



Applies To: **2003 Element 2WD** – From VIN 5J6YH1...3L000001 thru 5J6YH1...3L003691
2003 Element 4WD – From VIN 5J6YH2...3L000001 thru 5J6YH2...3L007267

March 25, 2003

Rear Seat Release Strap Is Damaged or Missing

SYMPTOM

The yellow release strap on one or both rear seats is torn at its loop stitching or is missing.

PROBABLE CAUSE

The release strap has weak stitching or a defective plastic retainer.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

Replace the rear seat release strap(s).

- If a strap is missing, go to **REPAIR PROCEDURE A**.
- If a strap is damaged, go to **REPAIR PROCEDURE B**.

PARTS INFORMATION

Release Strap: P/N 82225-SCV-A01, H/C 7289713

WARRANTY CLAIM INFORMATION

In warranty: The normal warranty applies.

OP #	FR T	Description	Template ID
853121	0.2	Replace one rear seat release strap	03-024A
853122	0.4	Replace both rear seat release straps	03-024B

Failed Part: P/N 82225-SCV-A01
H/C 7289713

Defect Code: 021

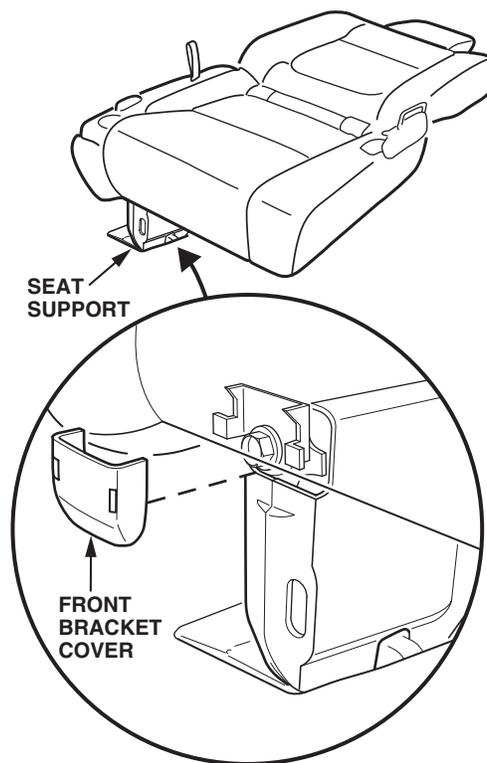
Contention Code: A02

Skill Level: Repair Technician

Out of warranty: Any repair performed after warranty expiration may be eligible for goodwill consideration by the District Parts and Service Manager or your Zone Office. You must request consideration, and get a decision, before starting work.

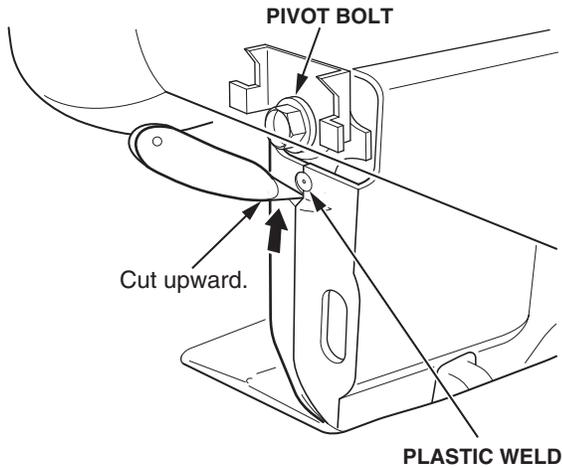
**REPAIR PROCEDURE A:
RELEASE STRAP IS MISSING**

1. Lower the rear seat head restraint, then adjust the seat-back down as far as it will go.
2. Remove the front bracket cover from the seat support.

