

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles
PART 573 -Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports¹

On [December 17, 2010](#), [Corp. Micro Bird](#) decided that a non compliance which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 **Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports**.

Date this report was prepared: [December 17, 2010](#)

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): [10-040-ACU](#)

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and **mailing address** of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

[Corp. Micro Bird Inc.](#)

[3000, rue Girardin](#)

[Drummondville \(Québec\) J2E 0A1](#)

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

[Valérie Fortin](#)

Regulations and Standards Technician

Telephone Number: [819 477-2012 ext. 428](#) Fax No.: [819 477-1848](#)

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

[Valérie Fortin](#)

Regulations and Standards Technician

Signed: _____

¹ Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. George Person at (202) 366-5210 or by FAX at (202) 366-7882.

I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall, for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:

Make(s) Girardin Model Years Involved: 1999 through 2002

Production Dates: Beginning: August 2, 1999 Ending: May 8, 2002

VIN Range: Beginning: ----- Ending: -----

Vehicle Type: Ford and GM Cutaway Bodystyle: MBIV bus and school bus 1999-2002
MBII bus and school bus 1999-2002

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

The vehicles are equipped with a Trans/air evaporator that has a speed control resistor mounted to the top of each blower assembly.

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Widgets equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period.

2 % of all vehicles equipped with an AC system and built during the recall period and sold to USA.

II. Identify the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

Year	Model	
	MBII	MBIV
1999	8	5
2000	6	28
2001	2	6
2002	0	1

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 56

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 100 %

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined--in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles:

All the vehicle equipped with part number 2021173,021174, 2021257 and 2021515 and built between August 2, 1999 and December 31, 2007.

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

The evaporator installed in the vehicle utilizes a power resistor to regulate blower speed. Should a short occur in the "low or medium speed" circuit while the blower is in high speed, the short will cause the supply voltage to feedback through the resistor to ground, not drawing enough current to trip the fuse, but causing the resistor temperature to rise to a point where it will melt and possibly ignite the plastic blower housing to which it is mounted.

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

Mis-installation, a maintenance error, or an error in installing an accessory could cause a short of the "low or medium speed" wire to ground.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

An overheat situation or, a possible source of ignition can occur.

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

Smoke and/or a hot smell.

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.

Trans/Air Manufacturing
480 East Locust Street
PO Box 70
Dallastown, PA 17313-0070 USA

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:

Mark Slobodian
Operations Manager

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.

6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.

On December 16, we received a letter from NHTSA – Office of Defects Investigation, notifying us that Trans/Air has decided that a safety related defect exist in TA73 evaporators. It was the first time we heard about this recall.

7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.

N/A

V. Identify the Remedy

8. A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance. This program shall include a plan for reimbursing an owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall within a reasonable time in advance of the manufacturer's notification of owners, purchasers and dealers, in accordance with §573.13 of this part. A manufacturer's plan may incorporate by reference a general reimbursement plan it previously submitted to NHTSA, together with information specific to the individual recall. Information required by §573.13 that is not in a general reimbursement plan shall be submitted in the manufacturer's report to NHTSA under this section. If a manufacturer submits one or more general reimbursement plans, the manufacturer shall update each plan every two years, in accordance with §573.13. The manufacturer's remedy program and reimbursement plans will be available for inspection by the public at NHTSA headquarters.

Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.

[Adding a thermal shutdown device in series with the speed resistor.](#)

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

N/A

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

10. Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

We anticipate to notify our dealer and final customer by the second week of January 2011.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

11. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. *A DRAFT copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7882) for review prior to mailing.*

Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 579.5 requirements.