



October 10, 2008

Mr. Daniel Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

08V-533
(8 pages)

RE: Defect Information Report

Dear Mr. Smith:

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Hyundai America Technical Center 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)

Model year 2001 and 2002 Hyundai Elantra vehicles produced beginning on June 30, 2000 through December 18, 2001 are affected.

573.6(c)(3)

Approximately 150,954 model year 2001 and 2002 Hyundai Elantra vehicles produced beginning on June 30, 2000 through December 18, 2001 are affected.

573.6(c)(4)

All of the vehicles identified above in 573.6(c)(2) are potentially affected.

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573.6(c)(5)

The vehicle operator or passenger may spill a liquid in the area of the cupholder on the center console. Spilled liquid may seep through the console opening for the parking brake lever and may then drip onto the airbag control module connector that is located under the center console. A contaminated airbag control module connector would result in airbag warning light illumination, notifying the driver that the airbag system required service.

Movement of the side impact airbag wiring harness mounted under each front seat, possibly caused by contact from materials placed under the seat, may result in an electrical resistance that would result in airbag warning light illumination, notifying the driver that the airbag system required service.

573.6(c)(6)

In March 2008, NHTSA opened a Preliminary Investigation, PE08-017, concerning airbag warning light illumination on 2001-2003 model year Hyundai Elantras. During the course of gathering and evaluating information to respond to NHTSA's information request, Hyundai identified two potential causes for airbag warning light illumination, as described in 573.6(c)(5) above.

This information led Hyundai to decide to conduct a recall to repair the conditions that could lead to contamination of the airbag control module connector from spilled liquids and movement of the under seat side impact airbag wiring harnesses in certain model year 2001-2002 Hyundai Elantra vehicles.

573.6(c)(8)

All owners of record of affected vehicles will be contacted by first class mail and instructed to bring their vehicles to Hyundai dealers to have recall repair procedures performed at no cost to the vehicle owners.

For 2001 model year Elantras produced through April 26, 2001, a protective cover will be installed over the airbag control module connector and new side impact airbag wiring harness connector clips and revised wiring harness attachments will be installed under the driver's and front passenger's seats.

For 2001 and 2002 model year Elantras produced beginning on April 27, 2001 through December 18, 2001, new side impact airbag wiring harness connector clips and revised wiring harness attachments will be installed under the driver's and front passenger's seats.

Two draft owner notification letters have been prepared. One for the owners of 2001 model year Elantras produced through April 26, 2001, that describes the need to have two defects repaired, and another for the owners of 2001 and 2002 model year Elantras produced beginning on April 27, 2001 through December 18, 2001, that describes the need to have the new side impact airbag wiring harness connector clips and revised wiring harness attachments installed under the driver's and front passenger's seats.

Hyundai anticipates that owners will be notified in six mailings beginning during the fourth

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quarter of 2008, after a sufficient quantity of parts have become available to allow repairs to begin.

In accordance with the requirements of Part 573.13, Hyundai will provide for reimbursement to vehicle owners eligible for pre-notification remedies as follows:

573.13(c)(1) Reimbursement Period Beginning Date:

(iii) October 10, 2007, which is one year prior to the date of this Part 573 notice to NHTSA.

573.13(c)(2) Reimbursement Period Ending Date:

(i) Ten calendar days after the last owner notification has been mailed. This date will be determined based upon the actual final owner notification date and NHTSA will be provided with that date when it becomes available.

573.13(d) Reimbursement Conditions:

(1) Reimbursement is excluded for costs incurred within the period during which Hyundai's original or extended warranty (where Hyundai provided written notice of the terms of the extended warranty to owners) would have provided for a free repair of the condition addressed by the recall, without any payment by the consumer, unless a franchised dealer or authorized representative of Hyundai denied warranty coverage or the repair made under warranty did not remedy the problem addressed by the recall.

(2)(i)(A) Reimbursement is excluded if the pre-notification remedy was not of the same type (repair or replacement of the airbag control module or airbag wiring harness connection to the airbag control module as a result of liquid spillage or repair or replacement of the under-seat mounted driver or passenger side impact airbag wiring harness connector) as the recall remedy.

