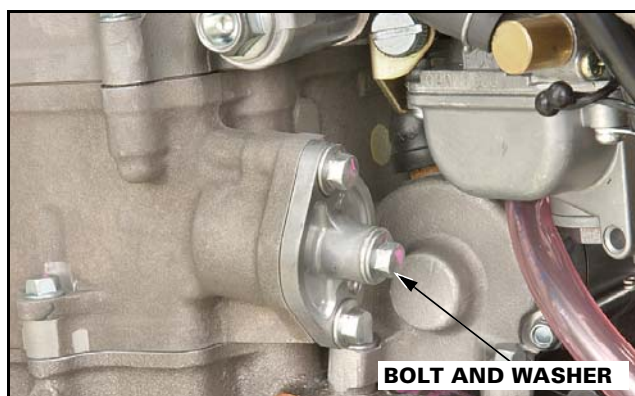


5. Measure and record the intake and exhaust valve clearances.

The valve clearance will be adjusted later in the procedure.



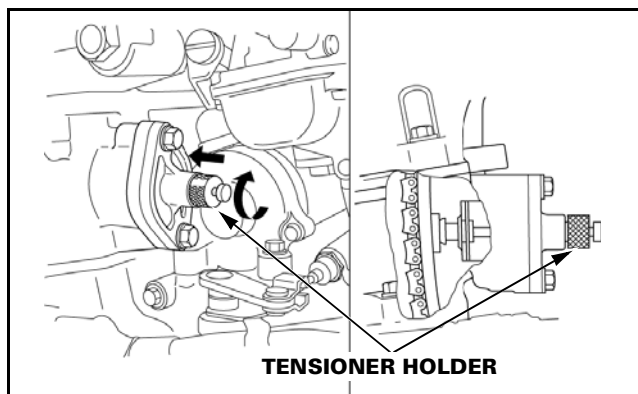
6. Remove the tensioner lifter bolt and sealing washer.



7. Insert the tensioner holder into the cam chain tensioner lifter.

Turn the tensioner holder clockwise fully and lock the cam chain tensioner lifter by pushing the handle.

Tensioner holder: 07AMG-001A100



8. Remove the cam sprocket as follows:

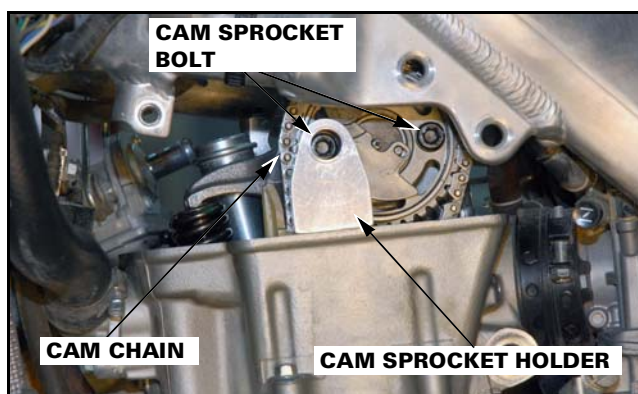
Turn the crankshaft counter-clockwise slowly and install the special tool over the forward cam sprocket bolt as shown.

Remove the cam sprocket bolts, starting with the rear bolt.

Cam Sprocket Holder: 07AMB-MEYA100
(see *The Wrench*, June 2010)

Remove the cam sprocket from the camshaft and cam chain.

Suspend the cam chain with a piece of wire to prevent it from falling into the crankcase.

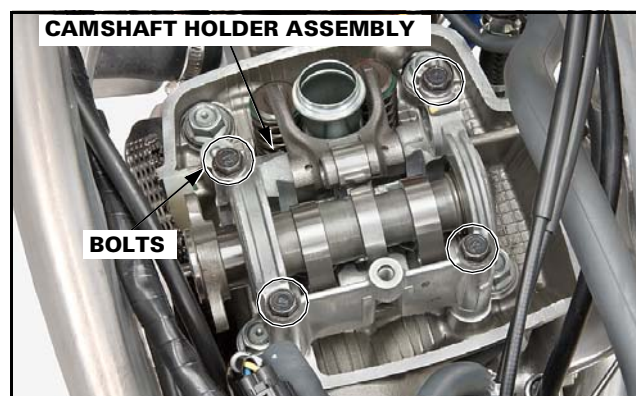


9. Remove the camshaft holder assembly as follows:

Make sure the piston is at TDC (Top Dead Center).

