



R18ZE

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

NHTSA Recall Number: 18V-263 School Bus
NHTSTA Recall Number: 18V-264 Non-School Bus

DATE: August 1, 2018

TO: U.S. DEALERS

SUBJECT: RECALL R18ZE, Intermittent Air Gauge Operation (Noncompliance)

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

Blue Bird Body Company is recalling certain model year 2018-2019 Vision School Buses manufactured from April 13, 2017 through April 12, 2018, and certain model year 2018-2019 Vision Non-School Buses manufactured from June 28, 2017 through April 13, 2018. Blue Bird Body Company is also recalling certain model year 2018-2019 All American School Buses manufactured from April 24, 2017 through April 13, 2018, and certain model year 2018-2019 All American Non-School Buses manufactured from July 1, 2017 through March 28, 2018.

Blue Bird has decided the instrument cluster on the affected buses may have a synchronization error between two microprocessors in which one of the microprocessors is dedicated to drive the two air pressure gauges. As such, these vehicles fail to conform to the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) Number 121, "Air Brake Systems." When turning the key to the ignition "ON" position, the two gauges on the instrument cluster that display the primary and secondary system air pressure could display "0 psi" instead of the correct air pressure in the tanks. When this occurs the air gauges remain zeroed and will not display the actual system air pressure correctly, and give a false indication to the driver that there is a brake pressure issue, when there is adequate pressure in the air tanks. If the gauges do not correctly display the air pressure that is in the tanks, the operator will not be able to know when the air pressure is actually dropping, increasing the risk of a crash.

Buses with this non-compliance must be corrected immediately. A software update is currently available. The expected out of service time necessary to accomplish the software update is 30 minutes. **Blue Bird Dealers will perform a software update to rectify the issue at no cost to the owner.**

If Blue Bird's 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 the Blue Bird Body Number and Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on the enclosed pink cover sheet. **Dealers should verify owners are correct and assure that complete mailing and shipping addresses are provided for each listed owner.**

BLUE BIRD BODY COMPANY
3920 Arkwright Road, Suite 200, Macon, GA 31210 – (478) 825-2021



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For repairs performed by ‘the Blue Bird Dealer’, the Dealer may submit ‘Campaign-type’ claims in ClaimsCenter for labor reimbursement to the Dealer.

It is the Dealer’s responsibility to verify that the correct owner name, address, and telephone number is provided for each listed vehicle. Any corrections or updates should be made in ClaimsCenter. Addresses that cannot be updated should be forwarded to the Recall Administrator.

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

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

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

Lisa Hancock

Corporate Recall Administrator
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