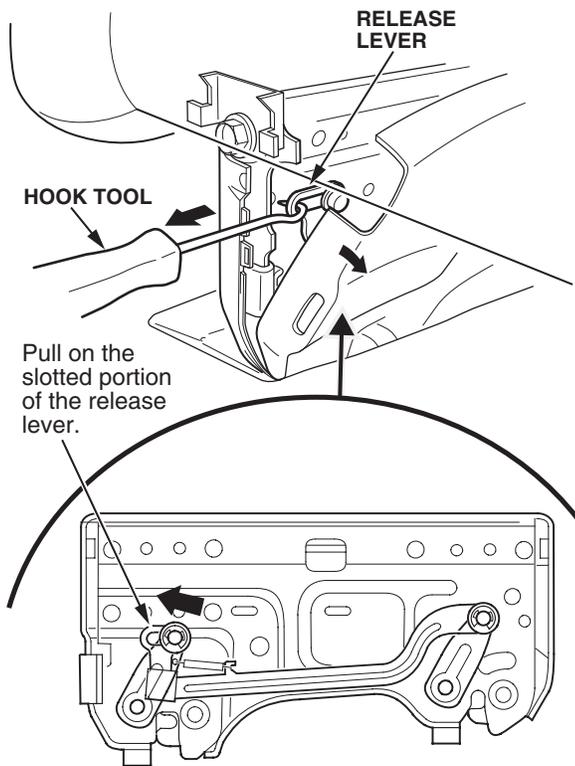


CUSTOMER INFORMATION: The information in this bulletin is intended for use only by skilled technicians who have the proper tools, equipment, and training to correctly and safely maintain your vehicle. These procedures should not be attempted by “do-it-yourselfers,” and you should not assume this bulletin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

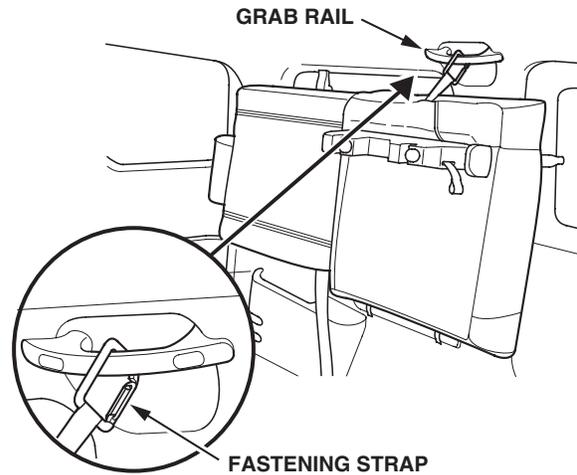
- Wearing gloves and eye protection, carefully cut the plastic weld on the front of the seat support covers with a utility knife. To cut the weld, insert the blade into the gap below the weld, and move the knife toward the pivot bolt.



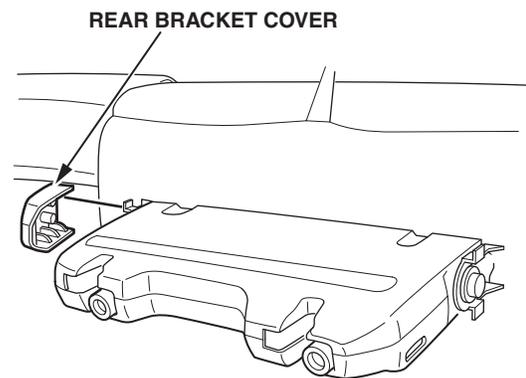
- Use a hook tool to pull the release lever inside the seat support, and detach the support from the floor.



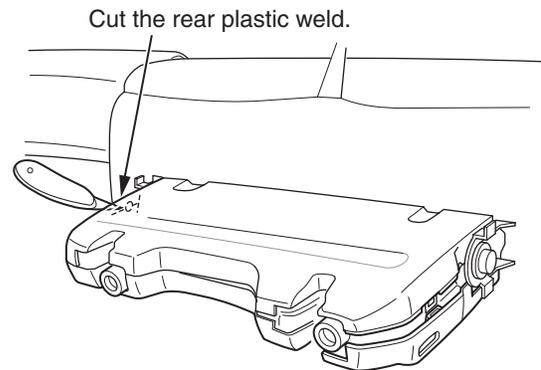
- Pivot the seat toward the side window, and hook its fastening strap to the grab rail.



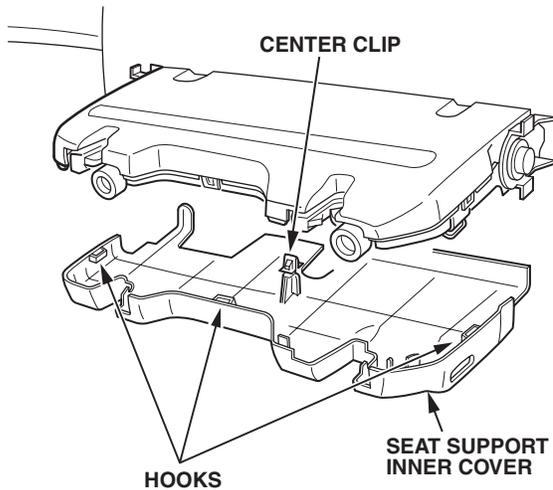
- Remove the rear bracket cover from the seat support.