Loosen the camshaft holder mounting bolts in a crisscross pattern in two or three steps.

Remove the camshaft holder assembly.



10. If necessary, adjust the valve clearances (noted in Step 7) using the procedures on page 4-16 of the Service Manual.

- The shims may stick to the inside of the valve lifters. Install them into their original locations.

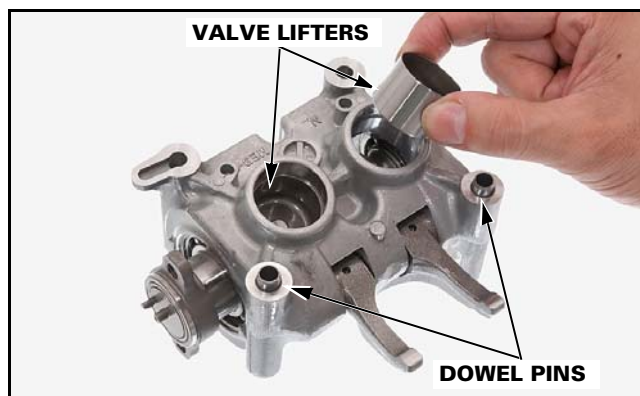
Cover the valve shims with a clean shop towel.



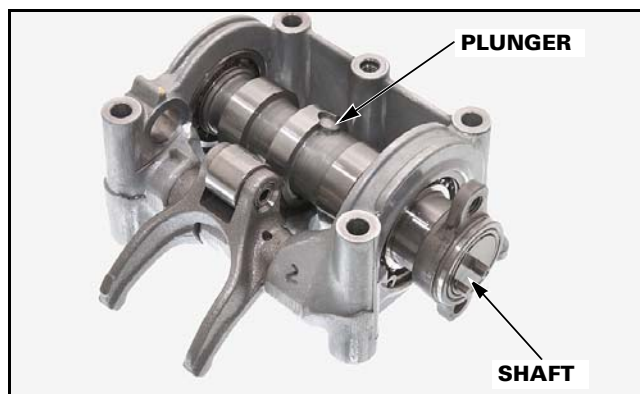
11. Remove the valve lifters from the camshaft holder assembly.

Mark each valve lifter to ensure correct reassembly in their original locations.

Do not forcibly remove the dowel pins from the camshaft holder.

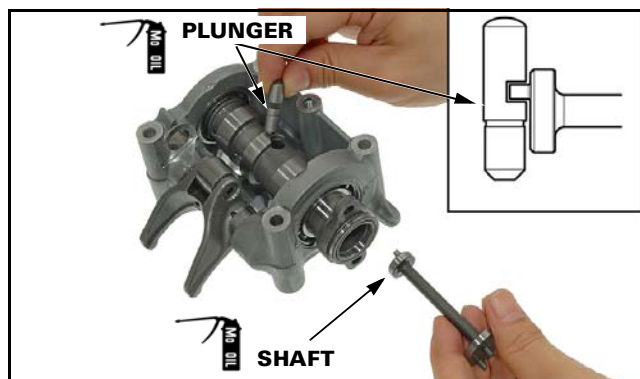


12. Remove the decompressor shaft and decompressor plunger.



13. Apply molybdenum-oil (moly paste mixed with engine oil) solution to the update decompressor plunger and update decompressor shaft sliding areas.

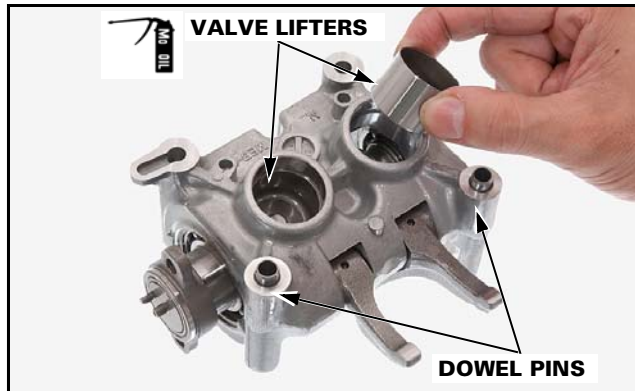
Install the update decompressor plunger and decompressor shaft into the camshaft by aligning the pin on the shaft with the plunger groove as shown.



