



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

# ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE08-017

Date Opened: 03/10/2008

Date Closed: 07/10/2008

Principal Investigator: Peter Ong

Subject: Air Bag Light Illumination

Manufacturer: Hyundai Motor Company  
Products: 2001 – 2003 Hyundai Elantra Vehicles  
Population: 348,000

Problem Description: Air bag light illumination from loose wiring and/or from liquid spills from the cup holder

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	35	521	556
Crashes/Fires:	2	20	22
Injury Incidents:	1	13	14
# Injuries:	2	13	15
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other:	2	10871	10873

Description of Other: 2 ODI/SCI fatal cases with prior air bag light on and 10,871 mfr warranty claims

Action: Upgrade this PE investigation to an Engineering Analysis (EA08-012).

Engineer: Peter C. Ong *PCO*

Date: 07/10/2008

Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper

Date: 07/10/2008

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 07/10/2008

### Summary:

In certain model year (MY) 2001 and 2002 vehicles, the air bag system is susceptible to air bag light illumination and air bag non-deployment or inadvertent deployment from liquid contamination of the air bag control module. The control module is located beneath and near center console cup holders. ODI is also aware of complaints regarding air bag light illumination due to loss of proper air bag electrical integrity in wiring and connections located under the front seats.

Under investigation PE08-017, Hyundai provided 472 owner reports and 9,108 warranty claims related to these issues for MY 2001 and 2002 vehicles built through 12/14/2001. ODI is also aware of six incidents of seat belt pretensioner/air bag inadvertent deployments due to liquid spills.

To address the above issues, on 04/25/2001, Hyundai added a carpet cover/shield over the air bag control module connector area and upgraded the cable routing and attachment points to improve the electrical connections on vehicles built after 12/14/2008.

This Preliminary Evaluation is being upgraded to an Engineering Analysis (EA08-012) for further investigation of certain MY 2001-2002 subject vehicles built through 12/14/2002.