



BLUE BIRD

FAX

05V-036 (4pgs)

Date: 01-31-05

To: Kelly Schuler
NHTSA
202-366-7882

From: Bill Coleman
Recall Administrator
Blue Bird Body Company
478-822-2242 PHONE
478-822-2467 FAX

Number of pages including cover: 4

If you do not receive the entire transmission, please call the above referenced number.

COMMENTS:

Kelly,

You will find enclosed our 573 Defect Notification Report for Recall R05JG Tire Data Load Range Omitted

The originals are being mailed certified mail to Mr. Weinstein today.

If you have any questions, give me a call.

Thanks,

Bill Coleman

Bill Coleman
Corporate Recall Administrator
Blue Bird Body Company



January 31, 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 R05JG Noncompliance with FMVSS 120 *Tire Selection and Rims for Motor Vehicles Other Than Passenger Cars*, Section 5.3.1. Tire Load Range Omitted

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 31, 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:

Certain 2003 through 2005 model year Micro Bird and Conventional model school buses delivered prior to January 26, 2005.

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

Approximately 1,300

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

100%

5. The noncompliance consist of:

FMVSS 120 Section 5.3.1 requires the tire load range to be indicated on the final stage manufacturer's certification label or on the tire information label affixed to the vehicle door post. The tire load range on both the tire information label and certification decal was omitted on subject buses.

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

- January 21, 2005 Received report from a distributor that the tire load range was omitted on the Blue Bird final stage manufacturer certification decal.
- January 25, 2005 A review of certification decal procedures found that the required tire load range was omitted in the Ford Incomplete Vehicle Documents and was therefore omitted on our certification decal. Further inspection found that the load range was also omitted on the Ford chassis door post tire data label and on the Blue Bird final stage manufacturer certification label on certain Blue Bird bodies mounted on General Motors chassis. The General Motors chassis received by Blue Bird is not equipped with a door post.
- January 26, 2005 Blue Bird determined that the absence of the load range in both places constituted a noncompliance with FMVSS 120 *Tire Selection and Rims for Motor Vehicles Other Than Passenger Cars*, Section 5.3.1. This section requires the tire load range to be indicated on the final stage manufacturers' certification label or on the tire information label affixed to the vehicle.

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

Blue Bird will provide replacement final stage manufacturer certification decals with the tire load rating indicated.

8. Notification will be as follows:

Distributor notification is scheduled to be mailed on: To be determined
Owner notification is scheduled to be mailed on: To be determined
A limited number of replacement certification decals are anticipated to be available at time of notification. Decals will be sent to customers as they are produced.

9. Blue Bird's identification number assigned to this recall is: R05JG

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 Telephone (478) 822-2242

Signed: William P. Coleman
William P. Coleman, Recall Administrator