

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

19E-070

Manufacturer Name : Cummins Inc.

Submission Date : JAN 27, 2020

NHTSA Recall No. : 19E-070

Manufacturer Recall No. : NR



Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Cummins Inc.

Address : Box 3005, Mail Code 41303
Columbus IN 47202-3005

Company phone : 812-377-5000

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 104

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Equipment Information :

Brand / Trade 1 : Cummins Inc.

Model : Vehicle Control Unit for PowerDrive EV

Part No. : 300114

Size : NR

Function : Vehicle Control

Descriptive Information : The subject Vehicle Control Units (VCU), consisting of hardware and software, were sold with PowerDrive EV electric drivetrain units that were installed as original equipment in certain school buses and medium duty trucks. The VCU processes various inputs and controls the traction drive motor (among other things). This recall relates to the software installed on these VCUs and covers the entire population of VCUs built within the specified production dates.

Production Dates : JUN 07, 2018 - OCT 09, 2019

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : The VCU may activate the anti-roll back feature during slow moving stop-and-go conditions. If this occurs, the vehicle may experience a brief unexpected motion.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If the vehicle experiences brief unexpected motion, there may be an increased risk of a vehicle crash or injury to passengers or pedestrians.

Description of the Cause : The cause of the issue is a software error.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : None.

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : N/A

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

August 26, 2019 – Cummins received a report of two claims of unintended motion in a single Blue Bird school bus.

August 26 – Sept. 26, 2019 - Cummins conducted an investigation into the reported issues. The investigation indicated that the anti-roll back feature in the VCU may unexpectedly command high motor torque under certain circumstances, resulting in unexpected vehicle motion. Cummins also completed a Product Safety Hazard Analysis during this time.

October 10, 2019 – Based upon the results of the investigation and evaluation of the issue, Cummins decided to conduct a safety recall to address this condition. To date, there have been no reports of accidents or injuries related to this condition, and no reports of this condition in any vehicles other than the Blue Bird school bus noted above.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Cummins will work with its OEMs and customers to identify and notify affected vehicle owners and to arrange to have the remedy performed that addresses this condition. Pursuant to 49 CFR 577.11(e), Cummins requests that it be exempt from providing notification of a reimbursement plan. Any pre-notification product failure would have been replaced under the manufacturer's limited warranty. Accordingly, no person would be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to 573.13.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The updated software will have a new version number.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The updated software will be installed in new production units as soon as it is validated. The last production unit was built 10/9/2019.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Cummins notified the affected OEMs by October 18, 2019.

Cummins expects to have the remedy software available no later than November 27, 2019. Cummins will immediately begin contacting the OEMs and the vehicle owners to arrange to have the VCUs updated with the remedy software. Blue Bird mailed owner letters on October 30, 2019 notifying vehicle owners of the issue and that Cummins will arrange to have the VCU's updated when the remedy is available. Cummins expects to have all of the units, with the exception of some Blue Bird units, updated with the revised software no later than December 15, 2019. At this time, Cummins does not intend to mail additional owner letters.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

Purchaser Information :

The following manufacturers purchased this defective/noncompliant equipment for possible use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment:

Name : Blue Bird Corporation

Address : 3920 Arkwright Road
Suite 200 Macon GA 31210

Country : US

Company Phone : 4788222148

Name : Spartan Motors

Address : 1541 Reynolds Road
Charlotte MI 48813

Country : US

Company Phone : 51754364003275

Name : Thomas Built Buses, Inc.

Address : 1408 Courtesy Road
High Point NC 27260

Country : US

Company Phone : 3368415718

Name : Daimler Trucks NA LLC

Address : 4747 N. Channel Ave.
Portland OR 97217

Country : US

Company Phone : 5037455466

* NR - Not Reported