



August 26, 2008

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Mr. Jeffrey L. Quandt
Chief, Vehicle Control Division
Office of Defects Investigation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: PE08-044

Dear Mr. Quandt:

On August 19, 2008, Hyundai Motor Company submitted a Defect Information Report to NHTSA related to fuel pump operation on approximately 65,000 model year 2008 Hyundai Elantra vehicles produced beginning on November 5, 2007 through June 28, 2008.

Hyundai decided that the fuel pumps installed in 2008 Elantra vehicles produced beginning on November 5, 2007 through June 28, 2008 contained a safety related defect after identifying that a new supplier's upper fuel pump body components had incorrect dimensional characteristics. The incorrect dimensional characteristics of the upper body resulted in misalignment of the armature shaft, which caused some of the fuel pumps to experience poor brush-to-commutator contact conditions.

The use of ethanol blend fuel, containing up to 10 percent ethanol, causes a film build-up that creates a high resistance between the brush and commutator. The misaligned armature shaft prevents the brush and commutator from making sufficient contact to overcome the high resistance film build-up between the brush and the commutator. As a result, the fuel pump may produce less pumping pressure than required to supply the fuel injection system. This condition has led to increased fuel pump replacements under warranty during 2008 as additional quantities of 2008 model year vehicles equipped with fuel pumps with the new supplier's upper body components were introduced and operated in the field.

Prior to Hyundai's Defect Information Report submittal, NHTSA had opened a preliminary investigation, PE08-044, of fuel pump failures on 2007 and 2008 model year Elantras based upon the agency's receipt of four VOQs concerning 2008 model year Elantras.

When Hyundai indicated that it intended to conduct a recall of certain 2008 model year Elantras related to fuel pump operation, you asked Hyundai to provide the types of consumer complaint and warranty claim information for both 2007 and 2008 model year Elantras for the alleged defect of fuel

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HATCI is an authorized representative of both Hyundai Motor Company and Kia Motors Corporation; which are separate and distinct automotive manufacturers.

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pump related stalling that are commonly contained in Requests Numbers 2 and 5 of Preliminary Evaluation information request letters. The following data and attached material are a response to your request for information associated with the alleged defect of fuel pump related stalling, and indicate the significantly higher claim and complaint levels experienced by the vehicles in the affected production date range, which led Hyundai to the decision to initiate the recall.

1. Vehicle Production;

Model / Model Year	2007	2008	Total
Elantra Produced Before November 5, 2007	82,717	29,608	112,325
Elantra November 5, 2007 through June 28, 2008	0	65,000 (Approximate)	65,000 (Approximate)

2. Consumer complaints, including those from fleet operators;

Model / Model Year	2007	2008
Elantra	9	67*

*Note: 64 for Vehicles Produced After November 5, 2007

3. Field reports, including dealer field reports;

Model / Model Year	2007	2008
Elantra	12	0

4. Reports involving a crash, injury, or fatality, based on claims against the manufacturer involving a death or injury, notices received by the manufacturer alleging or proving that a death or injury was caused by a possible defect in a subject vehicle, property damage claims, consumer complaints, or field reports;

Model / Model Year	2007	2008
Elantra	None	None

5. Property damage claims;

Model / Model Year	2007	2008
Elantra	None	None

6. Third-party arbitration proceedings where Hyundai is or was a party to the arbitration;

Model / Model Year	2007	2008
Elantra	1 (Also referenced in a consumer complaint)	2 (Both also referenced in consumer complaints)

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7. Lawsuits, both pending and closed, in which Hyundai is or was a defendant or codefendant;
and

Model / Model Year	2007	2008
Elantra	None	None

8. Warranty claim data

Model / Model Year	2007	2008
Elantra	110	585**

**Note: 569 for Vehicles Produced After November 5, 2007

Source: Hyundai Motor America
Information as of August 5, 2008

See Attachment A for consumer complaint summary information.
See Attachment B for warranty data summary information.

Please let me know if you have any questions about the information provided in this letter.

Sincerely,



Robert Babcock
Senior Manager, Regulation and Certification Department

Attachments:

Two CDs, each containing:
Attachment A Consumer Complaint Summary Information
Attachment B Warranty Data Summary Information