



HYUNDAI AMERICA TECHNICAL CENTER, INC.

A Subsidiary of
Hyundai Motor Company (Korea)

6800 Gaddes Rd.
Superior Township, MI 48198

Telephone: (734) 747-6600
Fax: (734) 747-6699

September 9, 2005

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

05V-395
(5 pages)

DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
OFFICE OF
2005 SEP 12 A 9:38
RECEIVED
NHTSA-215

RE: Safety Recall Information Report

Dear Mr. Medford:

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 and 2005 Hyundai Elantra vehicles produced beginning June 12, 2003 through September (date to be provided when available), 2005.

573.6(c)(3)

Approximately 240,000 model year 2004 and 2005 Hyundai Elantra vehicles produced beginning June 12, 2003 through September (date to be provided when available), 2005.

573.6(c)(4)

All of the model year 2004 and 2005 Hyundai Elantra vehicles produced beginning June 12, 2003 through September (date to be provided when available), 2005.

HYUNDAI AMERICA TECHNICAL CENTER, INC.

573.6(c)(5)

2004 and 2005 model year Hyundai Elantra vehicles are equipped with an Occupant Classification System (OCS) that meets the passenger advanced airbag suppression and activation requirements of FMVSS 208. During a NHTSA Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance evaluation of a 2004 and a 2005 model year Hyundai Elantra, the NHTSA test indicated that a Child Restraint Seat (CRS) may be misclassified as an adult if, after an adult had been seated in the right front seat, there had been no key ON – key OFF cycle with the right front passenger seat empty prior to installation of the CRS. The possibility of misclassification of a CRS may allow the right front airbags to deploy in an accident and result in injury to the right front occupant.

This condition affects 2004 and 2005 model year Elantra vehicles manufactured between June 12, 2003 through September (date to be provided when available), 2005.

573.6(c)(6)

Hyundai Motor Company became aware of the possibility of misclassification of a CRS as a result of a NHTSA Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance evaluation of a 2004 and a 2005 model year Hyundai Elantra.

Hyundai Motor Company has decided that the smart buffer feature of the Elantra OCS may result in the possibility of misclassification of a CRS and will remove the smart buffer feature from the 2006 Elantra OCS. The smart buffer will be removed effective with production during September, 2005. Hyundai Motor Company has also decided to conduct a recall in the United States to reprogram the OCS Electronic Control Unit (ECU) to remove the smart buffer feature from 2004 and 2005 model year Hyundai Elantra vehicles produced beginning June 12, 2003 through September (date to be provided when available), 2005. In September 2005, Hyundai Motor Company provided notice to the United States distributor of Hyundai automobiles that it intended to conduct a recall to correct this condition. Hyundai is not aware of any customer contacts to Hyundai Motor America or its dealers related to this condition. Hyundai is not aware of any accidents or injuries 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 reprogram the OCS ECU to remove the smart buffer feature.

Hyundai anticipates the recall owner notification will be completed in 12 mailings beginning during October 2005. Hyundai anticipates that dealers will be notified by October 10, 2005.

Reprogramming or other service to the OCS ECU 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 and 2005 model year vehicles would have incurred expenses for this warranted repair as a 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.

HYUNDAI AMERICA TECHNICAL CENTER, INC.

573.6(c)(9)

The Technical Service Bulletin containing the service procedure for reprogramming the OCS ECU 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 073" as the designation for the campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Babcock". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "R" and "B".

Robert Babcock
Manager, Corporate Affairs

Attachments: 1

DRAFT MOTOR VEHICLE RECALL

Dear 2004 or 2005 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 to conduct a motor vehicle safety recall of certain model year 2004 and 2005 Hyundai Elantra vehicles that were produced during the period beginning on June 12, 2003 through September (date to be provided when available), 2005.

WARNING: Hyundai recommends that Child Restraint Seats (CRS) must always be properly installed in the rear seat. Child restraint seats must never be installed in the front seat. Should an accident occur and cause the right front airbags to inflate, it could cause severe injury or death for an infant or child seated in a CRS.

What is the problem?

- In certain situations, the Occupant Classification System (OCS) installed in the right front seat of your vehicle may misclassify a Child Restraint Seat (CRS) as an adult. This may occur if the CRS is installed after an adult has been seated in the right front seat, if there has not been a key ON – key OFF cycle with the right front passenger seat empty prior to installation of the CRS.

The possibility of misclassification of a CRS as an adult may allow the right front airbag or side impact airbag to deploy in an accident and result in injury to the right front occupant.

When the right front passenger airbags are activated (may inflate in an accident) the "PASSENGER AIR BAG OFF" light on the instrument panel is not illuminated. When a CRS or small child occupies the right front seat, the "PASSENGER AIR BAG OFF" light on the instrument panel must always be illuminated, indicating that the right front passenger airbags are disabled (may not inflate in an accident).

What will Hyundai do?

- To ensure that your vehicle's OCS will properly classify a CRS and will disable the right front airbags, we are asking you to schedule an appointment as soon as possible to take your vehicle to your Hyundai dealer. The Hyundai dealer will reprogram your vehicle's OCS Electronic Control Unit (ECU) to remove the feature that may cause the CRS to be recognized as an adult. 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.

DRAFT MOTOR VEHICLE RECALL

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 Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153), or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

We urge your prompt attention to this important safety matter.

Hyundai Motor America