

Part 573 Safety Recall Report**16V-004**

Manufacturer Name : Bluecar SAS
Submission Date : JAN 06, 2016
NHTSA Recall No. : 16V-004
Manufacturer Recall No. : Gear Shift Lever

**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Bluecar SAS
 Address : 31,32 quai de Dion Bouton
 Tour Bollore Puteaux 00 92811
 Company phone : 1 46 96 44 33

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 149
 Estimated percentage with defect : 100

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle : 2016-2016 BLUECAR SAS BLuecar

Vehicle Type : LOW VOLUME VEHICLES

Body Style : 2-DOOR

Power Train : HYBRID ELECTRIC

Descriptive Information : The Bluecar vehicles impacted by this report were sold by Bluecar SAS to SDV CarTrading, LLC and are leased to BlueIndy, the operator of car sharing service in Indianapolis, IN.

Production Dates : JUN 07, 2015 - SEP 11, 2015

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : VL4BCUEAXGT000002	End : VL4BCUEA9GT000010	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sequential VINs
Begin : VL4BCUEA9GT000013	End : VL4BCUEA9GT000016	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sequential VINs
Begin : VL4BCUEA9GT000020	End : VL4BCUEA9GT000029	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sequential VINs
Begin : VL4BCUEA9GT000031	End : VL4BCUEA9GT000035	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sequential VINs
Begin : VL4BCUEA9GT000038	End : VL4BCUEA9GT000072	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sequential VINs
Begin : VL4BCUEA9GT000074	End : VL4BCUEA9GT000098	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sequential VINs
Begin : VL4BCUEA9GT000100	End : VL4BCUEA9GT000153	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sequential VINs
Begin : VL4BCUEA9GT000155	End : VL4BCUEA9GT000159	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sequential VINs
Begin : VL4BCUEA9GT000161	End : VL4BCUEA9GT000162	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sequential VINs

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : When of applying an unusual load on the gear shift lever, an internal break of the lever can result. The consequence is that the lever may no longer maintain the desired gear position. Under the force of gravity (i.e : on a slope or under strong

acceleration) the gear lever can disengage and create a total loss of traction. Another consequence could be to immobilize the car because the electric motor unit would not detect the selection of forward drive or reverse despite the selection by the driver by means of the lever.

No prior warning occurs before lever breakage.

If the lever is broken while driving, the vehicle will slow down in free wheel (no traction anymore) but can still be controlled by means of the steering wheel and brake pedal.

The breakage of the gear lever cannot directly cause injuries to occupants of the car or to persons outside the vehicle.

FMVSS 1 :NR

FMVSS 2 :NR

Description of the Safety Risk : The breakage of the gear lever could potentially result in a safety risk. If the breakage happens while overtaking or at a crossroad for instance, the sudden loss of traction could put the vehicle and its occupants in a hazardous situation depending on the traffic.

Description of the Cause : The root cause of the weakness of the gear lever is the metal and plastic construction of the lever.

Analysis shows that the breakage occurs at the junction between plastic and metal.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : There is no warning before the breakage. After the breakage, the driver will notice that the gear lever is ineffective.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : SILA Group

Address : Gir Sud s.r.l.

Zona Industriale, Gissi FOREIGN STATES 66052

Country : Italy

Chronology :

During the fall of 2015, several instances of breakage were reported in Indianapolis. Investigation with the supplier revealed a change of production location of the lever which exhibited the defect described herein. The new levers are identified by a light change of the color of the plastic lever (grey / dark).

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : The corrective action is to change the design of the gear lever to a full metallic rod.

The complete gearshift selector will be replaced in all concerned cars and the relevant costs will be borne by Bluecar SAS.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The lever of the updated gearshift selector is made of one completely metallic rod whereas the defective gearshift selector was made of a rod partially metallic and rest of the rod length in molded plastic.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The first updated gearshift selectors were delivered to the Bluecar factory in November 2015 and all Bluecars produced since that date have the new gearshift selector.

The reference number of the gearshift selector has been changed to allow traceability. All defective gearshift selectors in stock have been collected and sent back to the supplier. In Addition to the change of reference, a visual marking green point have been requested to the supplier to enable our technicians and quality assurance personnel to perform a visual double check.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Bluecar has already notified SDV CarTrading who owns all the Bluecars in the US. There are no dealers or retail purchasers. Therefore no other dealer or owner notification is necessary.

The complete gear shift selector of all Bluecars already in the US or in transit. Bluecar expects that the remedy specified above will be applied commencing on January 11, 2016 and will be completed by March 1, 2016.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

* NR - Not Reported