



U.S. Department of Transportation
**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

May 17, 2022

Ms. Lisa Hancock
Corporate Recall Administrator
Blue Bird Body Company
402 Blue Bird Blvd
Fort Valley, GA 31069

NEF-107MR
22V-321

Subject: Incorrect Starter Interlock Settings/FMVSS 102

Dear Ms. Hancock:

This letter serves to acknowledge Blue Bird Body Company's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

BLUE BIRD/VISION/2023

Mfr's Report Date: May 11, 2022

NHTSA Campaign Number: 22V-321

Components:

POWER TRAIN:AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION:CONTROL MODULE:SOFTWARE
POWER TRAIN:AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION:PARK/NEUTRAL START INTERLOCK SWITCH

Potential Number of Units Affected: 53

Problem Description:

Blue Bird Body Company (Blue Bird) is recalling certain 2023 Vision school buses equipped with an Allison transmission. The starter interlock settings in the vehicle software are incorrect, allowing the engine to crank while the T-handle gear shifter is in Reverse or Drive. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard number 102, "Transmission Shift Lever Sequence/Starter Interlock/Transmission Braking Effect."

Consequence:

A bus that is started in reverse or drive may result in unintended vehicle movement, and increase the risk of a crash or injury.

Remedy:

Dealers will update the software, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed on July 6, 2022. Owners may contact Blue Bird's customer service at 1-478-822-2242. Blue Bird's number for this recall R22BW (SB).

Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.nhtsa.gov.



Please ensure the following requirements are met:

Per the requirements of 573.6(c)(2)(iv), please provide the supplier name, contact information, address and country of origin (if known) for the software. If your company manufactured the component itself, then please state so in 573.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of eight consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Blue Bird Body Company's contact for this recall will be Michelle Rice who may be reached by email at michelle.rice@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Alex Ansley
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement