



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 04-041
Prompted By: EB04-035 (William Duckwitz)
Date Opened: 04/16/2004
Principal Investigator: Cheryl Tuosto
Subject: Post-Crash Fuel Tank Leak

Manufacturer: Hyundai Motor Company
Products: 2004 Hyundai Elantra
Population: 70,000 Estimated

Problem Description: During a frontal offset crash test conducted at the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS), the fuel tank punctured and leaked stoddard fluid.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	0	0	0
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	1	0	1

*Description Of Other: Fuel tank leakage in a vehicle crash test.

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation (PE) has been opened.

Engineer: Cheryl Tuosto CAT
Div. Chief: Jeffrey L. Quandt
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

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Summary: On April 6, 2004, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) contacted NHTSA/ODI to report a fuel leak incident involving the fuel tank of the subject vehicle. IIHS indicated that following a frontal offset crash test, stoddard fluid was observed dripping from the underside of the fuel tank. In the first minute after the test, 19 ml were collected. In the following 5 minutes, 56 ml were collected, and in the next 30 minutes, 392 ml of fluid were collected, for a total of 467 ml (approximately half a liter). IIHS staff and manufacturing representatives removed the fuel tank and found the fuel tank had been punctured by a fuel hose clamp. A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to assess the risk of post-crash fuel tank leakage in the subject vehicles.

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