



U.S. Department
of Transportation

FEB 13 2007

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

MR. WILLIAM COLEMAN
CORPORATE RECALL ADMINISTRATOR
BLUE BIRD BODY COMPANY
P.O. BOX 937
FORT VALLEY, GA 31030

NVS-215kjs
07V-035

Subject: FMVSS 403/RICON WHEEL CHAIR LIFT

Dear MR. COLEMAN:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent noncompliance information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:
BLUE BIRD/VISION/2007-2008

NHTSA Campaign Number: 07V-035

Mfg's Report Date: February 7, 2007

Components:
EQUIPMENT ADAPTIVE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 632

Summary:

CERTAIN BLUE BIRD 2007 AND 2008 VISION SCHOOL BUSES MANUFACTURED BETWEEN FEBRUARY 9 AND OCTOBER 27, 2006. THE LIFT INNER BARRIER INTERLOCK SWITCH SYSTEM MAY NOT DETECT THE PRESENCE OF A PASSENGER ON THE INNER BARRIER AND ALLOW THE PLATFORM TO MOVE DOWN MORE THAN ONE INCH BELOW FLOOR LEVEL WHILE OCCUPIED WHICH DOES NOT CONFORM TO FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 403, "PLATFORM LIFT SYSTEMS FOR MOTOR VEHICLES."

Consequence:

IN THE EVENT THIS CONDITION OCCURS DURING PASSENGER OPERATIONS, IT MAY BE POSSIBLE FOR THE WHEELCHAIR LIFT TO TIP BACKWARDS ONTO THE PLATFORM IF THE USER IS BACKING ONTO THE LIFT FROM INSIDE THE VEHICLE AND HAS THE SMALL FRONT WHEELS FULLY OR PARTIALLY ON THE INNER BARRIER WHEN THE PLATFORM WAS LOWERED. A STANDEE COULD LOOSE HIS OR HER BALANCE IF THEY WERE POSITIONED FULLY OR PARTLY ON THE INNER BARRIER WHEN THE PLATFORM IS LOWERED. EITHER CONDITION COULD CAUSE PERSONAL INJURY.

Remedy:

BLUE BIRD WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND REPAIR THE BUSES FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON FEBRUARY 26, 2007. OWNERS CAN CONTACT BLUE BIRD AT 478-822-2242.

Notes:

BLUE BIRD RECALL NO. R07LK. CUSTOMERS MAY CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

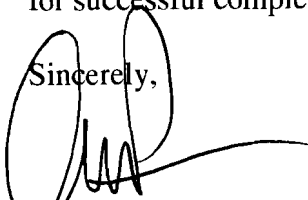
This recall is the result of an investigation, OA-403-060816A, conducted by the office of vehicle safety compliance.

Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227 or by email at KELLY.SCHULER@DOT.GOV. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement