



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

SEP - 5 2007

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

NVS-215kjs
07V-398

Subject: FIREWALL HEATER HOSE CONNECTOR

Dear MR. COLEMAN:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect 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/CONVENTIONAL/1985-1993

NHTSA Campaign Number: 07V-398

Mfg's Report Date: August 29, 2007

Components: ENGINE AND ENGINE COOLING:COOLING SYSTEM:HOSE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 1,847

Summary:

CERTAIN BLUE BIRD CONVENTIONAL SCHOOL BUSES BUILT WITH AN OPTIONAL FIREWALL HEATER HOSE CONNECTOR ON THE DRIVER'S SIDE OF THE BUS AND MANUFACTURED FROM NOVEMBER 21, 1985, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 14, 1993. THESE BUSES WERE MANUFACTURED WITHOUT THE LEFT FRONT DRIVER'S SIDE CLOSE OUT OR THE HEATER HOSE COVER WAS NOT ORDERED AND INSTALLED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE FIREWALL CONNECTOR.

Consequence:

IN THE EVENT THE HEATER HOSE SHOULD RUPTURE OR THE CONNECTION SEPARATE ON THE DRIVER'S SIDE OF THE FIREWALL, HOT ENGINE COOLANT MAY CONTACT THE DRIVER AND MAY CAUSE INJURY.

Remedy:

BLUE BIRD WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND REPAIR THESE BUSES BY INSTALLING A METAL PROTECTIVE SHIELD OVER THE HEATER HOSES FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON SEPTEMBER 28, 2007. OWNERS CAN CONTACT BLUE BIRD AT 478-822-2242.

Notes:

BLUE BIRD RECALL NO. R07MG. 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).

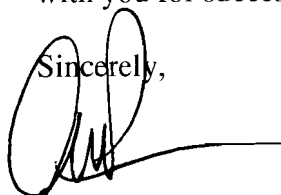
The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 except for the following items:

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 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