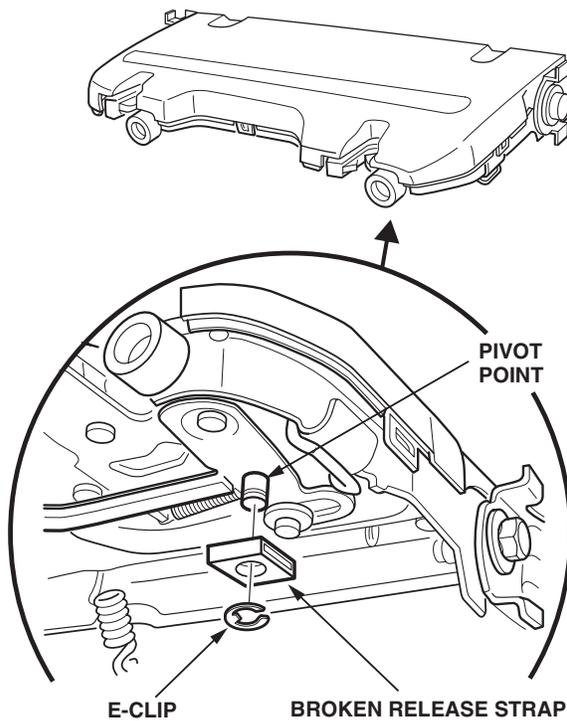
- Wearing gloves and eye protection, carefully cut the plastic weld on the rear of the seat support covers with a utility knife. To cut the weld, insert the blade into the gap below the weld, and move the knife toward the pivot bolt.



- Remove the seat support inner cover by releasing the three hooks and detaching the center clips.

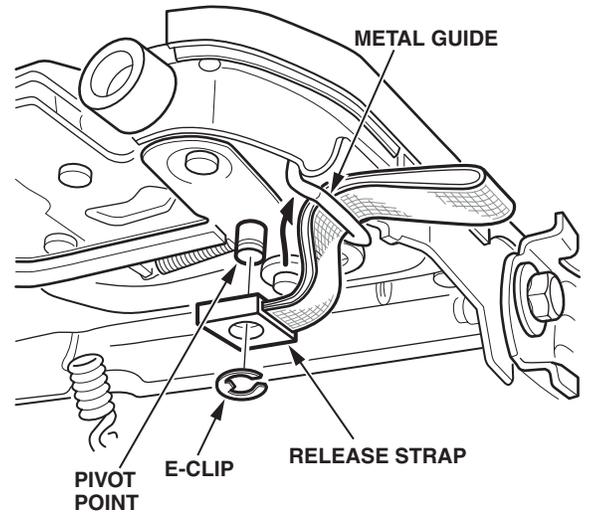


- Using a small screwdriver or needle-nose pliers, remove the release strap E-clip from the pivot point.

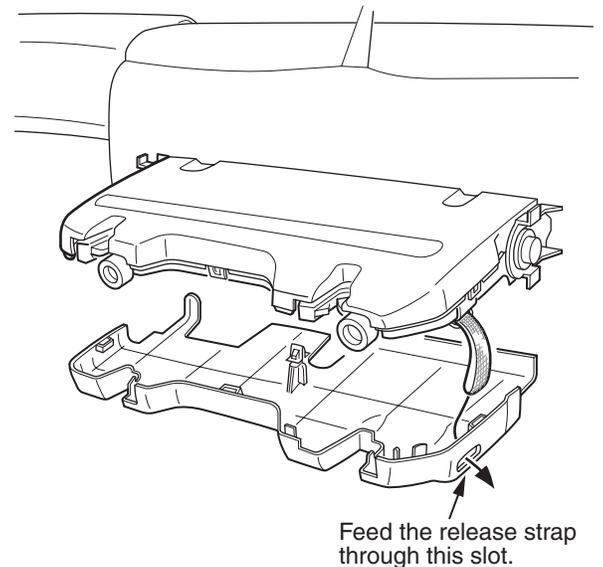


- Remove the release strap.

