



BLUE BIRD

10V-628
(3 pages)

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By delia.lopez at 11:44 am, Dec 16, 2010

December 15, 2010

Mr. Dan Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
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 noncompliance report. This report was emailed to NHTSA on December 15, 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

Enclosure: 49 CFR Part 573 Notification: Blue Bird Recall R11SU FMVSS 221
Noncompliance –Adhesive Omitted on 20 Gauge Outside Side Panel Joints

BLUE BIRD BODY COMPANY

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



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PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reporting

Noncompliance Report

Report Date: 12-15-10

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 2011 model year Blue Bird All American "D3" model school buses manufactured with 20 gauge outside side panels from April 23, 2010 through September 11, 2010.

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

143

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

100%

5. The noncompliance consists of:

Adhesive required to meet FMVSS 221 Joint Strength Requirements may have been omitted from the outside side panel joints on subject buses manufactured with 20 gauge outside side panels.

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

It was discovered that the side panel joint adhesive required to meet FMVSS 221 Joint Strength Requirements on the new "D3" model All American equipped with 20 gauge outside side panels may not have been installed on the panel joints.

On December 15, 2010 Blue Bird decided to issue a recall to dealers and owners to correct this noncompliance.



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

Additional rivets will be installed on 1" spacing which is required to meet FMVSS 221 Joint Strength Requirements without adhesive.

8. Notification will be as follows:

Distributor notification is scheduled to be issued on January 26, 2011.
Owner notification is scheduled to be issued on January 26, 2011.
Parts are anticipated to be available at time of notification.

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

R11SU

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