



April 12, 2012

**VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS**

Jennifer T. Timian, Chief  
Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
Washington D.C. 20590

Re: **Equipment Query (EQ12-002)**  
**Autoliv Air Bag Modules**

Dear Ms. Timian:

This letter is submitted in clarification of the response dated April 4, 2012 by Hyundai-Kia America Technical Center, Inc. (HATCI) in response to your letter dated February 23, 2012 sent to HATCI. (Reference NVS-215aa/EQ12-002).

In the April 4, 2012 letter to NHTSA, the following statement was included:

*"HATCI also notes that NHTSA's inquiry was submitted directly to HATCI personnel for response. It appears that this occurred because the February 17, 2012 submission by Autoliv noted in your inquiry indicated that 693 components were sold to HATCI for assembly into new motor vehicles. The report from Autoliv was incorrect.*

*HATCI does not assemble vehicles and no Autoliv components of the type that are a subject of your February 23, 2012 letter were sold, offered for sale, delivered, or imported in the United States for Hyundai Motor Company (HMC), Hyundai Motor America (HMA), or HATCI. However, in its role as a communications liaison for Kia with NHTSA, HATCI has passed on your letter to Kia to obtain the information contained in this response."*

There appears to be some confusion regarding the purpose of this statement. This statement was provided to indicate that the Autoliv information provided to the Agency was incorrect as it noted that the components in question were provided to HATCI. These components were provided to Kia for inclusion in the production of Kia vehicles, not to HATCI, and to clarify that HATCI does not assemble any vehicles (HATCI does perform a function as a conduit for information from Kia to the Agency in response to such inquiries.)

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HATCI is an authorized representative of both Hyundai Motor Company and Kia Motors Corporation; which are separate and distinct automotive manufacturers.

**Hyundai-Kia America Technical Center, Inc**

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Page 2 of 2

Further, an additional purpose of the statement was to address the potential that NHTSA may have considered that Hyundai may also have been provided the Autoliv components. As the NHTSA letter was very specific as to the need to make a statement of "non-usage" if the "assembler" did not feel that it's components were to be involved in the issue of concern (and that it was typical for NHTSA letters to HATCI to include issues specific to Hyundai components and issues) it was considered prudent to make a clear statement, following the NHTSA "guidelines" in their request to address any potential for the involvement of Hyundai vehicles.

HATCI regrets any misunderstanding of its intent. Its purpose was only to thoroughly respond to the NHTSA inquiry in a manner to fully and appropriately address the questions presented by NHTSA for both Kia and Hyundai products.

Should you have any further questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Babcock". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robert Babcock  
Director,  
Certification and Compliance Affairs