

**R05JF**

**DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2005**

**TO: U.S. DISTRIBUTORS**

**SUBJECT: RECALL R05JF FMVSS 217 PASSENGER WINDOW RETENTION  
NONCOMPLIANCE-HEHR EMERGENCY EXIT  
PASSENGER WINDOWS**

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of The National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Blue Bird Body Company has decided that certain 2003 through 2005 model year Blue Bird Ultra LF Commercial buses manufactured at the Fort Valley, GA. plant from March, 2003 through January, 2005 with Hehr passenger windows fail to conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 217 (Passenger Window Retention).

The nonconformance relates to Hehr's emergency exit window release system. Hehr advises that in some cases, their emergency exit striker plate can wear a groove into the spring-loaded pivoting release bolts, causing them to fail to retract when the release handle is pulled. When this occurs, the emergency window will not swing free unless pulled inward at the frame bottom, allowing the bolt to clear the catch. Should this occur during a panic exit situation, egress could be slowed considerably or impeded altogether. This could trap passengers inside the bus, possibly leading to injury or death.

Blue Bird is conducting a recall to correct this noncompliance. Buses with the noncompliance must be corrected according to Hehr's instructions provided with recall R05JF, copy attached.

If our records indicate affected units were delivered in your service area, a printout identifying affected units is enclosed. Distributors should verify correct owners and that complete shipping addresses are provided for each listed vehicle. If you have in your possession or have sold a vehicle that was purchased from another distributor that may be affected by this recall, please notify me at 478-822-2242.

Time required to perform Recall R05JF is thirty minutes (0.5) hours per bus.

Warranty applications may be submitted to Blue Bird VIA ClaimTrac (use create campaign/bulletin claim).

Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

Distributors are reminded of their responsibilities under section 154 of The National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1991. Dealers are required to complete modifications/repairs on units in their inventory before delivering to the final owner. Reference Blue Bird Body Company Distributor Memo No. 42-92.

Important: Your prompt return of the **pink** reimbursement sheet, complete with the correct Body Serial Numbers, permits Blue Bird to update the record indicating recall has been completed and prevents the mailing of a second notice. This is much appreciated. We regret any inconvenience this may have caused.

Questions regarding this recall campaign should be directed to me at (478) 822-2242.

Thank you,

Bill Coleman  
Recall Administrator