

**PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reporting**

**Defect Report**

**Report Date:** June 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 2003 through 2006 model year Ultra Low Floor commercial buses manufactured from February 12, 2004 through May 25, 2005.

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

45

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

100%

**5. The defect consist of:**

Vapor Bus International has advised that the two-piece curved connecting rods used in certain Vapor Door operators (Base Plate Assemblies) when used as an element of the door actuation linkage in conjunction with a Vapor medium pneumatic differential engine, may be subject to fatigue failure resulting in bending or breaking of the connecting rod. Reference Vapor Bus International's CFR Part 573 report dated April 20, 2005.

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

Reference Vapor Bus International's CFR Part 573 report dated April 20, 2005.

On June 7, 2005 Blue Bird received notification of this defect from Vapor Bus International.

05V  
PR

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

Vapor Bus International will notify customers of the defect and will provide at no cost to customers a one-piece connecting rod assembly to replace the two-piece connecting rod assembly. Blue Bird will provide an owner list of its products using the subject two-piece connecting rod to Vapor Bus International for its notification campaign. Reference Vapor Bus International's CFR Part 573 report dated April 20, 2005

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

Vapor Bus International will provide owner notification. Date of notification is unknown at this time.

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

R04JY

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

Vapor Bus International will provide a draft copy of notification documents to NHTSA for review.

**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