



March 15, 2011

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

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

Distributor - Hyundai de Puerto Rico

# 573.6(c)(2)

Model year 2007 and 2008 Hyundai Elantra vehicles produced beginning on July 14, 2006 through August 29, 2007 are affected.

#### 573.6(c)(3)

Approximately 95,783 model year 2007 and 2008 Hyundai Elantra vehicles produced beginning on July 14, 2006 through August 29, 2007 are affected in the United States and approximately 775 vehicles are affected in Puerto Rico.

Hyundai-Kia America Technical Center Inc. 6800 Geddes Road, Superior Township, MI 48198 TEL: 734-337-9499 FAX: 734-483-5919

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### 573.6(c)(4)

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

### 573.6(c)(5)

The driver's seat track is equipped with a seat track position sensor (STPS). The STPS indicates to the airbag control module if the seat is adjusted to one of five far-forward positions. In a far-forward position, during a crash that requires frontal airbag deployment, the two stage driver airbag will deploy only the reduced pressure first stage. When the seat is adjusted to a position aft of the five far-forward positions, both stages of the driver airbag may deploy, when required.

The airbag control module monitors the signal stability of the driver's STPS. If the signal appears to be unstable as a result of electronic noise, the airbag control module will operate in the default mode. In a crash that requires driver frontal airbag deployment, the default mode of the airbag control module would cause the driver airbag second stage to deploy even if the seat is located in one of the five far-forward positions. The "AIR BAG" warning light will also illuminate to notify the driver that the airbag system requires service.

The above condition may increase the risk of injury resulting from airbag deployment.

#### 573.6(c)(6)

In January 2011, NHTSA opened a Comprehensive Inquiry, CI11-001, concerning EWR submissions related to component Airbag 14 on 2007-2009 model year Hyundai Elantras. During the course of gathering and evaluating information to respond to NHTSA's information request, Hyundai identified a potential cause 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 condition that could lead to unstable STPS signal monitoring in certain model year 2007-2008 Hyundai Elantra vehicles.

### 573.6(c)(8)

All owners of record of the affected vehicles described in 573.6(c)(3) above will be contacted by first class mail and instructed to bring their vehicles to Hyundai dealers to have the recall repair procedure performed at no cost to the vehicle owners. The airbag control module will be reprogrammed to prevent STPS signal noise from causing the airbag control module from entering the default operation mode.

The draft owner notification letter applies to the owners of 2007 and 2008 model year Elantras produced beginning on July 14, 2006 through August 29, 2007. The letter describes that the dealer will reprogram the air bag control module. The letter also describes that the dealer will install a protective cover over the vehicle's weight classification system connector, which is a repair procedure that will be performed as Hyundai Recall Campaign Number 099. Hyundai wishes to combine owner notification for vehicles affected by both recalls (Hyundai Recall Campaign 099 and 100) into one letter to reduce

the possibility of confusion for vehicles owners.

Hyundai anticipates that owners will be notified in eight mailings beginning on April 8, 2011, and completed on May 27, 2011.

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) March 15, 2010, 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 driver's seat track position sensor (STPS) as a result of an unstable STPS signal) as the recall remedy.
- (2)(i)(B) Reimbursement is excluded if the pre-notification remedy did not address repair or replacement of the airbag control module or driver's seat track position sensor (STPS) as a result of an unstable STPS signal.
- (2)(i)(C) Reimbursement is excluded if the pre-notification remedy was not reasonably necessary to correct airbag warning light illumination by repair or replacement of the airbag control module or driver's seat track position sensor (STPS) as a result of an unstable STPS signal.
- (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:

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

- (iii) Identification of the recall (100);
- (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 related to the driver's seat track position sensor, 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 concerning airbag warning light illumination related to the driver's seat track position sensor.
  - (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 or seat track position sensor.
  - (Hyundai also requests that the name, address and telephone number of the repair facility or seller of the replacement airbag control module or seat track position sensor 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.
- 573.13(f) Address and Authorized Facility for Reimbursement Claim Submittal

ATTN: Consumer Affairs Department (100) 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 procedure will be provided to NHTSA when available. Other relevant communications will also be forwarded when they are available.

# 573.6(c)(11)

A draft of the owner notification letter is attached.

### 573.6(c)(12)

Hyundai has assigned "Campaign 100" as the designation for the campaign.

Sincerely,

Robert Babcock

Robert Bolicock

Senior Manager, Regulation and Certification Department

Attachment: Draft Owner Notification Letter A