



VF500 #1  
APRIL 1984

# SERVICE BULLETIN

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC. MOTORCYCLE SERVICE DEPARTMENT

## RECALL

### 1984 VF500F FUEL TANK (For California-only models)

Honda Motor Co., Ltd. has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the fuel tanks of certain 1984 VF500F motorcycles, which are within the affected frame number range and were manufactured as California-only models.

#### AFFECTED FRAME NUMBER RANGE:

JH2PC1213EM000017 — JH2PC121XEM000578

#### DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT

When the fuel tank is filled to maximum capacity it may be possible, under certain conditions, for fuel leakage to occur due to an incorrectly assembled liquid/vapor separator located inside the tank.

If the motorcycle is driven a short distance after refueling and then placed on the side stand, the engine heat and radiant heat from strong sunlight cause expansion of the fuel. This volume increase, combined with the change in fuel level due to the side stand parking angle, may cause the fuel level to rise above the height of the separator tube resulting in some fuel leakage from the system drain tube to the ground beneath the motorcycle. Spilled fuel can create a fire hazard to people or property near the motorcycle.

**WARNING** To prevent serious burn injuries and/or property loss, do not ride, sell, or release any VF500F, California-only models within the affected frame number range until this recall procedure has been completed.

New fuel tanks that conform to specifications are supplied complete with the fuel valve and the necessary labels and insignias already applied.

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#### ROUTING:

COPY 1

COPY 2

☐ GENERAL MANAGER

☐ SERVICE MANAGER

☐ SALES DEPT.

☐ MECHANICS

☐ OFFICE FILE

☐ SHOP MANUAL

#### OWNER NOTIFICATION

American Honda is mailing letters to all identifiable VF500F Interceptor owners requesting them to contact their local Honda motorcycle dealer to make a service appointment for fuel tank replacement.

For your reference, a copy of the customer letter is reproduced on page 4.

Your assistance is needed to ensure that all of your customers who own this model are informed of the recall campaign and will have the fuel tank replaced. Fuel tanks must be replaced on any affected VF500F that is brought into your dealership. The service must be performed with no charge to the customer for parts and labor.

#### MOTORCYCLES AND FUEL TANKS IN YOUR INVENTORY

VF500Fs that are still in stock, whether new or used, must have the fuel tanks replaced before release to customers. Do not release any motorcycle equipped with the original fuel tank.

New California-type fuel tanks in your parts inventory must be returned to American Honda. See Parts Information on page 2 for instructions.

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### FUTURE DELIVERIES FROM AMERICAN HONDA

VF500Fs currently in American Honda warehouses are being modified before delivery to dealers, and will be identified by an "X" mark punched into the fuel tank's rear mounting tab, just ahead of the rubber mount (see the drawing for step 9).

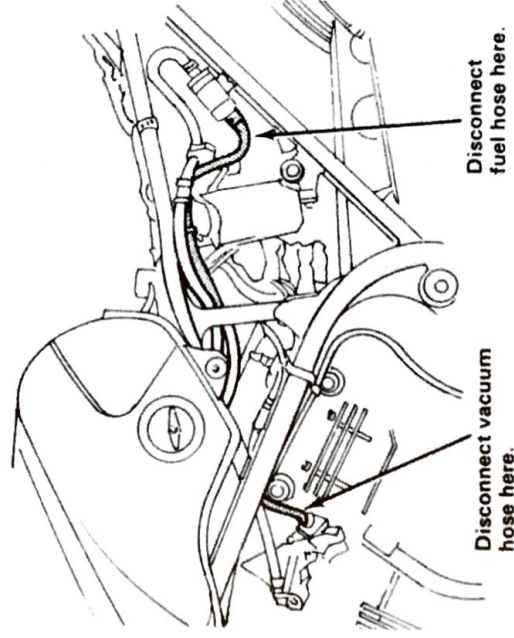
Prior to release to customers, all VF500Fs must be checked to ensure that the fuel tank has been replaced.