- Feed a new release strap through the metal guide, and attach its plastic retainer to the pivot point with the E-clip.



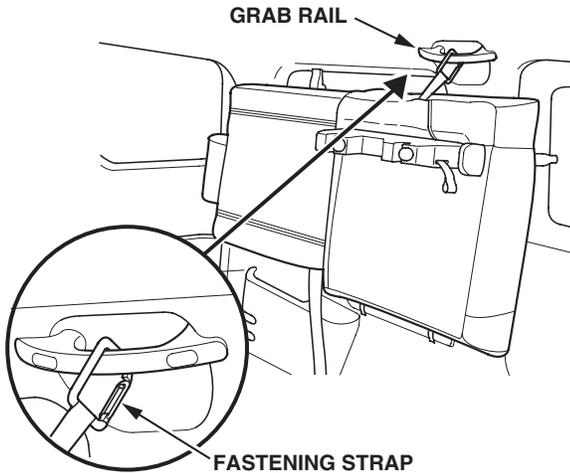
- Install the seat support inner cover, making sure to feed the release strap through the slot in the cover. **NOTE:** It is not necessary to reweld the covers together.



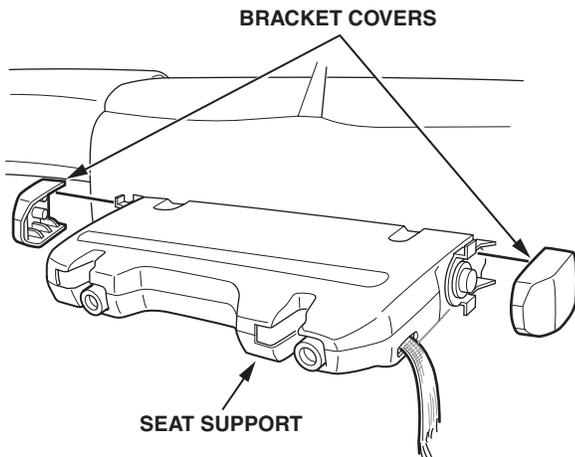
- Install the front and rear bracket covers onto the seat support.
- Return the seat to its normal, upright position.
- Fold up the rear seat to make sure the release strap works properly.
- If needed, repeat steps 1 thru 15 to replace the release strap on the other rear seat.

**REPAIR PROCEDURE B:
RELEASE STRAP IS DAMAGED**

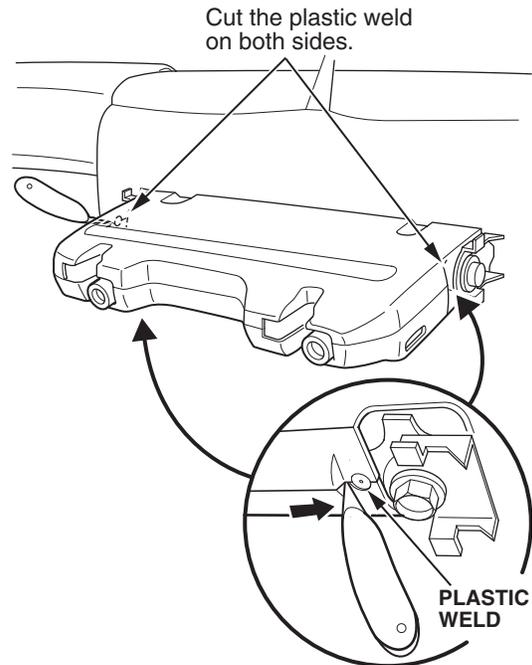
1. Lower the rear seat head restraint, then adjust the seat-back down as far as it will go.
2. Pull the release strap to detach the seat support from the floor. Then pivot the seat toward the side window, and hook its fastening strap to the grab rail.



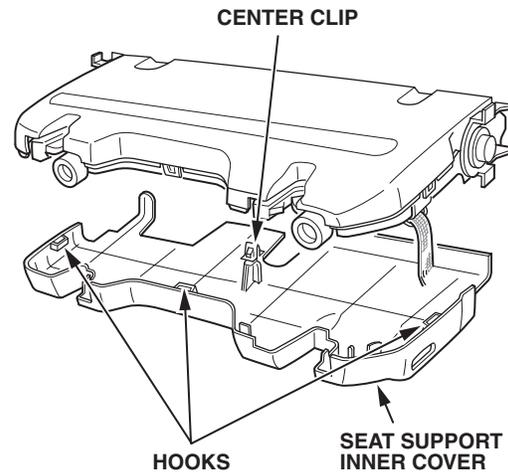
3. Remove the seat support bracket covers.



