



BLUE BIRD

RECEIVED

By Recall Mgt Div. at 8:35 am, Aug 20, 2010

PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reporting

Defect Report

Report Date: August 18, 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 2007 through 2011 model year Blue Bird All American school buses manufactured from May 29, 2006 through August 07, 2010 and equipped with Cummins ISB-02, ISB-07 and ISB-10 engines.

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

3,992

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

Unknown

5. The defect consists of:

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 front of engine above 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. If the starter cable contacts the fan hub while the fan is in operation, the cable covering may abrade which could result in a direct short. A direct short could potentially result in a vehicle fire.

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

On May 25, 2010 Blue Bird received a report that a starter cable had worked loose, contacted the fan hub and shorted out.



BLUE BIRD

On June 07, 2010 Blue Bird contacted several dealers to conduct an inspection of the starter cable attachment in the field. A review of the manufacturing process was also begun.

On August 16, 2010 the dealer inspection and the review of the manufacturing process were completed. The dealers found additional units with starter cable attachments loose. It was determined that the parts installed during assembly were not to design specifications.

On August 17, 2010 Blue Bird decided to issue a recall to correct this defect.

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

The incorrect flat washer and serrated lock nut will be removed and replaced with a new flat washer and locking nut which securely locks against the bolt. The starter cable will also be inspected for possible damage and replaced, if found damaged.

8. Notification will be as follows:

Dealer notification is scheduled to be mailed on or about September 24, 2010. Owner notification is scheduled to be mailed on or about September 24, 2010. Parts are anticipated to be available at time of notification.

9. Blue Bird's identification number assigned to this recall is: R10SL

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