

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

19V-471

Manufacturer Name : Blue Bird Body Company**Submission Date :** JUN 19, 2019**NHTSA Recall No. :** 19V-471**Manufacturer Recall No. :** R19AE (SB)**Manufacturer Information :****Population :**

Manufacturer Name : Blue Bird Body Company

Number of potentially involved : 19

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

Estimated percentage with defect : NR

Company phone : 478-822-2242

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2018-2019 Blue Bird Vision

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : HYBRID ELECTRIC

Descriptive Information : On certain 2018 and 2019 Blue Bird Vision electric school buses sold with PowerDrive 7000 EV electric drivetrain units, the VCU may unexpectedly command off the high voltage contactors which results in loss of all systems powered by high voltage, including the traction drive system and power steering. Loss of motive power and loss of power steering may increase the risk of a crash.

Production Dates : JAN 19, 2019 - APR 13, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2018-2019 Blue Bird All American

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : HYBRID ELECTRIC

Descriptive Information : On certain 2018 and 2019 Blue Bird All American electric school buses sold with PowerDrive 7000 EV electric drivetrain units, the VCU may unexpectedly command off the high voltage contactors which results in loss of all systems powered by high voltage, including the traction drive system and power steering. Loss of motive power and loss of power steering may increase the risk of a crash.

Production Dates : AUG 01, 2018 - MAY 07, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

 Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : On certain 2018 and 2019 Blue Bird Vision and All American electric school buses sold with PowerDrive 7000 EV electric drivetrain units, the VCU may unexpectedly command off the high voltage contactors which results in loss of all systems powered by high voltage, including the traction drive system and power steering. Loss of motive power and loss of power steering may increase the risk of a crash.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Loss of motive power and loss of power steering may increase the risk of a crash.

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 : Cummins, Incorporated

Address : 500 Jackson Street
Columbus INDIANA 47202-3005

Country : United States

Chronology :

4/5/2019 – Cummins received a report of a loss of power steering and loss of motive power in a Blue Bird school bus equipped with PowerDrive 7000 EV system. 4/5 – 5/24/2019 – Cummins conducted an investigation into the incident. 5/24/2019 – Cummins received a second report of a loss of power steering and loss of motive power in a Blue Bird bus equipped with the subject system. Cummins began an investigation into the second report. 5/30/2019 – Cummins' investigation determined that the vehicle control unit (VCU) in the subject systems may unexpectedly command "off" the high voltage contactors, which could result in a loss of all systems powered by high voltage, including the traction drive system and power steering. Based on the findings of the investigations, Cummins completed a Product Safety Hazard Analysis. 6/6/2019 – 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.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Cummins will work with its OEM customer, Blue Bird Corporation, to identify and notify affected vehicle owners and to arrange to have the VCUs updated with a revised version of the VCU software 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. Cummins will immediately begin working with vehicle owners with a target of having the new software installed in the affected Vehicle Control Units by approximately July 31, 2019. Cummins will send part 577 letters no later than August 9, 2019 to any owners who have not received the software update as of August 1, 2019.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : NR

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

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Parts will be available in July, 2019.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : AUG 01, 2019 - AUG 01, 2019

Planned Owner Notification Date : AUG 01, 2019 - AUG 01, 2019

* NR - Not Reported