



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

WILLIAM COLEMAN  
BLUE BIRD BODY COMPANY  
402 BLUE BIRD BLVD. P.O. BOX 937  
FORT VALLEY GA 31030

NVS-215  
05V-014

Subject: BLUE BIRD/EMERGENCY EXIT WINDOWS DO NOT OPEN

Dear MR. COLEMAN:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect or noncompliance information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**

BLUE BIRD/ULTRA LF/2002-2005

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 05V-014

**Recall Date:** January 14, 2005

**Components:**

STRUCTURE

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 59

**Summary:**

CERTAIN TRANSIT BUSES FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 217, "BUS EMERGENCY EXITS AND WINDOW RETENTION AND RELEASE." THE STRIKER PLATES AT THE BOTTOM OF THE EMERGENCY PUSHOUT WINDOWS CAN WEAR A GROOVE INTO THE EMERGENCY RELEASE BOLT. IF THIS GROOVE BECOMES DEEP ENOUGH, THE EMERGENCY PUSH WINDOW MAY FAIL TO OPEN AS INTENDED WHEN RELEASED.

**Consequence:**

IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY, FAILURE OF THE PUSHOUT WINDOW COULD POTENTIALLY TRAP PASSENGERS OR DELAY THEIR ESCAPE, INCREASING THE RISK OF INJURY.

**Remedy:**

DEALERS WILL SHIP REPAIR PARTS AND INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS TO THE BUS OWNERS. THE MANUFACTURER HAS NOT YET PROVIDED AN OWNER NOTIFICATION SCHEDULE. OWNERS SHOULD CONTACT BLUE BIRD AT 478-825-2021.

**Notes:**

BLUE BIRD RECALL NO. R05JF. CUSTOMERS CAN ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236.

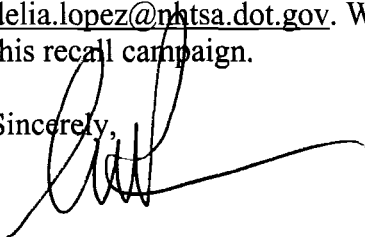
Per our telephone conversation, Blue Bird will be conducting the owner notification and remedy for this campaign. Effective October 21, 2004, Blue Bird must provide an estimated dealer notification date as well as an owner notification date (month/day/year). You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers.

Also, 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), must 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).

Please provide the beginning and ending manufacturing dates for the vehicles involved.

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@nhtsa.dot.gov](mailto:patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov) or [delia.lopez@nhtsa.dot.gov](mailto:delia.lopez@nhtsa.dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



George H. Person  
Chief, Recall Management Division