



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

October 16, 2024

Mr. Sumanth Balesh
Director of Product Certification and Compliance
Blue Bird Body Company
P.O. Box 937
402 Blue Bird Boulevard
Fort Valley, GA 31030

NEF-107HG
24V-759

Subject: Emergency Exit Label Print Is Too Small/FMVSS 217

Dear Mr. Balesh:

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/ALL AMERICAN/2020-2024
BLUE BIRD/VISION/2021-2024

Mfr's Report Date: October 11, 2024

NHTSA Campaign Number: 24V-759

Components:

EQUIPMENT:OTHER:LABELS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 400

Problem Description:

Blue Bird Body Company (Blue Bird) is recalling certain 2020-2024 All American and 2021-2024 Vision transit buses. The emergency exit label operating instructions lettering is too small and may be difficult to read. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 217, "Bus Emergency Exits and Window Retention and Release."

Consequence:

An emergency exit label that is difficult to read can prevent or delay the use of the emergency exit, increasing the risk of injury.

Remedy:

Dealers will replace the label, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed December 10, 2024. