



BLUE BIRD

R16YK

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

NHTSA Recall Number: 16V-006 School Bus

DATE: JANUARY 28, 2016

TO: U.S. DEALERS

**SUBJECT: RECALL R16YK, Transpec Stop Arm
Non-Compliance FMVSS 131 – School Bus Pedestrian Safety Devices**

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Blue Bird Body Company has decided that certain 2016 and 2017 model year Vision and All American model school buses manufactured from May 8, 2015 through November 9, 2015 fail to conform to the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard FMVSS Number 131, “School Bus Pedestrian Safety Devices”.

On subject buses equipped with certain Transpec Stop Arms (Part Numbers T6000, T6100, and T7000) the “Stop” decals may not remain adhered to the plastic blade. Failure of the decal either in part or in total may cause the reflective surface to not meet FMVSS 131 Standard. Without a reflective decal, the Stop Arms would have reduced visibility to other drivers, increasing the risk of a crash.

To correct this condition, the Specialty Manufacturing, Incorporated (SMI) Transpec Stop Arm Blade must be removed and replaced with a new FMVSS 131 compliant Transpec Stop Arm Blade. The replacement part will be based on the Stop Arm Part Number. **The Stop Arm Blade Assembly replacement must be conducted in accordance with the outlined work instructions that meets the FMVSS 131 requirements.** Repair parts for this recall are currently available at no cost to you by using the enclosed Specialty Manufacturing Incorporated’s Transpec Recall Form.

Buses with this non-compliance must be corrected immediately according to the enclosed instructions for Recall R16YK.

If our records indicate bus(es) subject to this recall were delivered in your service area, a list of affected bus(es) will be enclosed. The bus(es) will be identified by Blue Bird Body Number and Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on the enclosed yellow cover sheet. **Dealers should verify correct owners and assure that complete mailing and shipping addresses are provided for each listed owner.**

If you have in your possession or have sold a bus that was purchased from another dealer that may be affected by this recall, please notify me at 478-822-2242 or lisa.hancock@blue-bird.com.

To obtain the replacement stop arm blade assembly, request the appropriate Stop Arm Blade per the enclosed instructions from SMI Customer Service at 1-800-951-7867. The replacement part will be expedited and may be obtained by one of three methods outlined below:

BLUE BIRD BODY COMPANY
P.O. Box 937 – 402 Blue Bird Blvd – Fort Valley, Georgia – (478) 825-2021



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- **Web:** Visit http://www.smiglobal.net/tech_bulletins.php and click on the **Safety Recall: Transpec Stop Arm Decal** link under the **Stop Arms & Blades** section.
- **E-mail:** Send an e-mail to SMI at warranty@smiglobal.net indicating the quantity of Transpec service kits you need along with the following information provided on the SMI-Transpec Recall Form for each vehicle:
 - Company Name
 - Contact Name
 - Contact Phone
 - Contact E-mail Address
 - Mailing Address
 - Shipping Address (if different than mailing address)
 - Vehicle Manufacturer
 - VIN
 - Body Number
 - Front SA Part Number
 - Front SA Build Date
 - Rear SA Part Number (if applicable)
 - Rear SA Build Date (if applicable)
- **Phone:** Contact SMI Customer Service at 1-800-951-7867.

Labor Reimbursement:

- Transpec Stop Arm service kit(s) will be sent to you upon request and will include complete instructions on the removal and reinstallation of the defective components.
- Removal and reinstallation of each Transpec blade can be accomplished in **15 minutes**, for which SMI will reimburse installers **\$30.00** for each remedied stop arm.
- To request for Labor Reimbursement the Dealer/Owner will be required to submit an invoice to SMI for the labor charge for each serviced vehicle.
 - The invoice should include the following information:
 - Blue Bird Recall Campaign Number - R16YK
 - SMI Recall Campaign Number 15E-090
 - VIN and Body Numbers for each serviced vehicle
- The invoice should be submitted to SMI via e-mail at warranty@smiglobal.net or via US mail to the following address:
 - Attention: Warranty Department
Specialty Manufacturing, Incorporated
13501 South Ridge Drive
Charlotte, NC 28273

If Specialty Manufacturing, Incorporated (SMI) does not provide the requested replacement part(s), you may contact Blue Bird Body Company Recall Administration at 478-822-2242.

Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.



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Dealers are reminded of their responsibilities under Section 154 of The National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1991. Dealers are required to complete modifications on units in their inventory before delivering to the final owner. Reference Blue Bird Body Company Distributor Memo No. 42-92.

Questions regarding this recall campaign should be directed to me at (478) 822-2242 or lisa.hancock@blue-bird.com.

Sincerely,

Lisa Hancock

Lisa Hancock
Corporate Recall Administrator
Blue Bird Body Company