



R22BW

**IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL**  
**NHTSA Campaign Number: 22V-321 (School Bus)**  
**NHTSA Campaign Number: 22V-330 (Non-School Bus)**

**DATE:** June 30, 2022  
**TO:** U.S. DEALERS  
**SUBJECT:** R22BW: FMVSS 102 Noncompliance – BBCV Starter Interlock with Allison Transmission

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Blue Bird Body Company has decided that certain 2023 Vision School and Non-School Buses fail to conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard Number 102, "Transmission Shift Lever Sequence/Starter Interlock/Transmission Braking Effect."

This notice applies to your buses identified by both Blue Bird Body Number and Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on the attached yellow cover sheet.

Blue Bird Body Company is voluntarily recalling the following:

- Certain model year 2023 Blue Bird Vision School Buses
  - manufactured from April 12, 2022 through May 3, 2022
- Certain model year 2023 Blue Bird Vision Non-School Buses
  - manufactured on May 7, 2022

The Allison transmission may have incorrect starter interlock settings in the vehicle software. Affected buses will allow the engine to crank while the T-handle gear shifter is in Reverse or Drive. When the vehicle is cranked while the T-handle shifter is in a drive gear, a 'Range Inhibit' error is displayed in the vehicle cluster. While the 'Range Inhibit' error is active, the transmission will not engage the clutch, which will prevent the vehicle from lurching forward or rearward. This issue was created when the vehicle software was changed on March 23, 2022, to accommodate vehicles with a park pawl feature.

**Corrective Action:**

To correct this noncompliance, Blue Bird will notify the affected dealers and owners and will provide repair instructions. An updated vehicle software version has been created which will require the T-handle gear shifter physically be in the Neutral Position before the starter can be energized. All affected vehicles will need to have the A Zone multiplex reflashed with the updated S19 file.

Blue Bird will reimburse the labor cost of the repair related to this recall at no cost to the Dealer or to the vehicle owner. The safety risk is if the clutch were to allow the automatic transmission to engage, the vehicle could move forward or backward unexpectedly while attempting to start the unit, thus increasing the risk of injury to those in close proximity to the exterior front or rear of the bus. The warning that may precede is if the unit has the incorrect software version, and is started while in gear, there will be a "range inhibit" message displayed on the instrument cluster. 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 **.5 hours (30 minutes)**. Blue Bird Dealers will perform a software update to rectify the issue at no cost to the owner. **Parts are not required.**



**Labor Reimbursement:**

Blue Bird will reimburse the labor cost of potential repairs relating to this recall at no cost to you the Dealer or to the vehicle owner. **The Standard Repair Time (SRT) to accomplish this repair is outlined below:**

- **R22BW: Repair**
  - 0.5 hours (30 minutes)

**Administering the Recall:**

**Parts are not required to complete Recall R22BW.**

If Blue Bird's records indicate bus(es) subject to this recall were delivered in your service area, a list of affected bus(es) will be enclosed. The bus(es) will be identified by Blue Bird Body Number and Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on the enclosed yellow cover sheet. **Dealers should verify correct owners and assure that complete mailing and shipping addresses are provided for each listed owner.**

It is the Dealer's responsibility to verify that the correct owner name, address, and telephone number is provided for each listed vehicle. Any corrections or updates should be made in ClaimsCenter. Addresses that cannot be updated should be forwarded to the Recall Administrator.

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

Dealers are reminded of their responsibilities under Section 154 of The National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1991. Dealers are required to complete modifications on units in their inventory before delivering to the final owner. Reference Blue Bird Body Company Distributor Memo No. 42-92.

If you have in your possession or have sold a bus that was purchased from another Dealer that may be affected by this recall, please notify Lisa Hancock at 478-822-2242 or [lisa.hancock@blue-bird.com](mailto:lisa.hancock@blue-bird.com) Questions regarding this recall campaign should be directed to Lisa Hancock, as well.

Sincerely,

***Lisa Hancock***

Corporate Recall Administrator  
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