

April 9, 2026

IMPORTANT ALERT: Dangerous Counterfeit Airbag Inflators (DTN)

1. Background – DTN Inflators

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has identified the presence of substandard and dangerous driver’s-side airbag inflators manufactured by Jilin Province Detiannuo Automobile Safety System Co., Ltd. (DTN). These inflators were not supplied, approved, or authorized by the vehicle manufacturers and have primarily been found in vehicles that previously experienced a crash and underwent airbag replacement using non-genuine parts. These dangerous inflators have ruptured during deployment, posing a serious risk of injury or death due to metal fragments entering the vehicle cabin. To date, Hyundai is aware of three people who have died while driving a Hyundai vehicle with one of these substandard replacement airbag inflators that deployed in what likely would have been a survivable crash.

2. NHTSA Advisory to Inspect Vehicles

NHTSA has issued a public advisory urging vehicle owners and service professionals to have vehicles inspected if there is reason to believe that a non-genuine replacement airbag may have been installed. Vehicles with salvage or rebuilt titles, prior airbag deployments, or unknown repair histories may present a higher risk. NHTSA strongly cautions against self-inspection by vehicle owners and recommends inspection by trained technicians.

3. Dealer Handling with Customers Who Request Airbag Inflator Inspection

Please be aware that NHTSA has advised concerned customers to contact their authorized dealers if they would like to have an inspection of their airbag inflator. See, <https://www.nhtsa.gov/air-bags/deadly-air-bag-replacements-dtn>

Dealers should advise customers who request an airbag inflator inspection that the dealer can perform such inspection upon customer request. The inspection is not part of a recall or warranty campaign and therefore will be performed at customer expense. Dealers should clearly communicate the purpose of the inspection, the potential safety risk, and the customer-pay nature of the service prior to performing any work.

4. Inspection Process (Step-by-Step)

- **Step 1:** Confirm vehicle eligibility and review vehicle history for prior crashes, airbag deployment, or salvage/rebuilt title indicators.
- **Step 2:** Follow all applicable safety procedures, including proper battery disconnect and airbag handling precautions.
- **Step 3:** Remove the airbag module in accordance with the applicable service manual instructions.
- **Step 4:** Visually inspect the inflator for manufacturer markings, labels, serial numbers, and overall appearance (**See Appendix 1**).
- **Step 5:** Compare findings against known genuine component specifications and documented indicators of counterfeit DTN inflators.
- **Step 6:** Document inspection results with photographs and service notes on the repair order.

5. Handling if a DTN Inflator or Other Substandard Inflator Is Found

If a DTN inflator or another suspected substandard inflator is identified, the dealer should immediately inform the customer that the vehicle may be unsafe to operate. The customer should be offered replacement of the airbag module with a genuine, approved component at customer expense. Dealers should provide Hyundai Techline with documentation of the inflator including pictures, serial number and seek guidance on the safe disposal of this substandard and dangerous part.

6. Handling if a Customer Declines Replacement

If a customer declines replacement after being informed of the safety risk, the dealer should clearly document the customer's decision in the repair order requesting a signature acknowledging the notification. The dealer should maintain a copy of the repair order. The customer should be advised that continued operation of the vehicle may present a serious safety risk. In the event that the inspection confirms the presence of a DTN inflator, Hyundai recommends that the repair order states the following: **"Your vehicle has a dangerous DTN airbag inflator. These inflators have resulted in death and serious injury when the airbag deploys. The airbag is an important safety device. You are strongly urged not to drive the vehicle until this inflator has been replaced with a genuine replacement part."** No further work related to the airbag system should be performed unless authorized, and dealers should take a picture of the repair order documenting the customer's decision. Then attach these to the Techline case.

7. Notification to NHTSA

If a substandard or DTN inflator is confirmed, the customer should be directed to submit an online report to NHTSA (<https://www.nhtsa.gov/report-a-safety-problem> or call NHTSA at [888-327-4236](tel:888-327-4236)).

Appendix 1

