



R08ND

July 11, 2008

Dear Blue Bird Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of The National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Blue Bird has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2006 and 2007 model year Blue Bird Express coaches manufactured from August 5, 2005 through May 25, 2007.

The TRW-supplied tie rod assemblies installed on these units may not meet design specifications. As a result the tie rod assemblies (left or right) may fracture at high mileage. Should this condition occur, it can adversely affect vehicle handling and steerability, resulting in loss of vehicle control, which could result in a crash.

A field action program to address the issue is being administered by ArvinMeritor, Inc. At your earliest convenience, you should contact ArvinMeritor's OnTrac Customer Service Center (see contact information below) and MM-0368 for tie rod assembly replacement procedures and for replacement tie rod assemblies. Both right and left tie rod assemblies on these coaches must be replaced.

ArvinMeritor's Maintenance Manual MM-0368 can be found at ArvinMeritor's Literature on Demand websites at www.meritorhvs.com. The tie rod assembly replacement should be completed at a qualified repair facility and will be at no expense to vehicle owners. If owners are unable to perform the work themselves or cannot find a qualified repair facility, call the OnTrac Customer Service Center for contact information on qualified repair facilities in your area.

Availability of Replacement Parts and Service Instructions:

Replacement parts are currently available. Owners or repair facilities should obtain replacement tie rod assemblies by contacting ArvinMeritor's OnTrac Customer Service Center using any of the below methods.

Contact: OnTrac Performance Plus Call Center, follow the menu system after selecting "preferred language." Press the number 1 then select prompt 2 for specialty products, refer to program C8AF.

Phone: 1-866-668-7221 Fax: 248-435-5580

Email: ontrac@ArvinMeritor.com

BLUE BIRD CORPORATION
P.O. Box 937 • Fort Valley, Georgia 31030
Phone: (478) 825-2021

Parts, Labor and Handling Allowance:

ArvinMeritor will provide parts at no cost and will reimburse at the standard repair time (SRT) of 4.8 hours to replace both Tie Rod Assemblies and to reset toe.

Removed Material Disposition:

Repair facilities should replace the identified suspect tie rod assemblies only on an identified vehicle. Removed tie rod assemblies should be returned to:

TRW
902 Lyons Road
Portland, MI 49975
Attn. Brian Shivley
Ph 517 647 0244

Call the OnTrac for specific shipping information. See above for OnTrac contact info.

Claims for Credit:

ArvinMeritor will accept warranty claims for replacement of the suspect tie rod assemblies associated with this notice directly from the repair facility or from the vehicle manufacturer (OEM). In order to receive proper credit, such warranty claims must contain the following information at the time of submission:

- Reference to ArvinMeritor Campaign ID Number C8AF
- Reference to NHTSA Campaign ID Number : 08V-259
- Reference to the vehicle manufacturer's campaign number (optional)
- 17-digit vehicle identification number (VIN)
- Suspension Module serial number
- Vehicle owner's name, address, and telephone number
- Vehicle in-service date
- Vehicle repair date
- Vehicle mileage at the time of repair
- Dealer work order number
- Repairing facility name, address, and telephone number
- Total labor hours required performing the work, not to exceed agreed formula
- Repair facilities hourly rate
- Tracking number for return shipment of Tie Rod Assemblies

Failure to provide complete information will delay processing of the warranty claim.

Questions relating to warranty claims, replacement parts delivery and parts disposition can be addressed to the ArvinMeritor OnTrac Performance Plus Call Center using any of the methods identified on the bottom of page 1.

Questions regarding Recall R08ND should be directed to:

Gordon Hall
Customer Service Manager – Specialty Products
2135 West Maple Road B260
Troy, Michigan 48084
Telephone: (248) 435-2704
Facsimile: (242) 435-1208
Email: Gordon.Hall@arvinmeritor.com

If you no longer own the subject coach(es) please complete the appropriate section of the attached "owner reply sheet" and return to Blue Bird in the enclosed pink postage paid reply envelope.

If the modifications/repairs directed by this notification were performed on your bus prior to the receipt of this recall notification, complete and sign the recall reply sheet and attach a copy of the work order/invoice. Mail the documents in the pink self-addressed postage paid envelope included with the recall notification to Blue Bird for warranty consideration. Reimbursements will be made in accordance with the requirements of the National Highway Transportation Safety Act, title 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 573 and 577.

Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

If Blue Bird Body Company should fail to or is unable to remedy this condition without charge to you, you may contact:

**ADMINISTRATOR
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
1200 NEW JERSEY AVENUE, SE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590**

or you may call The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration toll free at:

1-888-327-4236
TTY: 1-800-424-9153
or got to: <http://www.safercar.gov>

Sincerely,



Bill Coleman
Corporate Recall Administrator
BLUE BIRD BODY COMPANY