



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration

400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT FAX SHEET OF RECEIPT OF DEFECT INFORMATION  
REPORT SUBMITTED UNDER 49 CFR PART 573**

Assigned Recall No. **04V-305** by the  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Part 573 Report Date: **June 21, 2004**

Date Faxed: **June 30, 2004**

MANUFACTURER: **KIA Motors of America, Inc.**

MANUFACTURER CONTACT: **Alfred Gloddeck  
Senior Manager, Corporate Affairs**

FAX: **949-585-7100**

SUBJECT: **262,636 Kia 1999-2000 Sephia, Sportage, and 2000 Spectra model vehicles. Certain limited front safety belt buckles may emit a "click" sound during the buckling process that is similar to the sound emitted when a buckle is being latched. The buckle may emit a clicking sound that might indicate to the user that it is latched, when it is not. The latch can then pull out of the buckle when tension is applied.  
Kia Recall No. SC039.**

This is an acknowledgment for this recall. A formal acknowledgment letter will be written only if we have additional comments or concerns.

This recall was the subject of a Preliminary Evaluation, RQ03-007, conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

We have reviewed your proposed owner notification letter and it does not meet the requirements of Part 577. Please change the word "determined" to "decided" in the second sentence, "Kia Motors America, Inc, has decided that ....".

Also a risk needs to be added in the "What is the problem?" paragraph, i.e., In the event of a crash, the seat occupant may not be properly restrained, increasing the risk of personal injury.

As stated in Part 573.6, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. As stated in your report, owner notification is expected to begin during July or August 2004. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due by October 30, 2004.

If you have any questions, please call:

*PWW*

Patricia Wallace, Safety Defects Analyst on (202) 366-5232 or  
George Person, Chief on (202) 366-5210  
or Fax at (202) 366-7882  
or e-mail at [Patricia.Wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov](mailto:Patricia.Wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov)  
Recall Management Division