



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**National Highway Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

March 17, 2016

Mr. Steve Johnson  
Director, Engineering and Design Analysis  
Hyundai Motor America  
10550 Talbert Avenue  
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

NVS-215TB  
16V-145

**Subject:** Absence of Front Seat Belt Audible Warning

Dear Mr. Johnson:

This letter serves to acknowledge Hyundai Motor America's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**

HYUNDAI/SANTA FE/2016-2017

**Mfr's Report Date:** March 10, 2016

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 16V-145

**Components:**

SEAT BELTS:FRONT:WARNING LIGHT/DEVICES

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 34,200

**Problem Description:**

Hyundai Motor America (Hyundai) is recalling certain model year 2016-2017 Santa Fe vehicles manufactured September 1, 2015 to February 12, 2016. In the affected vehicles, the wires in the driver's seat belt buckle harness may be damaged by the seat's height adjuster mechanism, resulting in a failure to provide an audible warning when the driver does not fasten their seat belt. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 208, "Occupant Crash Protection."

**Consequence:**

Without a warning to remind the driver seat occupant that their seat belt is not buckled, they may forget to buckle their seat belt, increasing their risk of injury in the event of a crash.

**Remedy:**

Hyundai will notify owners, and dealers will inspect and reroute the wires in the driver's seat belt buckle harnesses to its proper location, as necessary, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin May 6, 2016. Owners may contact Hyundai customer service at 1-800-633-5151. Hyundai's number for this recall is 141.

**Notes:**

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY

1-800-424-9153), or go to [www.safercar.gov](http://www.safercar.gov).

We have received Hyundai's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Tariq Bond who may be reached by phone at 1-202-366-5472, or by email at [tariq.bond@dot.gov](mailto:tariq.bond@dot.gov) or through the office email at [rmd.odi@dot.gov](mailto:rmd.odi@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigations  
Enforcement