



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

JUL 16 2007

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

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

NVS-215kjs
07V-292

Subject: FMVSS 217/EMERGENCY EXIT WINDOWS

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 > ALL AMERICAN > 2006-2008

NHTSA Campaign Number: 07V-292

Mfg's Report Date: July 3, 2007

Components: VISIBILITY:GLASS:SIDE/REAR

Potential Number of Units Affected: 192

Summary:

CERTAIN MY 2006 THROUGH 2008 BLUE BIRD ALL AMERICAN REAR ENGINE SCHOOL AND TRANSIT BUSES MANUFACTURED FROM JANUARY 14, 2005, THROUGH MARCH 13, 2007, EQUIPPED WITH EMERGENCY PUSH OUT WINDOWS. THE SUBJECT BUSES WERE MANUFACTURED WITH INCORRECT NUMBER OF EMERGENCY EXITS WHICH DOES NOT COMPLY WITH FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 217, 'BUS EMERGENCY EXITS AND WINDOW RETENTION AND RELEASE.'

Consequence:

THE PURPOSE OF THIS STANDARD IS TO MINIMIZE THE LIKELIHOOD OF OCCUPANTS BEING THROWN FROM THE BUS AND TO PROVIDE A MEANS OF READILY ACCESSIBLE EMERGENCY EGRESS.

Remedy:

BLUE BIRD WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND INSTALL ADDITIONAL EMERGENCY EXIT WINDOWS ON EACH SIDE OF THE SUBJECT BUSES FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON AUGUST 15, 2007. OWNERS CAN CONTACT BLUE BIRD AT 478-822-2242.

Notes:

BLUE BIRD RECALL NO. R07LW. 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).

The information in your noncompliance report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 except for the following items:

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).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227 or by email at KSCHULER@NHTSA.DOT.GOV.

Sincerely,



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