

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

23V-778

Manufacturer Name : Blue Bird Body Company

Submission Date : NOV 20, 2023

NHTSA Recall No. : 23V-778

Manufacturer Recall No. : R23CU-SB



Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Blue Bird Body Company

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

Company phone : 478-822-2242

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 6,124

Estimated percentage with defect : 15 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2014-2024 Blue Bird All American

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : FMVSS 222, School Bus passenger seating and crash protection. Some restraining barriers installed in All American School Buses will not satisfy the requirement of FMVSS 222 S5.2.3(d), the restraining barrier shall not separate from the vehicle at any attachment point, when loaded. During NHTSA Test, the barrier entered the shaded areas of force deflection curve, this does not satisfy the requirements set forth by FMVSS.

Production Dates : AUG 14, 2014 - NOV 16, 2023

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Description of Noncompliance :

Description of the Noncompliance : FMVSS 222, School Bus passenger seating and crash protection. Some restraining barriers installed in All American School Buses will not satisfy the requirement of FMVSS 222 S5.2.3(d), the restraining barrier shall not separate from the vehicle at any attachment point, when loaded. During NHTSA Test, the barrier entered the shaded areas of force deflection curve, this does not satisfy the requirements set forth by FMVSS.

FMVSS 1 : 222 - School bus passenger seating and crash protection

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Seat barrier not performing, as expected during unforeseen circumstances can cause injury to the passenger.

Description of the Cause : FMVSS 222, School Bus passenger seating and crash protection. During NHTSA testing the seat barrier failed to absorb adequate amount of force and stay in

contact with the bus floor. The bolt securing the barrier to the floor came out deeming the test to fail.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : There is no warning that can precede.

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : 39" High Back Seat Barrier

Component Description : Rear and Side Emergency Door Instructions

Component Part Number : 10010515

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

September 27, 2023: Daniel Lind, NHTSA Safety Compliance Engineer, had a conference call with Sumanth Balesh, Director of Product Certification and Compliance. Daniel sent an email providing pictures and videos of the testing.

November 8, 2023: Blue Bird completed internal testing and provided response to NHTSA's questions.

November 20, 2023: Blue Bird submitted Part 573 document.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Blue Bird has identified the remedial measure to be installing a longer bolt with rectangular washer and nut. If the modifications directed by this notification were performed on your bus prior to the receipt of this recall notification, provide a copy of the work order/invoice to campaignparts@blue-bird.com for Blue Bird warranty consideration. Parts are required and will be available when the recall releases.

How Remedy Component Differs : There will be additional support provided using washer and longer bolt to

from Recalled Component : the barrier seat mount to ensure it is properly secured and it satisfies FMVSS 222 requirements.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : November 11, 2023: Buses in assembly line and buses awaiting for shipment were all remedied using a longer bolt and washer attachment.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealer and Owner Notifications are to be issued on or before January 16, 2024.

Parts will be available at time of recall release.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JAN 16, 2024 - JAN 16, 2024

Planned Owner Notification Date : JAN 16, 2024 - JAN 16, 2024

* NR - Not Reported