



R09PL

DATE: AUGUST 14, 2009

TO: U.S. DEALERS

**SUBJECT: RECALL R09PL REAR HEADLINER FMVSS JOINT
STRENGTH NONCOMPLIANCE**

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 noncompliance which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2010 model year All American school buses manufactured from May 13, 2009 through June 17, 2009.

On the subject buses, insufficient rivets may have been installed in the rear inner headliner panel. Buses with insufficient rivets fail to conform to the joint strength requirements of FMVSS 221 "School Bus Body Joint Strength". Bus passengers may sustain injuries in the event of a vehicle crash. Buses with this noncompliance must be corrected according to the enclosed instructions for Recall R09PL.

If our records indicate affected buses were delivered in your service area, a printout identifying affected buses is enclosed. **Dealers should verify correct owners and assure that complete shipping addresses are provided for each listed vehicle.**

If you have in your possession or have sold a bus that was purchased from another dealer that may be affected by this recall, please notify me at 478-822-2242.

Dealers should request parts for buses at their facility from Blue Bird Recall Administration. Dealers will need to provide the body number for each bus requiring inspection at their facility.

A yellow reply sheet is provided with the owner notification letter so owners may request replacement parts direct from Blue Bird Recall Administration.

Labor time to inspect the rear headliner for correct rivet spacing is 0.3 hrs per bus.

Labor time to installed rivets, if needed, is 2 minutes per rivet.

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

Warranty applications for labor reimbursement may be submitted to Blue Bird iWarranty (Campaigns/Claims).

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

Dealers are reminded of their responsibilities under section 154 of The National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1991. Dealers are required to complete modifications on units in their inventory before delivering to the final owner. Reference Blue Bird Body Company Distributor Memo No. 42-92.

Questions regarding this recall campaign should be directed to me at (478) 822-2242.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Coleman".

Bill Coleman
Corporate Recall Administrator
Blue Bird Corporation



Headlining Rivets

RECALL

MODELS AFFECTED: 2010 D3FE All American School Buses manufactured at Fort Valley, Georgia from January 19, 2009 through May 13, 2009.

ISSUE

On some units, the rivet spacing may be incorrect in some segments of the rear headlining and rear upper inner panel joint, resulting in noncompliance with FMVSS 221, School Bus Body Joint Strength.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

Inspect the rivet spacing at the joint and install additional rivets as required by specification.

WARNING Always follow all Federal, State, Local, and Shop safety standards and use proper safety equipment when performing this procedure.

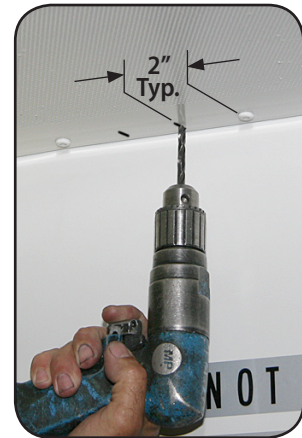
PROCEDURE

- 1** Park vehicle on level surface, apply parking brake, remove ignition key and chock wheels.
- 2** Inspect rivet spacing at rear headlining and rear upper inner panel joint. Joint must have a minimum of four rivets in an eight inch segment.
 - 2.1 Place the template over the joint and parallel to the edge of the headlining panel, allowing roof rivets to be exposed through the opening in the template as shown.



- 2.2 Move the template from one side of the headlining panel to the opposite side.
- 2.3 If a segment in the rear headlining panel joint contains less than four rivets, additional rivets are required. Mark each area that requires additional rivets. Rivets should be spaced on approx. 2" centers.
- 2.4 If additional rivets are required; add additional rivets between the largest spaces until a minimum of four (4) rivets have been added in the 8 inch segment.

- 3** Using a short 7/32" drill bit, drill a hole through the headlining panel and the rear upper inner panel. Be sure to drill hole on a common center-line with existing rivets.



- 4** Install pre-painted rivet/s in each hole.



- 5** With the correct color paint, touch up the center of each rivet where the stem was removed during installation.

PARTS LIST

PART NUMBER	QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION
01549211	As Required	Rivet, Cherry, SSPVH-204-4

R09PL

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