Rules Question

The accelerator pedal used is an OEM BMW pedal with two accelerator pedal position sensors and two return springs: part number 35426786282 . It is the same pedal the Worcester Polytechnic Institute FSAE team used at the previous year’s competition. The question involves rule IC1.13.2. We did not open up the accelerator pedal assembly because we did not want to tamper with the OEM seal. However, we did find a picture of our pedal online that displays two throttle springs. This picture has been attached. The two pedal return springs are not attached to the accelerator pedal position sensors however they are enclosed in the same assembly from BMW. We are submitting this rules question because it was suggested by a rules representative that we ensure use of this pedal is allowable.

The throttle body used is an OEM Bosch 40mm electronic throttle body: part number 280750149. The throttle plate is controlled by a DC motor that returns it to the idle position. This question involves rule IC1.11.4. We have been unable to prove visually or through documentation that it has a second method of returning to idle (a return spring). Again, we did not open this device because we did not want to tamper with the OEM seal. There is indirect proof that a return switch exists, however. When the throttle plate is physically pressed with all power removed from the system, it is very resistant to movement and instantly returns to the closed position when the force from your finger is removed. Since there is no power, this cannot be a result of the motor and therefore another method of return to idle must be in place. We are submitting this rules question to ensure that use of this electronic throttle body is allowable.

If you would like to open either of these devices to capture physical evidence of return springs, please inform the team.