

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

17V-510

Manufacturer Name : Blue Bird Body Company

Submission Date : AUG 17, 2017

NHTSA Recall No. : 17V-510

Manufacturer Recall No. : R17ZB-SB



Manufacturer Information :

Population :

Manufacturer Name : Blue Bird Body Company

Number of potentially involved : 309

Address : P.O. Box 937
402 Blue Bird Boulevard Fort Valley
GA 31030

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Company phone : 478-822-2242

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2015-2019 Blue Bird Vision

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Blue Bird determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in all QS11, Convertible School Bus Seats manufactured by HSM Solutions / CE White.

All QS11 Convertible School Bus Seats contain a defect, which in the event of a rear collision, may result in occupant injury. These seats were manufactured with integral D-Ring mounting studs in the upper area of the seat back frame. The upper seat area where the mounting studs are located does not provide an acceptable padding surface between the seat occupant and the D-Ring mounting stud.

Production Dates : JUL 18, 2014 - JUL 19, 2017

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2016-2016 Blue Bird All American

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : Blue Bird determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in all QS11, Convertible School Bus Seats manufactured by HSM Solutions / CE White.

All QS11 Convertible School Bus Seats contain a defect, which in the event of a rear collision, may result in occupant injury. These seats were manufactured with integral D-Ring mounting studs in the upper area of the seat back frame. The upper seat area where the mounting studs are located does not provide an acceptable padding surface between the seat occupant and the D-Ring mounting stud.

Production Dates : NOV 18, 2016 - JUL 25, 2017

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

☐ Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : All QS11 Convertible School Bus Seats as manufactured by CE White / HSM Solutions contain a defect, which in the event of a rear collision, may result in occupant injury. These seats were manufactured with integral D-Ring mounting studs in the upper area of the seat back frame. The upper seat area where the mounting studs are located does not provide an acceptable padding surface between the seat occupant and the D-Ring mounting stud.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : HSM/C E White and Blue Bird has determined that there is a potential that in a rear end collision by a larger vehicle, there may be increased risk of injury or death, to passenger seat occupant(s). In a rear crash event, the occupants head may contact the D-Ring mounting stud, resulting in a head injury. For this to occur, the occupant must be sitting in a position on the seat, which would place the back of the head in line with the D-Ring mounting stud during the crash event.

Description of the Cause : Blue Bird has been advised by HSM the cause of this defect was determined to be an HSM design flaw and a failure to recognize the resulting safety concern.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : There is no audible or visual warning, which would precede an event.

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : HSM Transportation & Specialty Manufactu

Address : 4925 State Line Road
Fort Smith ARKANSAS 72916

Country : United States

Chronology :

June 29, 2017 – Blue Bird contacted and informed HSM of a concern raised by a school bus inspector. The HSM QS11 Convertible school bus seat has mounting studs in the seat back, toward the top of the seat. The concern is that the mounting studs for attaching the seat belt retractors are too long, therefore, not sufficiently protected to prevent the possibility of injury in the event of an accident.

July 12, 2017 - HSM confirmed their plans to perform sled testing on the seat design in early August, 2017.

August 03, 2017 – HSM management notified Blue Bird of the results of the sled test and their concern on the damage sustained during the sled test.

August 8, 2017 – HSM notified Blue Bird that they had filed a recall (17E045) on all QS11 Convertible School Bus Seats.

August 11, 2017 - A decision was made to issue a recall on all affected Blue Bird units. No accidents or injuries have been reported, as a result of this issue.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : HSM Solutions/CE White, will ship a repair kit with a Service Repair Procedure "SRP", that will provide instructions on how the repair must be conducted. HSM Solutions will provide both parts and labor related to this recall, at no cost to the vehicle owner. Parts for this recall currently are available.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : NR

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : NR

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Planned Release for the Dealer and Owner Notifications is September 18, 2017.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : SEP 18, 2017 - SEP 18, 2017

Planned Owner Notification Date : SEP 18, 2017 - SEP 18, 2017

* NR - Not Reported