

Kia Safety Restraint Systems Statement

There are important restraint systems in every Kia vehicle. All Kia restraint systems are designed to meet or exceed all Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards, as well as Kia's own advanced engineering standards. The vehicle seatbelts are the primary passive protection system in each model. The airbag system plays an important supplemental role in helping to provide protection to the vehicle occupants in specified crash conditions. Kia has an extensive design, development and testing program to ensure the safety systems in each model meet or exceed all Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards, as well as Kia's own superior performance standards.

Therefore, Kia America, Inc. "KUS" cannot endorse the use of any repair or replacement safety restraint component, including airbags, seatbelts, or pre-tensioners, that are not authorized Kia parts. These non-Kia parts, commonly known as "aftermarket parts" and "remanufactured parts", were developed outside of Kia's design, development and testing specifications and requirements. Neither Kia nor any ordinary consumer has the ability to determine if those non-Kia components would provide the same level of protection as afforded by Kia authorized components. If such aftermarket or remanufactured parts do not meet the standards designed into Kia authorized components, vehicle occupants can be subjected to increased risks of injury and death.

In addition, KUS cannot endorse the use of safety restraint system components offered by automotive recycling centers; i.e., previously used restraint components that purportedly came from original Kia models. Specifically, there is no way for Kia or ordinary consumers to determine if used restraint systems, removed from collision-damaged or worn salvage vehicles can still function and provide the same level of protection as originally designed and assembled by Kia.

KUS recommends that consumers take an active role in ensuring their vehicle is repaired using the same high level of quality and performance designed into their vehicle by Kia. It believes that this goal can best be achieved by customers by using Genuine Kia original parts and components, which also come with the Kia limited parts warranty. It is important for consumers to understand that Kia's original factory and parts warranties do not apply to any aftermarket or remanufactured component or anything other than a Genuine Kia Part or Genuine Kia Remanufactured Part. KUS also is not responsible for any physical damage or injuries or death which might occur as the result of the use of such non-Genuine Kia parts.