



R21BE

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE
NHTSA Campaign Number: 21V-284 (School Bus)
NHTSA Campaign Number: 21V-285 (Non-School Bus)

DATE: June 4, 2021

SUBJECT: R21BE – Bendix SC-3 Single Check Valve FMVSS 121 Noncompliance

Dear Blue Bird Owner:

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

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 yellow cover sheet. If you no longer own the subject bus(es), please complete the appropriate section of the yellow cover sheet and return to Blue Bird in the enclosed pink postage prepaid envelope.

Blue Bird Body Company is voluntarily recalling the following:

- Certain model year 2020 to 2022 Blue Bird Vision School Buses
 - manufactured from August 7, 2020 through January 25, 2021
- Certain model year 2020 to 2022 All American School Buses
 - manufactured from August 11, 2020 through January 28, 2021
- Certain model year 2022 Blue Bird Vision Non-School Buses
 - manufactured from September 3, 2020 through December 8, 2020
- Certain model year 2022 Blue Bird All American Non-School Buses
 - manufactured from September 10, 2020 through February 3, 2021

On the subject buses, it has been determined that certain Blue Bird buses could fail to conform to the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard Number 121, Air Brake Systems. A retainer was not properly seated during assembly of the SC-3 Single Check valve, such that when air pressure is applied, it may no longer provide source air isolation as defined and required by FMVSS 121. Unintended spring brake application may occur, increasing the risk of a crash.

Blue Bird shall conduct a voluntary safety recall to correct this noncompliance.

Corrective Action:

To correct this noncompliance, Blue Bird will notify the affected owners and will provide inspection and repair instructions. All SC-3 Check Valves manufactured between July 27, 2020, and September 9, 2020 are subject to this recall. The recalled SC-3 Single Check Valves may not have the retainer fully seated in the retainer groove. The SC-3 Check Valves that are not subject to this recall have the retainer fully seated in the retainer groove. The safety risk is a spring brake application that is uncommanded by the driver may result. Recall R21BE should be inspected and repaired, per R21BE Recall Instructions. You may request parts at campaignparts@blue-bird.com **Parts are currently available.**

Labor Reimbursement:

Blue Bird will reimburse the labor cost of potential repairs relating to this recall at no cost to you the vehicle owner.

The Standard Repair Time (SRT) to accomplish this repair is outlined below:

- **R21BE Inspection and Repair**
 - 0.5 hours (30 minutes)

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



BLUE BIRD

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Administering the Recall:

Blue Bird recommends that you contact your local or nearest Blue Bird Dealer to arrange for this recall to be performed. The Dealer can perform the repairs, or arrange for repairs to be performed by a service repair facility authorized by the Dealer. However, you may elect to perform this recall yourself or pay another independent repair facility to perform this recall. A qualified technician should perform this recall. If you elect to perform this recall yourself or pay another independent repair facility to perform this recall, complete and submit the Pink Owner's Recall Reply Sheet provided. The Recall Reply Sheet includes a section for the owner to request reimbursement of the owner's labor or to request reimbursement for a labor invoice paid by the owner to an independent repair facility.

Parts to complete Recall R21BE are currently available.

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 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 sheet 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.

Please contact your local Blue Bird Dealer with any questions regarding this recall campaign.

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>