



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**National Highway Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

April 1, 2014

Mr. William Coleman  
Corporate Recall Administrator  
Blue Bird Body Company  
PO Box 937  
Fort Valley, GA 31030

NVS-215KS  
14V-110

**Subject:** Joint Separation/FMVSS 221

Dear Mr. Coleman:

This letter serves to acknowledge Blue Bird Body Company's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**

BLUE BIRD/ALL AMERICAN/2014  
BLUE BIRD/VISION/2014

**Mfr's Report Date:** March 11, 2014

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 14V-110

**Components:**

STRUCTURE:BODY

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 526

**Problem Description:**

Blue Bird Body Company (Blue Bird) is recalling certain model year 2014 Vision and All American school buses manufactured January 21, 2013, through February 28, 2013. In the affected vehicles, the joint between the rear wheelhousing and body gusset panel may have partially separated during manufacturing. Thus, these vehicles do not conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 221, "School Bus Body Joint Strength."

**Consequence:**

A joint separation between the rear wheelhousing and body gusset panel may increase the risk the injury to bus occupants in the event of a crash.

**Remedy:**

Blue Bird will notify owners, and dealers will inspect the joint connections and install a two part adhesive and mechanical fasteners, as necessary, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin on April 11, 2014. Owners may contact Blue Bird at 1-478-822-2242. Blue Bird's number for this recall is R14XC.

**Notes:**

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to [www.safercar.gov](http://www.safercar.gov).



Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at [kelly.schuler@dot.gov](mailto:kelly.schuler@dot.gov) or through the office email at [rmd.odi@dot.gov](mailto:rmd.odi@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigations  
Enforcement