



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

August 20, 2010

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

NVS-215kjs  
10V-379

**SUBJECT: STARTER CABLE RETAINING NUT AND FLAT WASHER**

**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/2007-2011

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 10V-379      **Mfg's Report Date:** August 18, 2010

**Components:** ENGINE AND ENGINE COOLING

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 3,992

**Summary:**

BLUE BIRD IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2007 THROUGH 2010 ALL AMERICAN SCHOOL BUSES MANUFACTURED FROM MAY 29, 2006 THROUGH AUGUST 7, 2010 EQUIPPED WITH CUMMINS ISB-02, ISB-07, AND ISB-10 ENGINES. AN INCORRECT COMBINATION OF FLAT WASHER AND SERRATED NUT WAS INSTALLED ON THE BOLT THAT SECURES THE STARTER CABLE RETAINING CLAMP TO ITS ATTACHING BRACKET AT THE FRONT OF THE ENGINE ABOVE THE ENGINE COOLING FAN. THE FLAT

WASHER PREVENTS THE SERRATED NUT FROM LOCKING AGAINST THE ATTACHING BRACKET. OVER TIME, THE SERRATED NUT MAY BACK OFF ALLOWING THE STARTER CABLE TO FALL AND CONTACT THE FAN HUB WHILE IN OPERATION.

**Consequence:**

IF THE STARTER CABLE CONTACTS THE FAN HUB WHILE THE FAN HUB IS IN OPERATION, THE CABLE COVERING MAY ABRABE WHICH COULD RESULT IN A DIRECT SHORT. A SHORT COULD POTENTIALLY RESULT IN A VEHICLE FIRE.

**Remedy:**

BLUE BIRD WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND REPAIR THE BUSES FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT SEPTEMBER 24, 2010. OWNERS MAY CONTACT BLUE BIRD AT 1-478-822-2242.

**Notes:**

BLUE BIRD'S RECALL CAMPAIGN NUMBER IS R10SL. 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.

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).

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 close of the calendar quarter.

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](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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer T. Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Jennifer T. Timian  
Acting Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement