



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 07-020
Date Opened: 04/19/2007 Date Closed: 08/06/2007
Principal Investigator: Sonny Murianka
Subject: Seat Track Corrosion

Manufacturer: Blue Bird Body Company
Products: Blue bird 1999-2001 Conventional School Buses
Population: 911


Problem Description: Seat track corrosion may compromise the integrity of the seat anchorage points and the wheel chair securement hardware.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	3	9	12
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	0	0

*Description of Other:

Action: This investigation is closed. A safety related defect trend has not been identified.

Engineer: Sonny Murianka 
Div. Chief: Richard Boyd
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 08/06/2007
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Summary: ODI opened this PE after receiving three allegations of seat track corrosion discovered by fleets while performing preventative maintenance. Since opening this investigation, ODI has visited the fleets, inspected subject buses, interviewed shop personnel, reviewed Blue Bird's response to our information request. And conducted a joint evaluation of a complaint vehicle's conformance to FMVSS 571.222, school bus seating and crash protection. The testing was conducted at the vehicle research & test center, and a Blue Bird Body Company test engineer was in attendance.

Based on these actions, no safety related defect has been identified at this time and this PE is closed. The closing of this investigation does not constitute a finding by NHTSA that no safety-related defect exists and we reserve the right to take further action if warranted.

Nevertheless, Blue Bird has decided to mail "non-safety" owner letters to the subject bus owners advising them to inspect the aluminum seat tracks on a regular basis and to make any necessary repair/replacement.