



06V-464
(3 pages)

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OFFICE OF DEFECTS
NHTSA

December 05, 2006

Mr. Ron Medford
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 Corporation is submitting the attached defect report. This report was emailed to NHTSA on December 05, 2006 to the attention of Kelly Schuler.

If you should have any questions concerning the information submitted, please contact me at 478-822-2242.

Respectfully,

Bill Coleman
Corporate Recall Administrator

Enclosure: 49 CFR Part 573 Notification: Blue Bird Recall R06LD Incorrect Screw in Steering Wheel

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

PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reporting

Defect Report

Report Date: December 05, 2006

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 2008 Blue Bird "Vision" school buses built from October 23, 2006 through November 21, 2006 at the Lafayette, Georgia manufacturing facility.

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

227

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

100%

5. The defect consist of:

A temporary bolt was used to secure the steering wheel during the manufacturing process. The temporary bolt was to be removed and replaced with a permanent bolt with a lock coating during the final assembly stage. The temporary bolt was not removed and replaced on subject units.

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

On November 30, 2006 it was noticed on a bus that was being prepared for delivery that the steering wheel was not aligned properly. During adjustment the technician noticed that the screw showed indications that it had been reused. The screw has a lock coating and can only be used once. A stop delivery was immediately issued. All instructions and prints were found to be correct. It was determined that during 2008 model change the Lafayette, Georgia manufacturing facility had missed the requirement for not reusing the steering wheel screw on the new steering wheel and steering column.

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

Subject units will have the temporary screw removed and replaced with a new attaching screw with lock coating and torqued to specification requirements.

8. Notification will be as follows:

Distributor notification is scheduled to be mailed on December 11, 2006.
Owner notification is scheduled to be mailed on December 18, 2006.
Parts will be shipped concurrently, via UPS, with recall notification.

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

R06LD

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
Corporate Recall Administrator
Blue Bird Body Company
P.O. Box 937
Fort Valley GA 31030
(478) 822-2242

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