

**49 CFR, PART 573.6 Defect and Noncompliance Reporting****Defect Report**

Report Date: December 23, 2013

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 2014-15 model year All American and Blue Bird "Vision" conventional model school buses manufactured from September 24, 2013 through December 6, 2013.

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

188 delivered units plus 75 assemblies at Service Parts

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

Unknown

5. The defect consists of:

Due to a manufacturing process defect, the hydraulic park brake pedal arm linkage can fracture causing an unintentional release of the parking brake without warning. During the manufacturing process the brake pedal linkage arm may not have received a necessary heat treating process that could cause the part to fail.

If the park brake pedal arm were to fail, the bus could roll unexpectedly when parked which could cause property damage, personal injury, or death.



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

On December 9, 2013 Blue Bird had a hydraulic park brake pedal arm fracture on a unit on property. Bendix, the supplier of the part, was immediately notified and arrived the following day to remove the part for further analysis.

On December 19, 2013 Bendix advised Blue Bird that they had completed their initial analysis and determined that the parke brake pedal assembly they receive from Orscheln was not manufactured correctly. The brake pedal linkage arm may not have received a necessary heat treating during the manufacturing process.

On December 23, 2013 Blue Bird determined that a safety defect existed with hydraulic brake Vision buses equipped with the suspect Bendix park brake pedal assemblies.

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

Owners will be advised to have a new hydraulic park brake pedal assembly installed on all affected buses.

8. Notification will be as follows:

Dealer notification is scheduled to be mailed on or about December 23, 2013.
Owner notification is scheduled to be mailed on or about December 23, 2013.
Parts are anticipated to be available at time of notification.

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

R13WT

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