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OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION  
RECALL MGMT DIV.

08V-435  
(3 pages)

August 26, 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](mailto:rmd.odi@dot.gov) on April 10, 2008.

If you should have any questions concerning the information submitted, please contact me at 478-822-2242.

Respectfully,

Bill Coleman  
Corporate Recall Administrator  
Blue Bird Corporation

Enclosure: 49 CFR Part 573 Notification: Blue Bird Recall R08NM FMVSS 403 6.10  
Lift Enable Interlock Noncompliance

**PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reporting**

**Noncompliance Report**

**Report Date:** August 26, 2008

**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 2006-2009 Blue Bird Micro Bird school buses and non school buses equipped with optional wheelchair lifts manufactured from July 27, 2005 through August 20,2008.

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

Approximately 803

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

100%

**5. The noncompliance consists of:**

Buses do not comply with FMVSS 403 Section 6.10 requirements for lift interlocks.

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

Blue Bird received a report that the wheelchair interlocks were not operating properly. A review of the interlock system design found that the wheelchair lift enable switch, if set to the "off" position while the lift is deployed can render the wheelchair interlocks inoperative.

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

The wheelchair lift enable switch will be removed from the lift deployment circuitry.

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

Distributor notification is scheduled to be mailed on September 29, 2008.  
Owner notification is scheduled to be mailed on September 29, 2008.  
Parts are anticipated to be available at time of notification.

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

R08NM

**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 Corporation  
P.O. Box 937  
Fort Valley GA 31030  
(478) 822-2242

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*William P. Coleman*

William P. Coleman, Corporate Recall Administrator