



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: EA08-012
 Prompted By: PE08-017
 Date Opened: 07/10/2008
 Principal Investigator: Peter Ong
 Subject: Air Bag Light Illumination
 Date Closed: 11/14/2008

Manufacturer: Hyundai Motor Company
 Products: 2001 – 2002 Hyundai Elantra Vehicles (built thru 12/14/01)
 Population: 150,541

Problem Description: Air bags system failures from liquid spills and/or from loose wiring/connection located under front seats.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	31	472	503
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	9108	9108

Description of Other: Warranty Claims

Action: Close this Engineering Analysis (See Recalls 08V-532 & 08V-533).

Engineer: Peter C. Ong *pcO* Date: 11/14/2008
 Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper Date: 11/14/2008
 Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter Date: 11/14/2008

Summary:

Hyundai is conducting two Safety Recalls to correct two safety defects described below. Under Safety Recall 08V-532, Hyundai will install a vinyl protective shield/cover to prevent short circuits in the air bag control module cause by spills of liquids that seep into the module connector. This action applies to 78,369 MY 2001 vehicles (built through 4/26/2001). The air bag control module connector in MY 2001 vehicles built after 4/26/2001 is covered by the carpet. To improve the integrity of the side impact air bag wiring harness under the driver and front passenger seats, Hyundai will install new clips and revise the wiring harness attachments under Safety Recall 08V-533. This applies to 150,541 MY 2001 through MY 2002 vehicles (built through 12/18/2001). Hyundai upgraded the wiring harness routing/connector clip on MY 2002 vehicles built after 12/18/2001.

continued on page 2

Hyundai designed the subject vehicles (under Safety Recall 08V-532) such that the air bag control module connector is located directly below the center console cup holders. Spillage of liquid from cups placed in the cup holders may contaminate the control module and the connector and prevent proper deployment of the air bags. In addition, in the subject vehicles under Safety Recall 08V-533, Hyundai located a wiring harness for the side impact air bags under each front seat. Movement of the seat or placement of objects under the seat may disturb the electrical connection in the side impact air bag wiring circuit. For each of the above described conditions, the air bag warning light will illuminate when the vehicle diagnostic system detects a fault.

This investigation identified several crash reports (two fatal and 17 crash reports resulting in nine injury reports) that included allegations of prior air bag warning light illumination and non-deployment of the air bags, which are not included in the failure report summary.

This Engineering Analysis is closed (see Recalls 08V-532 & 08V-533).