

04V-208

 **HYUNDAI AMERICA TECHNICAL CENTER, INC.**

A Subsidiary of
Hyundai Motor Company (Korea)

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April 30, 2004

Mr. Kenneth Weinstein
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Defect Information Report

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

04V-208
(4 pages)

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Hyundai Motor Company is submitting information concerning a recall that is being voluntarily initiated. Specific information as required by Section 573.6 is as follows:

573.6(c)(1)

Manufacturer - Hyundai Motor Company

Distributor - Hyundai Motor America

573.6(c)(2)

Certain model year 2004 Hyundai Elantra vehicles produced beginning September 1, 2003 through April 14, 2004.

573.6(c)(3)

Approximately 44,530 model year 2004 Hyundai Elantra vehicles produced beginning September 1, 2003 through April 14, 2004.

573.6(c)(4)

At this time, Hyundai is unable to estimate the percent of the vehicles identified in 573.6(c)(2) above that may be affected.

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573.6(c)(5)

Some of the vehicles identified in 573.6(c)(2) above may contain a vapor tube hose clamp that may not be positioned properly. The spring-type hose clamp contains ears that may be squeezed together with a tool to increase the diameter of the clamp to allow it to be installed on the vapor tube hose. Hyundai's specification requires the vapor tube hose clamp ears to not be directed toward the fuel tank. If a vehicle identified in 573.6(c)(2) contains a vapor tube hose clamp that is mispositioned so one of its ears is facing toward the fuel tank and that vehicle is involved in a severe high speed crash, the damage to the vehicle may cause the mispositioned clamp ear to damage the fuel tank and fuel spillage may occur.

573.6(c)(6)

On April 6, 2004, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) conducted a 40 mph 40 percent offset frontal barrier impact test on a 2004 model year Elantra vehicle. After the IIHS test, fuel spillage occurred as a result of fuel tank damage caused by contact between a vapor tube hose clamp ear and the fuel tank. The vapor tube hose clamp ear was found to be mispositioned and facing toward the fuel tank.

The IIHS test vehicle was manufactured on November 5, 2003. Hyundai has inspected the IIHS test vehicle and determined that its vapor tube hose clamp ears were mispositioned. Hyundai has decided that an early September 2003 manufacturing change at the supplier that installed the hose clamp onto the vapor tube hose may have resulted in mispositioning of this clamp. Inspection procedures have been established beginning with April 15, 2004 production to ensure that the vapor tube hose clamp is properly positioned. Hyundai Motor Company has decided to conduct a recall in the United States of all 2004 model year Elantra vehicles that were produced beginning on September 1, 2003 through April 14, 2004 to inspect the position of the vapor tube hose clamp ears and to correctly position the clamp, if necessary.

Hyundai is not aware of any accidents, injuries or fires that have occurred related to this condition.

573.6(c)(8)

All owners of record of the affected vehicles will be contacted by first class mail and instructed to bring their vehicles to Hyundai dealers. Hyundai dealers will inspect the position of the vapor tube hose clamp ears in each vehicle and will correctly position the clamps, if necessary.

Hyundai anticipates the recall will be initiated during the second quarter of 2004. The owner notification will be completed in two weekly mailings.

Repositioning of the vapor tube hose clamps of all vehicles affected by this recall would have been covered for 5 years or 60,000 miles under Hyundai's new vehicle limited warranty. As no owners of these 2004 model year vehicles would have incurred expenses for this warranted repair as a

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result of this condition, Hyundai believes that it is not necessary, and should not be required, to provide notification regarding reimbursement under section 577.11.

573.6(c)(9)

The Technical Service Bulletin containing the service procedure for inspecting and repositioning the vapor tube hose clamp will be provided to NHTSA when available. Other relevant communications will also be forwarded when they are available.

573.6(c)(10)

A draft of the owner notification letter is attached.

573.6(c)(11)

Hyundai has assigned "Campaign 067" as the designation for the campaign.

Sincerely,



Alfred Gloddeck
Senior Manager, Corporate Affairs

Attachments: 1

DRAFT MOTOR VEHICLE RECALL

Dear 2004 Elantra Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

Hyundai has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, may exist in certain model year 2004 Hyundai Elantra vehicles that were produced during the period beginning on September 1, 2003 through April 14, 2004.

What is the problem?

- A vapor tube hose clamp that is located near the fuel tank may not be positioned properly. The spring-type hose clamp contains ears that are used to open the clamp during its installation. The vapor tube hose clamp ears should not be directed toward the fuel tank. If a vehicle contains a vapor tube hose clamp that is mispositioned so one of its ears is facing toward the fuel tank and that vehicle is involved in a severe high speed crash, the damage to the vehicle may cause the mispositioned clamp ear to damage the fuel tank and fuel spillage may occur.

Fuel spillage in the presence of an ignition source may result in a fire.

What will Hyundai do?

- To ensure that your vehicle's vapor tube hose clamp is positioned properly, we are asking you to schedule an appointment as soon as possible to take your vehicle to your Hyundai dealer. The Hyundai dealer will inspect the position of the vapor tube hose clamp ears in your vehicle and will correctly position the clamp, if necessary. This procedure will be performed at no charge to you. You should plan to leave your vehicle at your Hyundai dealer to have this service performed. Repair times will vary and depend on your dealer's appointment schedule.

What should you do?

- We urge you to call your Hyundai dealer to schedule an appointment to have this work performed as soon as possible.

What if you have other questions?

- If you have any difficulty having this repair performed, we recommend that you call the Hyundai Customer Assistance Center at 1-800-633-5151. If you are still not satisfied that we have remedied this situation without charge, and within a reasonable amount of time, you may wish to write to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S. W., Washington, D.C. 20590 or call their toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236.

We urge your prompt attention to this important safety matter.

Hyundai Motor America