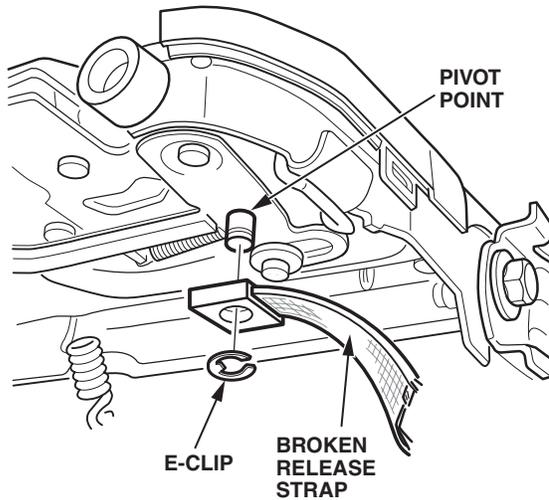
4. Wearing gloves and eye protection, carefully cut the plastic weld on both ends of the seat support covers with a utility knife. To cut the weld, insert the blade into the gap below the weld, and move the knife toward the pivot bolt.



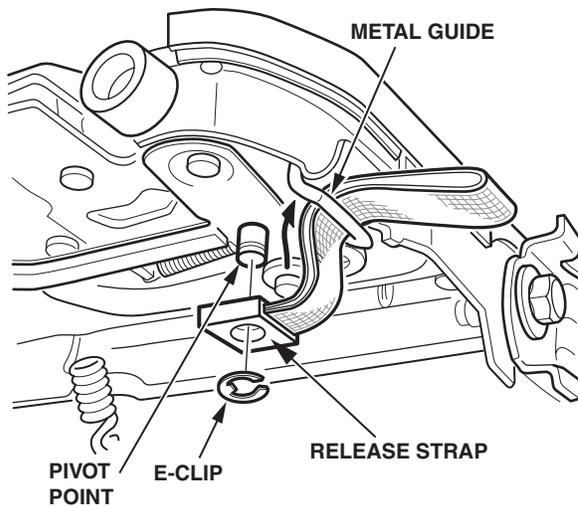
5. Remove the seat support cover by releasing the three hooks and detaching the center clip.



- Using a small screwdriver or needle-nose pliers, remove the release strap E-clip from the pivot point.

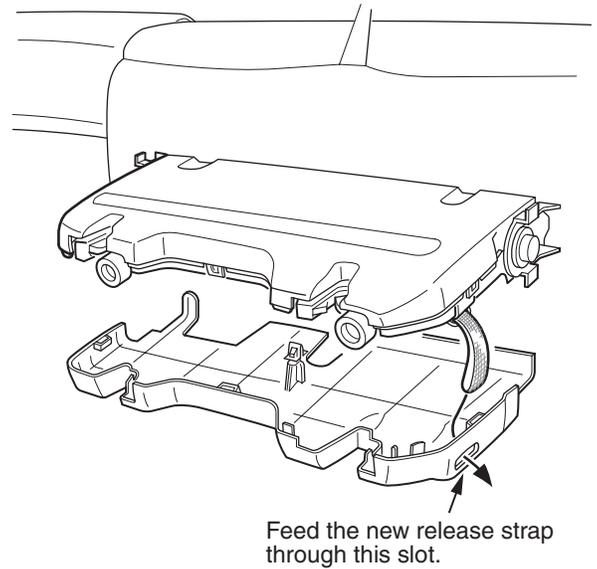


- Remove the release strap.
- Feed a new release strap through the metal guide, and attach its plastic retainer to the pivot point with the E-clip.



- Install the seat support inner cover, making sure to feed the release strap through the slot in the cover.

NOTE: It is not necessary to reweld the covers together.



- Install the front and rear bracket covers onto the seat support.
- Return the seat to its normal, upright position.
- Fold up the rear seat to make sure the release strap works properly.
- If needed, repeat steps 1 thru 12 to replace the release strap on the other rear seat.