



OSV-014  
(3 pages)

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DEFECT INVESTIGATION



January 14, 2005

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 noncompliance notification 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 Notification for R05JF FMVSS 217 Window Retention Noncompliance-  
Hehr Emergency Pushout Windows

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

**PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reporting  
Noncompliance Report**

**Report Date:** January 14, 2005

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

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

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

Blue Bird Corporation 2002 through 2005 model year Commercial Series Ultra LF model buses.

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

59

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

100%

**5. The noncompliance consist of:**

FMVSS Passenger Window Retention Noncompliance. The striker plates at the bottom of the Hehr emergency pushout windows can wear a groove into the emergency release bolt. If this groove becomes deep enough, the emergency pushout window may fail to open as intended when released, thus potentially trapping the passengers or a least delaying their escape.

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

On January 10, 2005 Blue Bird receive a letter of notification from Hehr International dated January 06, 2005 advising Hehr International had decided a noncompliance existed in their model series 2000 emergency egress windows. Please reference Hehr International noncompliance notification reports dated December 10, 2004 and follow-up letter dated January 06, 2005. Copies attached.

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

Blue Bird Corporation will provide Hehr International an owner list of affected delivered units. Hehr International will notify owners of the noncompliance and will provide the remedy for the noncompliance. Blue Bird Corporation will file quarterly reports as required based on completion data provided by Hehr International.

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

The Blue Bird Commercial Series Ultra LF model buses are sold direct from Blue Bird Corporation. A Dealer letter is not required.

Hehr International will conduct the owner notification according to their schedule.

Hehr International advises parts to remedy the noncompliance are anticipated to be available at time of notification.

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

R05JF

**10. A draft copy of the notification documents will be submitted by Hehr International 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*

William P. Coleman, Recall Administrator