



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

March 16, 2010

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

NVS-215kjs
10V-101

SUBJECT: WIRE HARNESS FOR THE HEADLIGHTS

DEAR MR. COLEMAN:

This letter serves to acknowledge Blue Bird Corporation's (Blue Bird) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall campaign which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the vehicles listed below.

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/ALL AMERICAN/2010

NHTSA Campaign Number: 10V-101 **Mfg's Report Date:** March 12, 2010

Components: EXTERIOR LIGHTING: HEADLIGHTS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 421

Summary:

BLUE BIRD HAS NOTIFIED NHTSA ABOUT A DEFECT IN CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2010 ALL AMERICAN SCHOOL BUSES MANUFACTURED FROM MAY 13, 2009 THROUGH FEBRUARY 26, 2010. THE WIRING HARNESS FOR THE REAR TAG LIGHT MAY BE OF INSUFFICIENT LENGTH RESULTING IN THE HARNESS BEING ROUTED IMPROPERLY AND EXPOSING THE CONNECTOR TO THE ENVIRONMENT WHICH COULD CAUSE THE CONNECTOR TO CORRODE. CORROSION COULD CAUSE A DIRECT SHORT IN THE TAG LIGHT CIRCUIT. A SHORT IN THE TAG LIGHT WIRING CIRCUIT, WHICH INCLUDES THE HEADLIGHT LOW BEAM CIRCUIT, COULD CAUSE SUDDEN LOSS OF HEADLIGHT LOW BEAMS.

Consequence:

LOSS OF LOW BEAM HEADLIGHTS WHILE THE VEHICLE IS IN OPERATION COULD IMPAIR THE DRIVERS VISION AND RESULT IN A CRASH.

Remedy:

BLUE BIRD WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND REPAIR THE BUSES BY INSTALLING THE CORRECT LENGTH HARNESS FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT APRIL 12, 2010. OWNERS MAY CONTACT BLUE BIRD AT 1-478-822-2242.

Notes:

BLUE BIRD'S RECALL CAMPAIGN NUMBER IS R10RR. CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-423 (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 except for the following:

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. 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).

Your contacts for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227, or by email at Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Person', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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