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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION  
RECALL MGMT DIV.

**07V-552**  
**(3 pages)**

December 04, 2007

Mr. Ron Medford  
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
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 December 04, 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 R07MR Battery Cable  
Fusible Link Omitted

**BLUE BIRD CORPORATION**  
402 Blue Bird Blvd. PO Box 937 • Fort Valley, Georgia 31030  
(478) 825-2021

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

### **Defect Report**

**Report Date:** December 04, 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 2001 through 2007 model year Blue Bird Micro-Bird model school buses mounted on Ford diesel chassis produced with an optional battery compartment from December 14, 2000 through September 05, 2007.

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

1,747

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

100%

**5. The defect consists of:**

Fusible link provided on Ford chassis PDU power cable was removed when the cable was shortened to accommodate an optional battery compartment.

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

On November 14, 2007, Blue Bird was notified of a vehicle fire which was alleged to have emanated from the power cable circuit.

A subsequent investigation by Blue Bird Engineering found that during the final assembly process when an optional battery compartment was installed on a Ford diesel chassis Blue Bird's manufacturing facilities removed the fusible link in the PDU power cable circuit.

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

The subject buses are to have a fusible link installed in the PDU power cable circuit Blue Bird will also provide protective loom to be used as temporary protection around any sections of the power cable that the owner may identify as being damaged or chafed.

In addition, Blue Bird will advise owners to schedule an appointment with their Ford dealer to have the Ford power cable assembly inspected and repaired as necessary.

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

Dealer notification is scheduled to be mailed on December 17, 2007.

Owner notification is scheduled to be mailed on December 20, 2007.

Parts are anticipated to be available at time of notification.

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

R07MR

**10. Dealer and Owner Notification:**

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, Corporate Recall Administrator