(2)(i)(B) Reimbursement is excluded if the pre-notification remedy did not address airbag warning light illumination as a result of liquid spillage onto the airbag control module and airbag wiring harness connection to the control module or airbag warning light illumination related to the under-seat wiring harness connector for the driver or passenger side impact airbag.

(2)(i)(C) Reimbursement is excluded if the pre-notification remedy was not reasonably necessary to correct airbag warning light illumination as a result of liquid spillage onto the airbag control module and airbag wiring harness connection to the control module or airbag warning light illumination related to the under-seat wiring harness connector for the driver or passenger side impact airbag.

(2)(ii) It is not required that the pre-notification remedy be identical to the remedy elected by Hyundai as described in this Part 573 notice to NHTSA.

(4) Reimbursement is excluded if the claimant does not submit adequate documentation to Hyundai at an address or location designated pursuant to § 573.13(f). The plan requires that the following documentation be submitted:

(i) Name and mailing address of the claimant;

(Hyundai also requests that claimants provide telephone numbers at their option.)

(ii) Identification of the product that was recalled:

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Make, model, model year, vehicle identification number, and a copy of the current vehicle registration

- (iii) Identification of the recall (Hyundai's recall number);
- (iv) Identification of the owner or purchaser of the recalled motor vehicle at the time that the pre-notification remedy was obtained;
- (v) A receipt for the pre-notification remedy, which may be an original or copy:

(A) If the reimbursement sought is for a repair, Hyundai requires that the receipt indicate that the repair addressed airbag warning light illumination as a result of liquid spillage onto the airbag control module and airbag wiring harness connection to the control module or airbag warning light illumination related to the under-seat wiring harness connector for the driver or passenger side impact airbag, and state the total amount paid for the repair of that condition. Itemization of a receipt of the amount for parts, labor, other costs and taxes, may not be required unless it is unclear on the face of the receipt that the repair for which reimbursement is sought addressed only the pre-notification remedy relating to the airbag warning light illumination as a result of liquid spillage onto the airbag control module and airbag wiring harness connection to the control module or airbag warning light illumination related to the under-seat wiring harness connector for the driver or passenger side impact airbag.

(B) If the reimbursement sought is for the replacement of a vehicle part, Hyundai requires that the receipt identify the item and state the total amount paid to replace the airbag control module, airbag wiring harness, side impact airbags, side impact airbag wiring harnesses, or side impact airbag wiring harness connector clips.

(Hyundai also requests that the name, address and telephone number of the repair facility or seller of the replacement airbag control module, airbag wiring harness, side impact airbags, side impact airbag wiring harnesses, or side impact airbag wiring harness connector clips be provided on the receipt, and that the receipt be marked "Paid in Full" or that a cancelled check or credit card receipt be provided.)

- (vii) If the pre-notification remedy was obtained at a time when the vehicle or equipment could have been repaired or replaced at no charge under a Hyundai original or extended warranty program, documentation indicating that Hyundai's dealer or authorized facility either refused to remedy the problem addressed by the recall under the warranty or that the warranty repair did not correct the problem addressed by the recall.

573.13(e) Amount of Costs to Be Reimbursed:

- (1)(i) The amount of reimbursement shall not be less than the lesser of:
 - (A) The amount paid by the owner for the remedy, or
 - (B) The cost of parts for the remedy, plus associated labor at local labor rates, miscellaneous fees such as disposal of waste, and taxes. Costs for parts may be limited to Hyundai's list retail price for authorized parts.
- (1)(ii) Any associated costs, including, but not limited to, taxes or disposal of wastes, may not be limited.

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573.13(f) Address and Authorized Facility for Reimbursement Claim Submittal

ATTN: Consumer Affairs Department (088)
Hyundai Motor America
PO Box 20850
Fountain Valley, CA 92728-0850

573.13(g) Hyundai Response to Request for Reimbursement

(1) Hyundai shall act upon a claim for reimbursement within 60 days of its receipt. If Hyundai denies the claim, Hyundai must send a notice to the claimant within 60 days of receipt of the claim that includes a clear, concise statement of the reasons for the denial.