14. Coat the outer surfaces of the valve lifters with molybdenum-oil solution.

Install the valve lifters in their original lifter bores in the camshaft holder.

Make sure the dowel pins are installed in the camshaft holder.



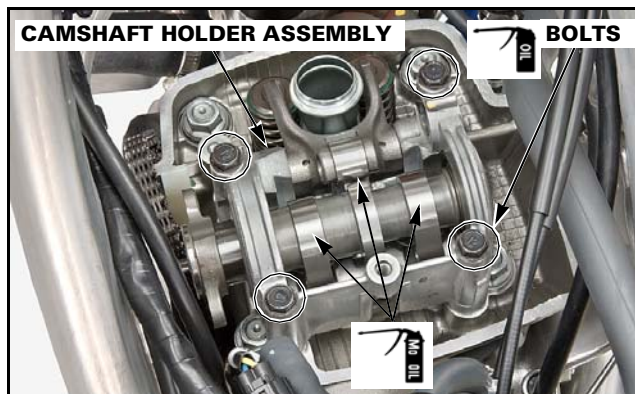
15. Lubricate the cam lobes, roller and shim contact areas of the rocker arm with molybdenum-oil solution.

Install the camshaft assembly onto the cylinder head with the cam lobes facing up.

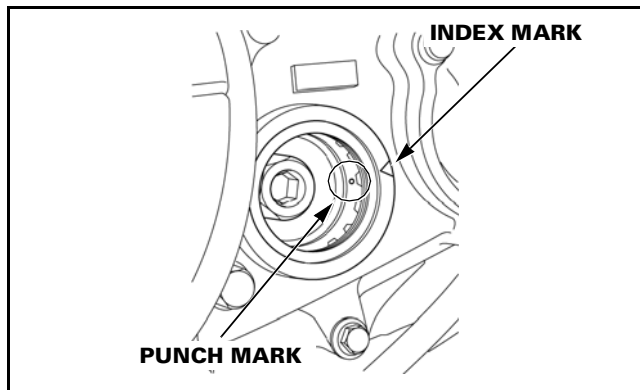
Apply engine oil to the holder bolt threads and seating surface.

Install the four bolts and tighten them to the specified torque.

TORQUE: 14 N·m (1.4 kgf·m, 10 lbf·ft)



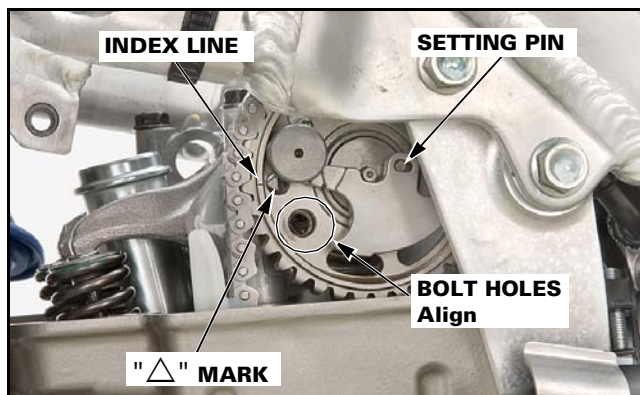
16. Make sure the punch mark on the primary drive gear is aligned with the index mark on the right crankcase cover.



17. Install the cam chain onto the cam sprocket.

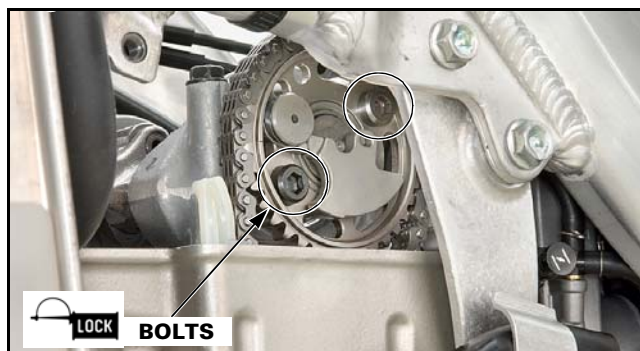
When installing the cam sprocket, align the following:

