



R18ZE

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

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

DATE: August 1, 2018

Dear Blue Bird Owner:

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

This important safety recall notice applies to your bus(es) identified by both Blue Bird Body Number and Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on the enclosed pink cover sheet.

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. **Contact your local Blue Bird Dealer to schedule an appointment to perform a software update to rectify the issue at no cost to the owner.**

Your Blue Bird bus(es) affected by this recall are identified by both the Blue Bird Body Number(s) and Vehicle Identification Number(s) (VIN) on the enclosed pink cover sheet. If you no longer own the subject bus(es), please complete the appropriate section of the pink cover sheet and return to Blue Bird in the enclosed pink postage prepaid envelope.

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



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If the modifications directed by this notification were performed on your bus prior to the receipt of this recall notification, attach a copy of the work order/invoice. Mail the documents in the **pink** self-addressed postage prepaid envelope included with the pink reply coversheet to Blue Bird for warranty consideration. Reimbursements will be made in accordance with the requirements of the National Highway Transportation Safety Act, Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 573 and 577.

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

If Blue Bird Body Company should fail to or is unable to remedy this condition without charge to you, you may contact:

**ADMINISTRATOR
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
1200 NEW JERSEY AVENUE, SE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590**

Or, you may call The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration toll free at:
1-888-327-4236 TTY 1-800-424-9153 or go to: <http://www.safercar.gov>

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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