



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

January 26, 2010

**CERTIFIED MAIL**  
**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Mr. Bill Coleman  
Corporate Recall Administrator  
Blue Bird Corporation  
P.O. Box 937  
Fort Valley, GA 31030

NVS-215kjs  
08V-435

Dear Mr. Coleman:

Blue Bird Corporation (Blue Bird) is requested, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 30165, 30166, and 30119, to renotify owners involved in safety recall 08V-435 who have not had their vehicles corrected or otherwise accounted for. This recall involves 805 MY 2006 through 2009 Micro Bird school buses equipped with optional wheelchair lifts. The wheelchair lift enable switch, if set to the "off" position while the lift is deployed can render the wheelchair interlocks inoperative. Owner notification began on October 22, 2008. In Blue Bird's fourth reporting quarter, Blue Bird reports that of the 805 school buses involved, 795 have not been remedied.

Blue Bird should conduct the owner renotification in accordance with the guidelines listed below.

- Before conducting the owner renotification, Blue Bird should obtain an updated owner list, for this recall campaign, based on current state motor vehicle registration records.
- Blue Bird's proposed owner renotification letter for this recall must meet the requirements of 49 CFR Part 577.10, "Follow-up Notification," and must be submitted to NHTSA for review before owner renotification begins. Part 577.10(e)(1) specifically requires that the renotification letter be identified as a ". . . follow-up to an earlier communication."
- In addition to the six quarterly status reports required under 49 CFR Part 573.6, "Quarterly Reports," Blue Bird is requested to file three additional quarterly status reports.

- Furnish a proposed schedule for conducting the owner renotification that includes the following information:
  - a. the date on which the search of current state motor vehicle registration records will be initiated in order to update the original owner list;
  - b. the approximate date on which the revised owner list will be available to initiate owner renotification;
  - c. the approximate date on which the owner renotification will begin; and
  - d. the approximate date on which the owner renotification will be completed (if the owner renotification is to be staggered, give the beginning and ending owner renotification date for each segment).

Blue Bird's renotification schedule and a draft of the proposed owner renotification letter must be submitted to this office by February 25, 2010.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Ric Willard at (202) 366-6544, [richard.willard@dot.gov](mailto:richard.willard@dot.gov) or Kelly Schuler at (202) 366-5227, [Kelly.schuler@dot.gov](mailto:Kelly.schuler@dot.gov) or by fax at (202) 366-7882.

Sincerely,



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