- decompressor weight hole with the setting pin of the decompressor shaft
- bolt holes of the cam sprocket with the camshaft
- index line on the cam sprocket with the "△" mark of the camshaft holder



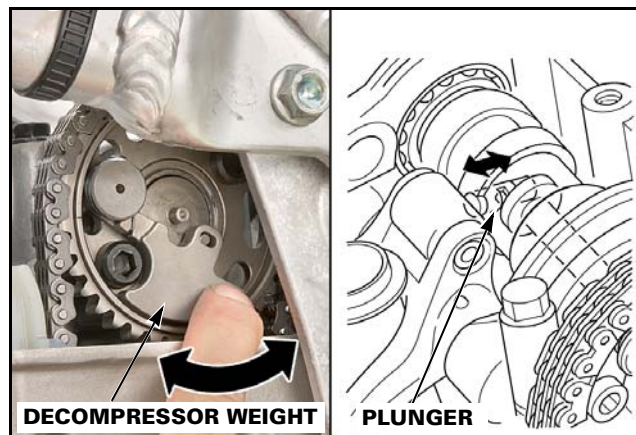
18. Apply locking agent to the sprocket bolt threads.

Loosely install the cam sprocket bolts.



19. Confirm the decompressor plunger operation using the following procedure:

- a. Move the decompressor weight outward with your finger.
 - The plunger operation is normal if it is retracted.
- b. Release the decompressor weight.
 - The decompressor weight should automatically move inward.
 - The plunger operation is normal if it is protruded.

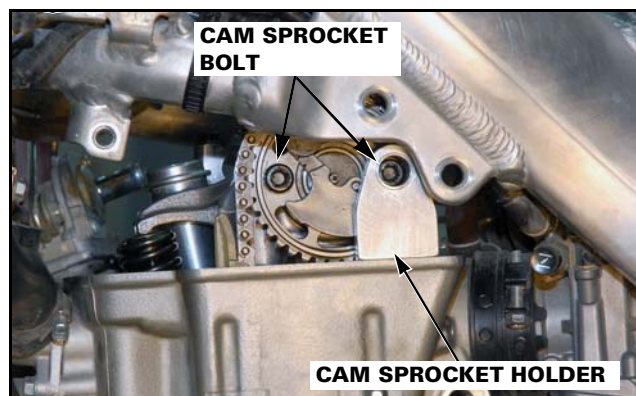


20. Turn the crankshaft slowly counter-clockwise and install the special tool over the rear cam sprocket bolt as shown.

Cam Sprocket Holder: 07AMB-MEYA100
(see *The Wrench*, June 2010)

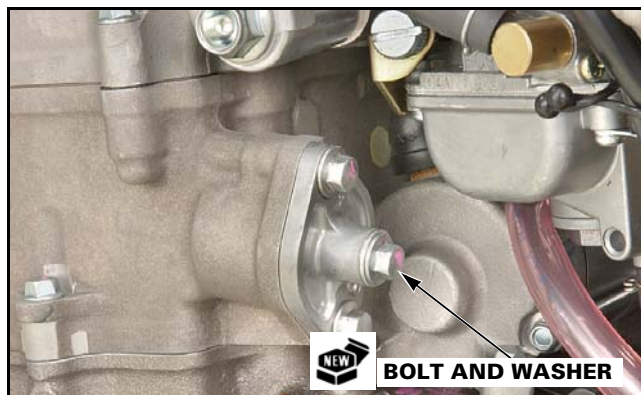
Tighten both cam sprocket bolts to the specified torque.

TORQUE: 20 N·m (2.0 kgf·m, 14 lbf·ft)



21. Remove the special tool from the tensioner lifter.

Install the bolt with a new sealing washer and tighten it.

