



07V-398
(3 pages)

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
RECALL MGMT DIV.

August 29, 2007

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 August 29, 2007 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 R07MG Heater Hose
Covers

PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reporting

Defect Report

Report Date: August 29, 2007

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 Blue Bird conventional school buses (identified by specific vehicle identification number) 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.

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

1,847

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

100%

5. The defect consists of:

These vehicles were manufactured to a state specification which required an optional firewall heater hose connector. An optional left front driver's side close out panel or heater hose cover was not ordered and installed in conjunction with the firewall connector. 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.

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

Blue Bird is aware of two instances where these conditions resulted in an injury to the driver. On August 22, 2007, Blue Bird decided to conduct a recall to correct this condition.

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

A metal protective shield will be installed over the subject heater hoses.

8. Notification will be as follows:

Distributor notification is scheduled to be mailed on September 24, 2007.

Owner notification is scheduled to be mailed on September 28, 2007.

Parts are anticipated to be available at time of notification.

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

R07MG

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