



RECEIVED  
NHTS-215  
2004 MAY 13 A 9 05  
OFFICE OF  
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

04V-222

3992

May 06, 2004

Mr. Kenneth Weinstein  
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 Seventh Street  
Washington DC 20590

In accordance with the requirements of CFR 49 Part 573, Blue Bird Body Company is submitting the attached defect report.

If you should have any questions concerning the information submitted, please contact me at 478-822-2242.

Respectfully,

Bill Coleman  
Recall Administrator

Enclosure:

573 Defect Report for Blue Bird Body Company Recall R04HT Incorrect Fasteners in Driver's 3-Point seat belt Shoulder Strap Upper Attachment

**BLUE BIRD CORPORATION**  
402 Blue Bird Blvd. PO Box 937 • Fort Valley, Georgia 31030  
(478) 825-2021

**PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reporting**

**Defect Report**

**Report Date:** May 06, 2004

**1. Vehicles affected are manufactured by:**

Blue Bird Corporation  
P. O. Box 937  
Fort Valley, GA 31030

**2. The following vehicles are being recalled:**

All Blue Bird 2004 and 2005 model year All American front engine buses equipped with Option 2836-01 Driver's 3-Point Seat Belt manufactured at the Brantford, Ontario plant from March 03, 2003 through April 05, 2004.

**3. The total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect are:**

291

**4. The approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect is:**

100%

**5. The defect consist of:**

Incorrect fasteners (not specified by Blue Bird engineering) may have been used in the driver's 3-point seat belt shoulder strap upper attachment.

**6. The following data is the basis for the determination of the defect.**

On April 02, 2004 the Canadian Blue Bird plant received a report that incorrect fasteners may have been installed in the driver's 3-point seat belt shoulder strap upper attachment.

A review of engineering instructions and installation procedures was conducted during April.

On April 29, 2004 Blue Bird decided to conduct a recall to replace the original upper attachment fasteners with those specified by Blue Bird Engineering.

**7. The defect will be corrected in the following manner:**

Owners will be notified to make an appointment with their Blue Bird distributor to have the driver's 3-point seat belt upper attaching fasteners replaced.

**8. Notification will be as follows:**

Distributor notification is scheduled to be mailed on: June 04, 2003.  
Owner notification is scheduled to be mailed on: June 08, 2003.  
Parts are anticipated to be available at time of notification.

**9. Blue Bird's identification number assigned to this recall is:**

R04HT

**10. A draft copy of the notification documents will be submitted to NHTSA for review prior to mailing.**

**Questions regarding this recall should be directed to:**

William P. Coleman  
Recall Administrator  
Blue Bird Body Company  
P.O. Box 937  
Fort Valley GA 31030  
(478) 822-2242

**Signed:**



William P. Coleman, Recall Administrator