



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

# ODI RESUME

**Investigation:** RQ 13-004  
**Date Opened:** 12/04/2013  
**Investigator:** Michael Lee  
**Approver:** Frank Borris  
**Subject:** Headliner Bracket Detachment

**Date Closed:** 06/24/2014  
**Reviewer:** Scott Yon

## MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Manufacturer:** Hyundai Motor Company  
**Products:** 2009-2012 Hyundai Elantra Touring  
**Population:** 51,962

**Problem Description:** During a side-impact crash, a metal support bracket attached to the headliner may be displaced downward by a deploying side curtain air bag. The edge of the metal bracket may cause a laceration injury to an occupant seated near the bracket.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
<b>Complaints:</b>	0	0	0
<b>Crashes/Fires:</b>	0	0	0
<b>Injury Incidents:</b>	0	0	0
<b>Fatality Incidents:</b>	0	0	0
<b>Other*:</b>	1	1	2

\*Description of Other: Field incident found in salvage yard and failure during a test (see below for details).

## ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Action:** This Recall Query is closed; see NHTSA recall 14V-310.

### Summary:

Hyundai is conducting a safety recall to reinforce the attachment of the metal support bracket to the headliner assembly in approximately 35,000 model year (MY) 2010-2012 Hyundai Elantra Touring vehicles built from December 15, 2009 through May 7, 2012 (see NHTSA recall 14V-310 for more information). These Elantra Touring vehicles have a common headliner bracket design while the earlier MY 2009-2010 Elantra Touring vehicles have a headliner bracket design that utilizes a shorter length bracket which, should it become separated from the headliner, is unlikely to be displaced into the path of the driver or any occupant.

During this investigation, ODI identified a MY 2010 subject vehicle in a salvage yard with a deployed driver-side curtain air bag that showed the headliner bracket displaced downward into the driver's window area. Also, during a static side curtain air bag deployment test conducted by Hyundai, the headliner bracket almost completely separated from the headliner. The headliner tested came out of a MY 2010 subject vehicle. Finally, ODI identified two warranty claims on the subject vehicles that indicate potential headliner bracket issues. Warranty records for these claims indicate vehicle owners complaining of noise or rattling coming from the headliner area and Hyundai dealer technicians reported finding brackets that came loose or unglued from the headliner. ODI is not aware of any related injury allegations.

This investigation was opened to evaluate the scope of NHTSA Recall (13V115) influenced by an earlier ODI investigation (EA12-008). EA12-008 involved the same defect issue on MY 2011-2013 Elantra models, and a similar remedy approach was utilized in the 13V115 recall action. Based on the recall action taken by Hyundai, this investigation is closed.