



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

26V452

Manufacturer Name: Hyundai Motor America

Submission Date: Aug 31, 2026

NHTSA Recall No.: 26V452

Manufacturer Recall No.: 306

Manufacturer Information

Population

Manufacturer Name: Hyundai Motor America

Address: 10550 Talbert Avenue
Fountain Valley CA, 92708

Total number of potentially involved: 47,787

Estimated percentage with defect: 1%

Vehicle Information

Vehicle 1: 2024-2025 HYUNDAI KONA ELECTRIC

Product Category: Light Vehicles

Product Type: Multipurpose Passenger Vehicle

Fuel / Propulsion: Electric Battery Power

Production Dates: Oct 28, 2023 - Oct 21, 2025

Number of potentially involved: 23

Descriptive Information:

The subject vehicles include certain model year 2024-2025 Kona Electric vehicles, assembled on the specified production dates by Hyundai Motor Company ("HMC") for sale in the U.S.

Vehicle 2: 2024-2026 HYUNDAI KONA

Product Category: Light Vehicles

Product Type: Multipurpose Passenger Vehicle

Fuel / Propulsion: Spark Ignition Fuel

Production Dates: Aug 26, 2023 - Feb 13, 2026

Number of potentially involved: 47,764

Descriptive Information:

The subject vehicles include certain model year 2024-2026 Hyundai Kona vehicles, assembled on the specified production dates by Hyundai Motor Company ("HMC") for sale in the U.S.

Defect / Noncompliance Description

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Description of the defect or noncompliance:

The rear center seat belt buckle assemblies in the subject vehicles contain a seatbelt buckle base plate that may have been produced outside of specification. An out of specification base plate may not properly restrain an occupant during a crash.

FMVSS1:

FMVSS2:

Description of the safety risk, including crash, fire, death, injury:

Reduced seat belt performance could increase the risk of injury to vehicle occupants in the event of a crash.

Description of the cause:

The supplier's stamping die was not maintained properly resulting in wear from overuse.

Identification of any warning that can occur:

N/A

Component Manufacturer

Tier of Supplier: Tier 1

Supplier Type: OEM

Name: Joyson

Address: 22, Jangangongdan 6-gil
Jangan-myeon, Hwaseong-si
Gyeonggi-do Foreign States

Country: Korea, Republic Of

Involved Components

Component Name 1: DOUBLE BUCKLE ASSY-2ND S/BELT, RH&CRT

Component Description: Rear Center Seat Belt Buckle

Component Part Number: 898B0-BE000

Chronology

February – July 2026

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February 3 through February 27, 2026 – The rear seat belt buckle supplier informed HMC of a dynamic test failure involving a rear center seat belt buckle produced for the Hyundai Kona. The condition was escalated to the North America Safety Office (“NASO”) for further investigation.

March 13 through March 27, 2026 – HMC and NASO discussed their initial investigation findings, including reviews of available field data, which identified no reports related to reduced rear center seat belt buckle performance in affected markets. HMC also confirmed that the condition was limited to rear center seat belt buckles used in Kona vehicles.

April 9, 2026 – HMC informed NASO that preliminary review indicated suspect buckle production occurred in specific time periods. According to the supplier, inadequate inspection controls could have allowed continued use of a stamping die beyond its specified service life, prompting corrective action at the supplier. HMC and the supplier continued to investigate potentially affected seat belt production scope.

April 16 through May 20, 2026 – NASO initiated multiple field-part recovery activities across multiple production periods to obtain seat belt buckle assemblies for evaluation by HMC and the supplier.

May 26 through June 18, 2026 – HMC shared results from testing of recovered field-returned buckle assemblies. Failures were identified only among parts produced during a specific manufacturing period. Based on these findings, HMC continued their investigation and assessment of the affected vehicle population based on manufacturing records and supplier findings.

June 24, 2026 – NASO met with NHTSA's ODI to review its findings to date.

July 6, 2026 – Based on the investigation findings to date, HMA convened its North American Safety Decision Authority (“NASDA”) and, although there have been no crashes or confirmed field incidents related to this condition, Hyundai decided to conduct a safety recall to repair all potentially affected vehicles in the US market out of an abundance of caution.

July 16, 2026 - At the request of NHTSA, Hyundai amended the description of the defect on its Part 573 filing.

August 10, 2026 - NASO submitted a SUFS report involving potential suspect service parts sold on U.S. market SX2 Kona vehicles not involved in Recall 306. NASO conducted an audit of parts available at parts distribution centers and a review of parts sales during the suspect time period.

August 18, 2026 - NASO narrowed its focus to SX2 vehicles repaired in June 2025 and onward. Parts sales information identified 38 U.S. market VIN's potentially containing suspect parts.

August 28, 2026 - After confirming the parts sales findings and logistics timing, NASO convened its NASDA and decided to amend Recall 306 to include the additional vehicles in the U.S. potentially containing parts from the same suspect lot.

There are no confirmed crashes, fires, or injuries due to this condition in the U.S.

Related NHTSA Recall Number:

Description of Remedy

Remedy Type: Replace

Consumer Advisories: ☐ Do Not Drive ☐ Park Outside

Description of remedy program:

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All owners of the subject vehicles will be notified via first class mail with instructions to bring their vehicles to a Hyundai dealer, where technicians will replace the rear center seat belt buckle assembly. Owners are advised to avoid using the rear center seating position until the recall remedy is complete. This remedy will be offered at no cost to owners for all affected vehicles, regardless of whether the affected vehicles are still covered under Hyundai's New Vehicle Limited Warranty. Additionally, Hyundai will provide owners of affected vehicles reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses incurred to obtain a remedy for the recall condition in accordance with the reimbursement plan submitted to NHTSA on March 2, 2026.

How remedy component differs from recalled component:

The remedy buckles are manufactured to specification with properly maintained tooling.

Identify how/when recall condition was corrected in production:

Die maintenance inspection standards improvements were implemented by the supplier in January 2026.

Reimbursement Plan

Manufacturer used general reimbursement plan on file.

Recall Schedule

Description of recall schedule:

Dealers will be notified electronically by the specified dates.
Owners will be notified via certified mail by the specified dates.

Planned Dealer Notification Date: Sep 11, 2026 - Sep 11, 2026

☐ No Dealers

Planned Interim Owner Notification Date:

☐ No Owners

Planned Remedy Owner Notification Date: Sep 11, 2026 - Sep 11, 2026

☐ Phased Recall

Date when VIN will be searchable: Jul 15, 2026