



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

*April 11, 2008*

MR. ROBERT BABCOCK  
SENIOR MANAGER, REGULATION AND  
CERTIFICATION DEPARTMENT  
HYUNDAI-KIA AMERICA TECHNICAL CENTER, INC.  
6800 GEDDES ROAD  
SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP MI 48198

NVS-215dgl  
08V-161

Subject: AIR BAG SUPPRESSION & ACTIVATION/FMVSS 208

Dear MR. BABCOCK:

This letter serves to acknowledge Hyundai – Kia America Technical Center, Inc.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety defect in the products described below, for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30119.

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/SONATA/2006-2008

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 08V-161

**Mfg's Report Date:** April 1, 2008

**Components:** AIR BAGS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 393,714

**Summary:**

HYUNDAI IS RECALLING 393,714 MY 2006-2008 SONATA VEHICLES EQUIPPED WITH AN ADVANCED AIR BAG SYSTEM WHICH FEATURES AN OCCUPANT CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM (OCS) IN THE RIGHT FRONT SEAT. THE PURPOSE OF THE OCS IS TO DISABLE THE RIGHT PASSENGER SEAT FRONT AIR BAG WHEN IT DETECTS THE PRESENCE OF A CHILD RESTRAINT SYSTEM OR SMALL CHILD IN THE RIGHT FRONT SEAT. THE RIGHT FRONT AIR BAG IS DISABLED TO PREVENT INJURIES TO A CHILD THAT MAY RESULT FROM A RIGHT FRONT AIR BAG INFLATION DURING A CRASH.

**Consequence:**

MISCLASSIFICATION OF A SMALL STATURE ADULT AS A CHILD IN THE RIGHT FRONT PASSENGER SEAT MAY CAUSE THE RIGHT FRONT AIR BAG TO NOT INFLATE IN AN ACCIDENT THAT MERITS AIR BAG DEPLOYMENT AND MAY RESULT IN INJURY TO THE RIGHT FRONT OCCUPANT.

**Remedy:**

DEALERS WILL VERIFY THAT THE OCS DOES NOT PROPERLY RECOGNIZE A PROPERLY SEATED ADULT OCCUPANT. AFTER VERIFICATION, DEALERS WILL REMOVE THE RIGHT FRONT SEAT CUSHION ASSEMBLY AND SHIP IT TO AN EVALUATION AND REPAIR FACILITY. THIS FACILITY WILL EVALUATE AND REPAIR OR REPROGRAM THE SEAT CUSHION AND OCS AS NECESSARY. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT MAY 26, 2008. OWNERS MAY CONTACT HYUNDAI AT 1-800-633-5151.

**Notes:**

HYUNDAI RECALL NO. 083. CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

We have reviewed your proposed owner notification letter and it meets the requirements of Part 577.

Please provide the following additional information and 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).

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 contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at [Patricia.wallace@dot.gov](mailto:Patricia.wallace@dot.gov), [Delia.lopez@dot.gov](mailto:Delia.lopez@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Person", written in a cursive style.

George H. Person  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement