



12V-349
(3 pages)

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By Recall Management Division at 7:55 am, Jul 24, 2012

July 23, 2012

Mr. Claude Harris
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington DC 20590

Dear Mr. Harris,

In accordance with the requirements of CFR 49 Part 573.6, Blue Bird Corporation is submitting the attached defect report.

This report was emailed to Kelly Schuler at NHTSA on July 23, 2012.

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 573.6 Noncompliance Notification Report for R12VG Hydraulic Brake Monitor Module Omitted



49 CFR, PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reporting

Noncompliance Report

Report Date: July 23, 2012

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 2013 model year Blue Bird Vision model school buses manufactured from May 10, 2012 through June 07, 2012.

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

19

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

Unknown

5. The noncompliance consists of:

The electronic module that activates the hydraulic brake pressure indicator light on the dash instrument panel when there is little or no pressure in the hydraulic brake system may have been omitted during manufacture. Failure of the hydraulic brake pressure indicator light to activate when there is little or no pressure in the hydraulic brake system is a noncompliance to FMVSS 105 "Hydraulic and Electric Brake Systems", Section 5.3 "Brake System Indicator Lamps".

In the event a loss of pressure occurs in the hydraulic brake system and the brake pressure monitor does not activate, the operator of the bus may not be aware of the subsequent reduced braking capacity which could result in a vehicle crash with potential for personal injury and/or property damage. No accidents or injuries have been reported as a result of this issue.



BLUE BIRD

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

On June 08, 2012 Blue Bird was advised by a dealer that the hydraulic brake pressure indicator light was not working on six recently delivered buses.

A subsequent inspection of the hydraulic brake system on these buses found the hydraulic brake pressure indicator light electronic activation module was missing.

Blue Bird initiated an audit of 286 buses on site at the factory in Fort Valley Georgia to determine if the electronic activation module was installed.

Upon completion of the audit 11 buses were found with the electronic activation module not installed.

On July 18, 2012 Blue Bird determined that buses with the hydraulic brake pressure electronic activation module omitted did not conform to FMVSS 105 "Hydraulic and Electric Brake Systems", Section 5.3 "Brake System Indicator Lamps".

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

Owners will be instructed to check for proper operation of the hydraulic brake pressure indicator light. An electronic brake module will be provided for installation on any bus found with an inoperative brake pressure warning light.

8. Notification will be as follows:

Blue Bird dealer notification letter is scheduled to be mailed on August 23, 2012.
Blue Bird owner notification letter is scheduled to be mailed on August 23, 2012.
Parts are anticipated to be available at time of notification.

9. Blue Bird's identification number assigned to this recall is: R12VG

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