



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 13-025
Date Opened: 07/05/2013
Investigator: Derek Rinehardt
Approver: Frank Borris
Subject: Front Axle Shaft Failure

Date Closed: 09/20/2013
Reviewer: Jeff Quandt

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Hyundai Motor Company, Kia Motors Corporation
Products: MY 2013 Hyundai Santa Fe and MY 2014 Kia Sorento
Population: 30,000 (Estimated)

Problem Description: Complainants allege failures of the right-front axle shaft, resulting in a loss of motive power.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	4	Confidential	Confidential
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	60	60

*Description of Other: Warranty Claims

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: This Preliminary Evaluation is closed. Recalls 13V-355 (Hyundai) and 13V-356 (Kia).

Summary:

In a letter dated August 9, 2013, Hyundai-Kia America Technical Center, Inc. (Hyundai-Kia) submitted two Defect Information Reports (DIR) to NHTSA identifying a safety defect related to fracture of the right front axle shaft in MY 2013 front wheel drive Hyundai Santa Fe Sport vehicles built from July 13, 2012 through March 12, 2013 and MY 2014 front wheel drive Kia Sorento vehicles built from January 7 through March 12, 2013 (Recall Nos. 13V-355 and 13V-356). According to Hyundai-Kia, the right front axle driveshaft may develop a crack in the area of the stub at the wheel end of the shaft due to problems with the stub supplier's forging process for axles installed in vehicles built prior to March 12, 2013. When moving from a stop, the crack can lead to a separation of the shaft, causing a loud noise and loss of motive power. In addition, should the driver fail to engage the parking brake on an inclined surface, the vehicle may roll. In either case, a crash could result.

ODI's review of consumer complaints and data submitted by Hyundai-Kia, identified 21 complaints alleging right-front axle shaft failure and 60 warranty claims related to right front axle replacements. All of the vehicles identified in the complaints and warranty claims were manufactured during the vehicle builds periods identified in the DIR.

The Preliminary Evaluation is closed.

The ODI report cited above can be reviewed at www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/complaints under the following identification (ODI) numbers: 10524563, 10524274, 10508727, and 10505768.