



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

February 19, 2009

MR. WILLIAM COLEMAN  
RECALL ADMINISTRATOR  
BLUE BIRD CORPORATION  
P.O. BOX 937  
FORT VALLEY, GA 31030

NVS-215kjs  
09V-055

**SUBJECT: BATTERY POWER CABLE CHAFING/FIRE**

**DEAR MR. COLEMAN:**

This letter serves to acknowledge Blue Bird Body Company's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety defect 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/VISION/2007-2008

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 09V-055      **Mfg's Report Date:** February 16, 2009

**Components:** ELECTRICAL SYSTEM:BATTERY:CABLES

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 4,591

**Summary:**  
BLUE BIRD IS RECALLING 4,591 MY 2007 AND 2008 VISION CONVENTIONAL SCHOOL BUSES MANUFACTURED FROM MARCH 29, 2006 THROUGH DECEMBER 3, 2007, EQUIPPED WITH CATERPILLAR C7 ENGINES. THE MAIN BATTERY POWER CABLE MAY CHAFE AGAINST THE ENGINE COMPONENTS AT THE REAR OF THE ENGINE.

**Consequence:**

CHAFING OF THE CABLE CAN RESULT IN A DIRECT SHORT WITH POTENTIAL FOR FIRE.

**Remedy:**

BLUE BIRD WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND INSPECT AND CORRECT THE BUSES FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT MARCH 12, 2009. OWNERS MAY CONTACT BLUE BIRD AT 1-478-822-2242.

**Notes:**

BLUE BIRD'S RECALL NO. R09PB. OWNERS 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).

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6.

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, 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](mailto:Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



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