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By Recall Mgt Div. at 1:04 pm, Apr 06, 2010



BLUE BIRD

April 01, 2010

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 defect reports. These reports were emailed to NHTSA on April 01, 2010 to the attention of Kelly Schuler.

If you should have any questions concerning the information submitted, please contact me at 478-822-2242.

Respectfully,

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

Bill Coleman
Corporate Recall Administrator

Enclosure: 49 CFR Part 573 Notification: Blue Bird Recall R10RV Ricon Wheelchair Lift Platform Stow defect reports for school bus units and non-school bus units.

BLUE BIRD BODY COMPANY

P.O. Box 937 – 402 Blue Bird Blvd – Fort Valley, Georgia – (478) 825-2021



PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reporting

Noncompliance Report

Report Date: April 01, 2010

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 2010 model year Blue Bird All American, Conventional and Micro-Bird school buses manufactured from April 24, 2009 through November 14, 2009 equipped with either a Ricon Corporation Model S or K Series L-Model public use wheelchair lifts.

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

569

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

unknown

5. The noncompliance consists of:

Ricon Corp. has identified a defect in the software that controls the lift "UP" function for the subject wheelchair lift platforms. If the lift "Up" switch is released before the floor level limit switch is activated the lift may continue its upward travel approximately one second before stopping. This may allow the lift platform to overrun the floor level cut off point. When the platform overruns the vehicle floor level and stops at an angle from 15-20 degrees, it is possible for a person in a wheel chair to tip over and for someone standing on the platform to possibly fall resulting in potential for personal injury.

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

Ricon Corporation notified Blue Bird that it has initiated a recall (NHTSA 09E-061) relating to a defect with the software that controls the lift up function on certain DOT Public Use S & K Series L-Model wheelchair lifts.

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

Blue Bird will notify owners to contact their Ricon dealer. Ricon does not currently have a software remedy available. In the interim Ricon will provide owners with a bulletin outlining proper wheelchair lift operation and will ship owners a DVD Based training aid to promote proper lift operation at no cost to owners.

8. Notification will be as follows:

Distributor notification is scheduled to be mailed on or about May 01, 2010.
Owner notification is scheduled to be mailed on or about May 01, 2010.

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

R10RV

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

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