



HYUNDAI AMERICA TECHNICAL CENTER, INC.

A Subsidiary of
Hyundai Motor Company (Korea)

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May 17, 2005

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

George Person
Chief of Recall Division
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Recall Campaign
2003-2005 MY Kia Sedona Rear Wheel Bearing Damage

051-232
(5 Pages)
2005 MAY 19 P 2:38
RECEIVED
NHTSA-215
OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

Dear Mr. Person:

The following information is submitted in accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

573.6 (C)(1)

Manufacturer:

Kia Motors Corp.

Importer:

Kia Motors America, Inc.

Agent Designated by Manufacturer:

Alfred E. Gloddeck

Hyundai America Technical Center, Inc.

573.6(C)(2)

Identification of Vehicle, Make,
Model Year and Manufacturing Date:

All model year 2003, 2004 and 2005 Kia Sedona vehicles equipped with Alloy Wheels produced from June 24, 2003 through October 29, 2004

573.6(C)(3)

Total Number of Vehicles

Approximately 37,358 vehicles. These include 447 model year 2003 Kia Sedona vehicles, 26,563 model year 2004 Kia Sedona vehicles and 10,348 model year 2005 Kia Sedona vehicles in the production range specified in (c)(2).

573.6(C)(4)

Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to
Actually Contain the Defect:

The defect potentially exists in all vehicles identified in (C)(3).

573.6(C)(5)

Description of the Defect:

On some vehicles equipped with alloy wheels, moisture can enter the rear hub and cause damage to the wheel bearing.

573.6(C)(6)

Basis for Defect Determination and Chronology;

Kia Motors Corporation (KMC) became aware of this condition through its routine early warning systems and field monitoring in March 2005. Following the discovery, Kia Motors Corporation (KMC) conducted further testing, evaluation and analysis of the condition. On May 13, 2005, KMC concluded its analysis and determined that the product condition described in section (c)(5) existed and warranted a safety recall.

Kia Motors America, Inc. has identified the following claims within the specified production timeline:

1 Tech Line Cases
4 Warranty Claims
0 Field Reports
3 Customer Assistance Claims

573.6(C)(8)(i)

Program to Remedy Defect:

All owners of vehicles identified in (C)(3) will be notified by first class mail to bring their vehicle to a Kia dealer to have the hubs inspected and replaced, if necessary, at no charge. Upon inspection, some vehicles will also require replacement of the outer bearing and/or Hub Assembly. Additionally sealant will be applied to the hubcap to prevent water intrusion.

573.6(C)(8)(ii)

Estimated Date for Notification of Safety-Related Defect to Owners and Dealers

The estimated date of notification to dealers is May 31 2005. The estimated date of notification to owners is June 6, 2005.

573.6(C)(11)

Notices

A draft of the owner notification letter is attached. The technical Service Bulletin will be provided to NHTSA in the near future.

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573.6(C)(12)

Manufacturer's Campaign Number If SC-049
Different From Identification Number
Assigned by NHTSA

If you or your staff has questions or comments regarding this matter, please contact me in writing at the above address.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alfred E. Gloddeck", written in a cursive style.

Alfred E. Gloddeck
Senior Manager—Corporate Affairs

SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

June xx, 2005

Dear Kia Sedona Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Kia Motors America, Inc. has determined that a defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2003-2005 Sedona models equipped with Alloy Wheels.

What is the problem and what can you do to operate your vehicle more safely?

- On certain 2003-2005 Sedona vehicles equipped with alloy wheels, produced between June 24, 2003 and October 29, 2004, moisture can accumulate around the rear hubcaps causing damage to the outer wheel bearing, such an event can occur without warning and may cause a crash.

What will Kia do?

- Kia will replace the rear hubcaps, at no cost to you, when you take your vehicle to your Kia dealership. Upon inspection, some vehicles will also require replacement of the rear outer bearings and/or Hub Assembly.

If you have incurred expense to remedy this defect prior to the date of this notice, you may have the opportunity to obtain reimbursement for that expense. Please contact the Kia Consumer Assistance number listed below for assistance in submitting your claim.

What should you do?

- Please call your Kia dealer to schedule a service appointment. The time required to repair your vehicle should be less than one hour. However, depending on the dealer's work schedule, it may be necessary to make your vehicle available for a longer period of time. Please present this notice when you arrive at the dealer.

Have you changed your address or sold your Kia?

- If you have changed your home address, sold your Kia vehicle, or no longer own your vehicle, please complete the attached prepaid "Change of Address/Ownership" card and mail it to us.

What if you are a vehicle lessor?

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

What if you have other questions?

- If your dealer does not respond to your service request in a timely manner, we suggest that you call Kia's Consumer Assistance Center at 1-800-333-4542. This number has TTY capability. If you still are 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.

This action has been taken in the interest of your safety, and we regret any inconvenience this situation may cause you.

Sincerely,

Consumer Affairs Department