

08V-286
(3 Pages)



June 30, 2008

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's email address rmd.odi@dot.gov on June 30, 2008.

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 R08NF Norcold Refrigerator Cooling Unit Leaks

PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reporting

Defect Report

Report Date: June 30, 2008

1. Vehicles affected are manufactured by:

Blue Bird Body Company
P. O. Box 937
Fort Valley, GA 31030

2. The following vehicles are being recalled:

Blue Bird Wanderlodge motor homes manufactured from July 23, 1999 through May 29, 2002 and equipped with the Norcold Model 1200LR or 1200LRIM gas/electric refrigerator.

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

162

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

unknown

5. The defect consist of:

The nature of the defect is a fatigue failure in the section of the cooling unit which contains the refrigerant. This fatigue failure could allow the liquid to slowly leak from the cooling unit. If a leak occurs and the refrigerant continues to be operated after solution circulation has ceased the heat source could generate very high temperatures. At such high temperatures the steel material of the cooling unit could soften and rupture. If refrigerant gas is still in place when the rupture occurs hydrogen gas may be expelled and could be ignited by the high temperature, possibly causing a fire.

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

Blue Bird Body Company received a dealer and service center safety defect notification from Norcold Incorporated, P.O. Box 4248 Sidney, OH 45365 which extended their original recall (02-E045000) announced on July 22, 2002. The new recall (08E-030) includes Norcold refrigerators models 1200LR and 1200LRIM manufactured by Norcold from March 1, 1999 to February 28, 2001.

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

Although Norcold Inc. is sending recall notifications to owners, Blue Bird will also notify Wanderlodge owners advising them of this recall and to contact Norcold Inc. for replacement refrigerator cooling units.

8. Notification will be as follows:

Dealer notification is scheduled to be mailed on July 24, 2008
Owner notification is scheduled to be mailed on July 24, 2008

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

R08NF

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
Recall Administrator
Blue Bird Body Company
P.O. Box 937
Fort Valley GA 31030
(478) 822-2242

Signed: _____

William P. Coleman

William P. Coleman, Recall Administrator