



June 18, 2012

Ms. Jennifer T. Timian
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

VIA EMAIL

RE: 2006-08 Kia Rio Chronology Update

Dear Ms. Timian

As per your request, and on behalf of Kia Motors America, Inc. (KMA), Hyundai America Technical Center, Inc. (HATCI) hereby submits an updated chronology related to the 2006-08MY Kia Rio OCS recall matter. This update clarifies the chronology of the background and information that was previously provided to the agency related to this matter.

Should you have any questions related to this plan or its submission, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at rbabcock@hatci.com or (734) 337-2341.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Robert Babcock'.

Robert Babcock
Director,
Certification and Compliance Affairs

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Chronology re Basis of Defect Determination 573.6(c)(6)

November 22, 2006	KMA sends Product Quality Technical Report to KMC regarding 4 OCS sensor mat inoperative incidents.
January 2, 2007	KMC advises KMA that a new OCS sensor mat is under development by the supplier.
September 7, 2007	Improved IEE seat mat introduced into production.
December 10, 2007	Further improved seat mat introduced into production.
March 11, 2009	KMA analyzes warranty claims for cushion assembly repairs for Rios produced between 2/1/2007 and 1/1/2009 and determines that various nature, cause and operation codes are associated with the repairs. The warranty claims totaled 130.
March 12, 2009	KMA sends Product Quality Report to KMC regarding air bag light on for 2007-2009 Rio. Sensor mat is identified as source of issue due to cracking in serpentine printed circuit both pre and post 9/2007 production modification.
March 13, 2009	KMC advises KMA that the sensor mat design was changed as of December 10, 2007 production. KMA instructed by KMC follow normal repair procedures when it is necessary to replace mats in the field.
April 10, 2010	Based on an investigation of another vehicle issue under NHTSA request, Kia collected “peer” data, which included the 2007-2008 Rio. Kia provided documents reflecting 2,041 warranty claims to NHTSA for the 2007-2008 Rio.
August 22, 2011	ODI advises KMA of concern that KMA field data indicates a high repair trend for the 2007-2008 Rio and questions whether Rio underwent an OCS sensing logic change in about December 2007.
August 23, 2011	Second tier supplier IEE advises KMA that no logic change has occurred and that warranty claims do not support field action.
August 23, 2011	KMA advises ODI that no logic change had occurred and that warranty claims are based on physical issues related to the seat mat and KMA’s preliminarily evaluation was that various nature and cause codes had been identified as the source of repairs.
September 13, 2011	KMA evaluates warranty and field data and reports information to KMC. This also included additional information from the 2006MY and updated the data from April 2010. The updated information indicated 8,115 warranty claims. No undesired front passenger airbag deployments identified. No injuries identified.
September 21, 2011	KMC reports information to first tier supplier, Hyundai Mobis.
December 15, 2011	Hyundai Mobis responds that no field action is warranted.
December 22, 2011	KMA recommends to KMC that Hyundai Mobis further consider field action due to warranty claims.

December 28, 2011	KMC recommends to Hyundai Mobis that it further consider field action due to warranty claims.
March 30, 2012	KMC and KMA decide to conduct further review of all Rio OCS information.
April 10, 2012	KMA completes update of warranty and field data for review. No undesired front passenger airbag deployments nor injuries identified.
May 2-3, 2012	KMA meets with KMC to evaluate data and positions of Hyundai Mobis and IEE regarding possible field actions.
May 23, 2012	KMC decides that a recall pursuant to 49 CFR 573 is warranted. Symptom is air bag warning light on reports and repair is to replace passenger OCS seat mat. Warranty claims- 9,234; field reports-5. No reports of undesired airbag deployments nor injuries.