



BLUE BIRD

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10V-298
(3 pages)

PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reporting

Defect Report

Report Date: 06-29-10

1. Vehicles affected are manufactured by:

Blue Bird Body Company
P. O. Box 937
Fort Valley, GA 31030

2. The following vehicles are being recalled:

Certain 2010 and 2011 model year Blue Bird All American and Vision model **school buses** manufactured from March 25, 2009 through January 12, 2010 equipped with National Model NS 2000 driver's seat.

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

1,542

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

Unknown

5. The defect consists of:

The driver's seat shock damper may break allowing the driver's seat to unexpectedly drop to the floor without warning. In the event this should occur while the bus is in operation, the driver may lose control momentarily which could result in an accident potentially causing injury or death to occupants of the bus or pedestrians.



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

On March 31, 2010 Blue Bird received an initial report of a drivers' seat shock damper breaking unexpectedly causing the driver's seat to drop suddenly. The supplier of the seat, Commercial Vehicle Group (CVG) was contacted regarding this issue. CVG advised they had experienced a quality issue with the welds on the end tab of the shock which was provided to them by an outside vendor. CVG also advised they had performed a Quality Audit and believed they had contained and corrected the issue. However, Blue Bird continued to receive reports of the driver's seat shock damper breaking.

Further consultation with CVG identified the suspect population based on the production date of the failed shocks of March 10, 2009 through December 04, 2009. Blue Bird subsequently inspected and replaced all seat shocks on site at its manufacturing facilities found within the suspect date code range.

On June 24, 2010 Blue Bird decided to conduct a recall to correct this defect by having all delivered units manufactured from March 10, 2009 through January 12, 2010 inspected for shocks with date code within the suspect time period and, if found, replaced.

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

The damper shock on the subject National NS 2000 driver's seats will be inspected for production date. If the production date on the shock is within production dates of CVG production dates of March 10, 2009 through December 04, 2009, the seat shock will be replaced.

8. Notification will be as follows:

Dealer notification is scheduled to be mailed on or about August 06, 2010.
Owner notification is scheduled to be mailed on or about August 06, 2010
Parts are anticipated to be available at time of notification.

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

R10SF



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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