



November 09, 2007

07V-540  
(3 pages)

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 faxed to NHTSA on November 09, 2007 to the attention of George Person.

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 R07MP Insufficient  
Torque on Front Suspension

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION  
RECALL MGMT DIV.

## **PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reporting**

### **Defect Report**

**Report Date:** November 09, 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 2006 and 2007 model year Blue Bird Express Coaches manufactured from November 02, 2006 through May 19, 2007.

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

13

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

100%

**5. The defect consists of:**

The castle nuts on the tie rod ends and relay rod studs in the independent suspension assemblies are loose and or not torqued to specification. Low and or no torque on a nut can result in excessive slack in steering system, thereby allowing the tapered joint to move and subsequently shear the cotter pin. This condition can result in the steering link to become disconnected and potentially result in loss of vehicle control.

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

On November 02, 2007, Blue Bird received notification of the defect from Arvin-Meritor

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

Arvin Meritor will coordinate the inspection and remedy this issue.

**8. Notification will be as follows:**

Owner notification is scheduled to be mailed on November 09, 2007.

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

R07MP

**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