(2) If a claim for reimbursement is incomplete when originally submitted, Hyundai shall advise the claimant within 60 days of receipt of the claim of the documentation that is needed and offer an opportunity to resubmit the claim with complete documentation.

573.13(h) Reimbursement Form

Reimbursement shall be in the form of a check.

573.13(i) Reimbursement Plan Availability to the Public

This reimbursement plan is available to the public upon request.

573.6(c)(10)

The Technical Service Bulletin containing the service procedure for performing the recall campaign repair procedures will be provided to NHTSA when available. Other relevant communications will also be forwarded when they are available.

573.6(c)(11)

Drafts of the owner notification letters are attached.

573.6(c)(12)

Hyundai has assigned "Campaign 088" as the designation for the campaign.

Sincerely,



Robert Babcock
Senior Manager, Regulation and Certification Department

Attachments: Two Draft Owner Notification Letters

DRAFT MOTOR VEHICLE RECALL

Dear 2001 Elantra Owner:

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

Hyundai has decided that defects, which relate to motor vehicle safety, exist in certain model year 2001 Hyundai Elantra vehicles that were produced during the period beginning June 30, 2000 through April 26, 2001.

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

What is the problem?

- The air bag control module is located under the center console, between the front seats. If a liquid is spilled in the area of the cupholder on the center console, it may seep through the console opening for the parking brake lever and then drip onto the air bag control module electrical connector. The spilled liquid may contaminate the air bag control module and its electrical connector to the air bag wiring harness and cause the supplemental restraint system (SRS) warning light to illuminate. This condition may affect the driver and passenger frontal air bags or the driver and front passenger seat mounted side impact air bags and may prevent air bag deployment during an accident where such deployment should occur.

Non-deployment of the supplemental restraint system (SRS) air bags may increase the risk of injury to the driver and front passenger under certain crash conditions.

- Additionally, movement of the side impact air bag wiring harness mounted under each front seat, possibly caused by contact from materials placed under the seat, may result in an electrical resistance that would cause supplemental restraint system (SRS) warning light illumination. This condition only relates to the driver and front passenger seat mounted side impact air bags and may prevent seat mounted side impact air bag deployment during an accident where such deployment should occur.

Non-deployment of the supplemental restraint system (SRS) side impact air bags may increase the risk of injury during an accident where side impact air bag deployment is intended.

What will Hyundai do?

- To ensure that your vehicle's supplemental restraint system (SRS) air bag system operates 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 install a protective cover over your vehicle's air bag control module connector. The Hyundai dealer will also install new side impact air bag wiring harness connector clips and revised side impact air bag wiring harness attachments under the driver's and front passenger's seats. 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.

DRAFT MOTOR VEHICLE RECALL

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, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, 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

DRAFT MOTOR VEHICLE RECALL

Dear 2001-2002 Elantra Owner:

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

Hyundai has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain model year 2001-2002 Hyundai Elantra vehicles that were produced during the period beginning April 27, 2001 through December 18, 2001.

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

What is the problem?

- Movement of the side impact air bag wiring harness mounted under each front seat, possibly caused by contact from materials placed under the seat, may result in an electrical resistance that would cause supplemental restraint system (SRS) warning light illumination. This condition only relates to the driver and passenger seat mounted side impact air bags and may prevent seat mounted side impact air bag deployment during an accident where such deployment should occur.

Non-deployment of the supplemental restraint system (SRS) side impact air bags may increase the risk of injury during an accident where side impact air bag deployment is intended.

What will Hyundai do?

- To ensure that your vehicle's supplemental restraint system (SRS) air bag system operates 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 install new side impact air bag wiring harness connector clips and revised side impact air bag wiring harness attachments under the driver's and front passenger's seats. 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, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, 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>.

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