



PRESS RELEASE

Hyundai and Kia engine defect class actions launched in Australia

Woodsford supports further major Australian class actions against car manufacturers with claims filed against Hyundai and Kia

Sydney, London 16 February 2023. Class actions were filed yesterday (Wednesday) in the Federal Court of Australia relating to defective engines in various Hyundai and Kia vehicles sold in Australia from 2011 to date. The actions are being funded by **Woodsford**, a leading global ESG, access to justice and litigation finance business. The applicants are represented by law firm **Johnson Winter Slattery**.

The actions allege that the numerous vehicles sold by Hyundai and Kia in Australia were offered for sale with engines that were manufactured or designed defectively and, as result, have the propensity to exhibit faults, including sudden loss of power (including while driving), increased oil and fuel consumption, emission of smoke, and in some cases, fire.

In addition, it is claimed that Hyundai and Kia knew of the engine issues since at least 2015 but continued to sell affected vehicles in Australia regardless.

The class actions are distinct – and relate to entirely different issues and a wider group of vehicles – than the separate class action proceedings commenced recently in the Supreme Court of Victoria against Hyundai and Kia (relating to ABS brake defects).

Woodsford's Chief Investment Officer, Charlie Morris commented: *“The myriad of defects with these cars is bad enough. But the fact that Hyundai and Kia knew about the defects these cars had, but continued to sell them regardless is unacceptable. We are determined to*

hold them to account and ensure that Australian consumers receive the compensation they are due.”

Johnson Winter Slattery partner, Robert Johnston, said: *“We are pleased to have been selected to run this important case, which raises serious issues regarding the reliability and safety of a very large number of vehicles sold to the Australian public, when Hyundai and Kia were in the process of recalling millions of vehicles overseas for similar engine issues.”*

The lead claimants, who purchased their Hyundai and Kia vehicles new and suffered total engine failures, are pursuing these actions on behalf of owners of an estimated half a million affected vehicles.

Owners of affected Hyundai and Kia cars can register for the class actions by providing their details at www.hyundaiengineclassaction.com.au (for Hyundai vehicles) or www.kiaengineclassaction.com.au (for Kia vehicles). Further details about the actions, including full lists of the affected models (and model years), will be available on those websites in the near future.

In addition to these class actions against Hyundai and Kia, Woodsford is currently backing numerous other major class actions in Australia, the UK, and Europe including those brought by consumers against Mitsubishi Motors Australia, Toyota, Westpac and ANZ Bank.

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Notes to editor

About Woodsford

Founded in 2010 and with a presence in London, New York, Brisbane, Philadelphia and Minneapolis, Woodsford is a leading ESG, access to justice and litigation finance business.

Whether it is helping consumers achieve collective redress, ensuring that investors and universities are properly compensated when Big Tech infringes intellectual property rights, or helping shareholders in collaborative, escalated engagement up to and including litigation with listed companies, Woodsford is committed to ensuring the highest ESG standards while providing access to justice.

Working globally with many of the world's leading law firms, our legal experience, investment, business and technical expertise, in tandem with our significant financial muscle, makes us a powerful partner and a formidable adversary.

Woodsford is a founder member of both the International Legal Finance Association (ILFA) and the Association of Litigation Funders of England & Wales (ALF), and a member of the International Corporate Governance Network.

Woodsford continues to grow, and we welcome approaches from experienced litigation lawyers and other professionals who are interested in joining our team.

Interviews, photos and biographies available on request.

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