



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

JUL 2 2008

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

MR. BILL COLEMAN
CORPORATE RECALL ADMINISTRATOR
BLUE BIRD CORPORATION
PO BOX 937
FORT VALLEY, GA 31030

NVS-215kjs
08V-287

SUBJECT: FMVSS 222/ SEAT CUSHION RETENTION CLIPS

DEAR MR. COLEMAN:

This letter serves to acknowledge Blue Bird Corporation's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 222, "Seat Cushion Retention," in the vehicles described below for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30119.

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/2001-2002

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08V-287 **Mfg's Report Date:** June 27, 2008

Components: SEATS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 126

Summary:
BLUE BIRD IS RECALLING 126 MY 2001 AND 2002 CONVENTIONAL SCHOOL BUSES MANUFACTURED BETWEEN APRIL 19 AND OCTOBER 21, 2001, EQUIPPED WITH OPTIONAL FLIP-UP SEAT BOTTOM CUSHIONS. THE SEAT BOTTOM CUSHION REAR RETAINING CLIPS MAY HAVE BEEN OMITTED WHICH FAILS TO CONFORM TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 222, "SEAT CUSHION RETENTION."

Consequence:

IN THE EVENT OF A CRASH, THE SEAT CUSHION MAY FLIP UP EXPOSING THE OCCUPANTS TO INCREASED RISK OF INJURY.

Remedy:

BLUE BIRD WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND PROVIDE A REMEDY FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT JULY 23, 2008. OWNERS MAY CONTACT BLUE BIRD AT 478-422-2242.

Notes:

BLUE BIRD RECALL NO. R08NE. CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO 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).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

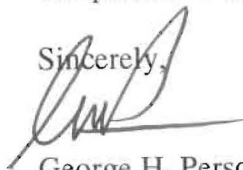
The information in your noncompliance report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 except for the following items:

We have received Blue Bird's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete. 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 the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227, by email at Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for the successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



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