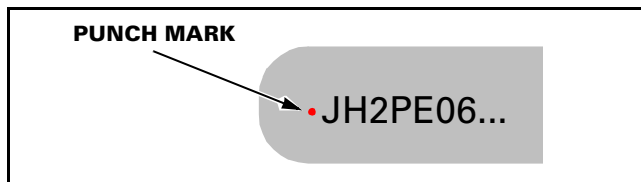


22. Reinstall the removed parts in the reverse order of removal using the procedures in the Service Manual.

- crankshaft hole cap and O-ring.
- cylinder head cover
- crankcase breather hose
- spark plug cap
- left engine hangar plate
- fuel tank

IDENTIFICATION

When you have completed the update, place a punch mark in front of the “J” (first character) of the V.I.N., located on the right side of the steering head.



WARRANTY INFORMATION

This Product Update Campaign ends the last day of June, 2015. Normal claim submission requirements apply.

After completing the update procedure, submit one warranty claim per unit with the following information:

WARRANTY CLAIM TEMPLATE

Template: R36B

Flat Rate Time: 1.2 hrs

PARTS INFORMATION

REQUIRED PARTS

Kit, Decomp. - P/N: 06140-MEY-306

Kit Contents:

Shaft, decompressor (1)

Plunger, decompressor (1)

TEXT OF CUSTOMER LETTER

June 2010

IMPORTANT NOTICE OF PRODUCT UPDATE CAMPAIGN

Dear CRF450X Owner:

What is the reason for this notice?

Honda Motor Co., Ltd. is conducting a Product Update Campaign to replace parts within the engine decompression system on 2008 and 2009 model year CRF450Xs. Our records indicate that you own one of these motorcycles.

What is the problem?

During high-load operation at extremely low rpm, the crankshaft may experience instantaneous reverse rotation which momentarily actuates the engine decompressor system. When this happens there is excessive force on the decompressor actuation pin, causing it to bend or break. If the decompressor actuation pin is damaged the engine will not start. Because your satisfaction with your CRF450X is important to us, Honda will replace the affected engine decompressor parts at no cost to you.

What should you do?

Improved replacement parts are now available at your Honda motorcycle dealer. Please contact an authorized Honda motorcycle dealer to make an appointment to have the affected engine decompressor system parts replaced on your CRF450X. Please plan to leave your motorcycle at the dealership for at least one day to allow for dealer scheduling. The dealer will replace the necessary parts at no cost to you for parts or labor. **This Product Update Campaign ends the last day of June, 2015.**

Who to contact for help:

Contact your Honda motorcycle dealer for help. Should you need assistance in locating a Honda dealer, please visit our website at <http://powersports.honda.com>

Who to contact if you experience problem:

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

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
Motorcycle Customer Service
Mail Stop 100-4C-7B
1919 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90501-2746
(866) 784-1870

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

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

If you previously paid to have your camshaft, decompressor shaft, or decompressor plunger replaced due to the problem described in this notice, please use the attached form to request reimbursement.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you. Thank you for your CRF450X purchase and your cooperation.

Sincerely,

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

TEXT OF CUSTOMER LETTER

Request For Reimbursement

2008-2009 CRF450X Decompressor System Replacement

Use this form only if you have previously paid for this repair. If you meet the following qualifications, American Honda Motor Co., Inc. will reimburse you for the cost of the decompressor system parts replacement. No reimbursement will be made for other costs or repairs.

1. The vehicle must be an affected 2008-2009 CRF450X.
2. The repair must have been required due to the failure that is the subject of this product update campaign. Unrelated repairs will not be reimbursed.
- 3. The decompressor system repair must have occurred before June 15, 2010.**
4. You must have a repair bill showing itemized parts and labor costs, CRF450X model, year, VIN, name, address and phone number of the repair shop, and the date of the repair. There must be verification of payment, such as a copy of a cancelled check, cash receipt, or paid invoice.
5. To qualify for reimbursement, it is not necessary that you still own the affected 2008-2009 CRF450X, but you must have been the owner when the decompressor system parts were replaced. Only the owner at the time of the repair may request reimbursement. Do not request reimbursement for the expenses of any other owner.

IF YOU ARE QUALIFIED FOR REIMBURSEMENT:

Fill in the blanks; please print clearly.

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____

Vehicle Identification Number (VIN): _____

Total Amount Requested: _____

Mail this form together with a copy of your repair bill and verification of payment to:

**American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
Customer Support, M/S 100-4C-7B
1919 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90501-2746**

Please allow 6–8 weeks for reimbursement processing.

This form is provided for dealer information and customer photocopies if needed.