



August 12, 2009

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 noncompliance report. This report was emailed to NHTSA on August 12, 2009 to the attention of Kelly Schuler.

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

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OFFICE OF DEFECTS
INVESTIGATION

Enclosure: 49 CFR Part 573 Notification: Blue Bird Recall R09PM Offset Leg Barrier Pad and 2/3 Seat Back Pad Noncompliance

PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reporting

Noncompliance Report

Report Date: August 12, 2009

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 Blue Bird 2008 through 2010 model year Micro Bird school buses equipped with certain offset leg barriers and 2/3 seats manufactured from August 28, 2007 through May 06, 2009.

Certain Blue Bird 2004 through 2010 model year All American school buses equipped with certain offset leg barriers and 2/3 seats manufactured from January 30, 2003 through May 07, 2009.

Certain Blue Bird 2004 through 2010 model year Vision conventional school buses equipped with certain offset leg barriers and 2/3 seats manufactured from July 14, 2003 through May 07, 2009.

Certain Blue Bird 2004 through 2008 model year conventional school buses equipped with certain offset leg barriers and 2/3 seats manufactured from February 01, 2003 through May 24, 2007.

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

37,095

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

Unknown

5. The noncompliance consists of:

Incorrect offset leg barrier pads or 2/3 seat back pads may have been installed. Buses with incorrect pads installed fail to conform to the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 222, "School Bus Passenger Seating and Crash Protection".

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

On May 05, 2009, Blue Bird was made aware of incorrect offset leg barrier pads and 2/3 seat back pads were installed on some units in production. All units on site at both manufacturing facilities in Fort Valley, GA and Lafayette, GA were inspected and corrected.

Blue Bird began a sample inspection of delivered units. Incorrect offset leg barrier pads were found installed on some of the units inspected. Blue Bird began a review of options with offset leg barriers and 2/3 seats to define affected units.

On August 06, 2009 Blue Bird decided to initiate a recall to have the defined population inspected and incorrect offset leg barrier pads and 2/3 seat pads replaced.

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

Owners will be notified to inspect offset leg barrier pads and 2/3 seat back pads to determine if incorrect pads were installed. Replacement pads will be provided for those found with any incorrect pads.

8. Notification will be as follows:

Dealer notification is scheduled to be mailed on 09-30-09.
Owner notification is scheduled to begin on 09-30-09 and end on 10/30/09.
Parts are anticipated to be available at time of notification.

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

R09PM

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