



BLUE BIRD

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10V-169
(3 pages)

April 21, 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 report. This report was emailed to NHTSA on April 21, 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,

Bill Coleman
Corporate Recall Administrator

Enclosures:

49 CFR Part 573 Notification: Blue Bird Recall R10RW Incorrect Power Cable Lug Orientation_School Bus

49 CFR Part 573 Notification: Blue Bird Recall R10RW Incorrect Power Cable Lug Orientation_Non School Bus

BLUE BIRD BODY COMPANY

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



PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reporting

Defect Report

Report Date: April 20, 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 2004 through 2009 model year Blue Bird Vision model school buses manufactured from January, 30, 2003 through September 24, 2008.

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

18,821

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

Unknown

5. The defect consists of:

The power cables running to the power distribution unit stud and driver's control module stud may have been installed with the lug (eyelet) flat side up. When this condition exists, vibration may wear the insulation permitting direct contact between the bare lug and the PDU or DCM which could cause a direct short in the electrical system. This condition could result in a vehicle fire.

6. The following data is the basis for the determination of the defect.

On June 04, 2009, Blue Bird customer service received a report of the power cable shorting against the power distribution unit (PDU). It was determined that the power cable terminal lug was oriented incorrectly with the flat side out and the insulation had rubbed through.

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On October 22, 2009, Blue Bird received a second report of the power cable lug being oriented incorrectly.

A subsequent review of the production procedures and installation practices found that the incorrect lug orientation occurred prior to May 28, 2008 due to changes in line personnel. Blue Bird decided to inspect all buses manufactured from 2004 through 2009 model year to ensure all cable terminal lugs are installed correctly

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

The subject buses will be inspected for proper orientation of the power cable lug. Cable lugs found with incorrect orientation will be corrected.

8. Notification will be as follows:

Dealer notification is scheduled to be mailed on or about May 21, 2010.
Owner notification is scheduled to be mailed on or about May 21, 2010.

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

R10RW

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