### REPLACEMENT PROCEDURE

1. Remove both side covers and the seat.
2. Disconnect the red braided fuel hose (from the fuel valve) at the fuel filter, then place its end securely into an approved container for gasoline.

**WARNING** Gasoline is highly flammable and is explosive under certain conditions. Work in a well ventilated area and do not allow any sparks or flames in your work area.

3. Disconnect the black vacuum hose which is connected to the intake port fitting for the No. 1 cylinder; the rear cylinder on the left side.



4. Turn the fuel valve to the Reserve (RES) position.

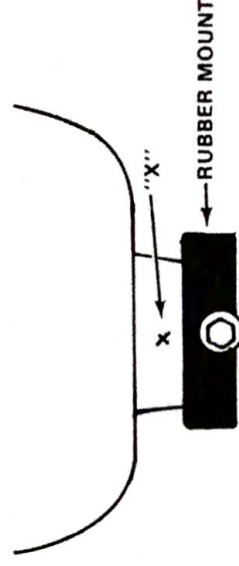
5. Connect a Mity-Vac hand vacuum pump (H/C 1230382) to the disconnected vacuum hose, then apply 12—20 mm Hg vacuum to open the fuel valve diaphragm and allow the fuel to drain.

6. Once the tank is completely drained, disconnect the vacuum pump, reconnect the fuel hose to the fuel filter and the vacuum hose to the No. 1 intake port fitting.

7. Remove the original fuel tank. Save the tank for inspection by your District Service Manager, but remove its cap, fuel valve lever and ring, and rubber mounting parts for reuse.

8. Install the necessary parts on the new fuel tank, then install the tank onto the motorcycle. Check that the fuel, vacuum, and vent hoses are installed securely.

9. Identify any replacement fuel tanks by making an "X" mark, using a letter punch or a small chisel, on the rear mounting tab of the tank, just ahead of the rubber mount.



10. Fill the new tank with the fuel drained from the original tank, then reinstall the seat and side covers.

### PARTS INFORMATION

Parts will be available on April 30, 1984. Submit a regular parts order for the quantity of fuel tanks required.

**Fuel Tank, Red** H/C 1816735

P/N 17000-MF2-681ZA

**Fuel Tank, Blue** H/C 1816743

P/N 17000-MF2-681ZB

**NOTE:** The fuel tank comes with the fuel valve assembly and with the necessary labels (fork air pressure and safe riding rules) already installed.

To return any California-type fuel tanks in your parts inventory, use the following procedure. First, submit an O.A.R. as follows:

- Use Reason Code D.
- Squeeze the word "500FUEL TANK" in the space normally used for the Shipper Number.
- Write "500 FUEL TANK RETURN" in the Remarks section.
- Add the dealer net price — \$151.84 (for the red or blue fuel tank).
- Add the correct H/C and P/N for the tank you are returning:

**Fuel Tank, Red** H/C 1765130  
P/N 175A1-MF2-680ZA

**Fuel Tank, Blue** H/C 1765148  
P/N 175A1-MF2-680ZB

Then, when you receive your Authorized Return Documents, ship (freight prepaid) the fuel tank to the parts center indicated on the return documents. No shipment listing or invoice is required for this return.

Credit for each authorized return will be issued for current dealer net plus your return freight charges.

## WARRANTY INFORMATION

This recall will be in effect until all affected motor-cycles have the new fuel tank installed, regardless of mileage or date of purchase.

The original fuel tank must be held for inspection by your District Service Manager.

Submit claims for warranty reimbursement following the example shown below. Use the defect code 314 with a flat rate time of 0.4 hours.

|                   |                |                       |  |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------|--|
| FAILED HONDA CODE |                | JOB CODE - HRS TENTHS |  |
| D                 |                | C2-20 0.4             |  |
| DEFECT CODE       | TREATMENT CODE |                       |  |
| 314               | D              |                       |  |

**AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.**  
Service Department