



ODI RESUME

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

Investigation: EA 07-001
Prompted By: Consumer Complaints
Date Opened: 01/22/2007 Date Closed: 04/16/2007
Principal Investigator: John Abbott
Subject: Fan Blade Cracking/Separation

Manufacturer: Kia Motors America, Inc.
Products: 2002 Kia Sportage
Population: 46,887

Problem Description: Cracks develop in the hub of the fan in the area between the blades resulting in blade separation.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	11	716	727
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	28	28

*Description of Other: Field reports

Action: Close investigation. Recall 07V-161

Engineer: <u>John Abbott</u>	Date: <u>04/16/2007</u>
Div. Chief: <u>Thomas Z. Cooper</u> <i>TZC</i>	Date: <u>04/16/2007</u>
Office Dir.: <u>Kathleen C. DeMeter</u>	Date: <u>04/16/2007</u>

Summary: Kia Motors America, Inc. (Kia) has identified a defect in the plastic engine cooling fan in the subject vehicles and will conduct a safety recall. Kia's defect report states, "...Heat generated by the engine causes repeated bending deformation of the polypropylene cooling fan...initiating cracks in the fan. The centrifugal forces generated by the rotation of the blades can cause the cracks to propagate until complete separation occurs..."

Kia estimates approximately 35,090 vehicles will be subject to the recall, as some of the 46,887 vehicles produced have already had the fan replaced under warranty.

Kia dealers will replace the original version of the fan with a fan made of improved material.

This investigation was opened on September 21, 2006 as PE06-042 and upgraded to Engineering Analysis EA07-001 on January 22, 2007.

Please see NHTSA recall 07V-161 for more detailed information.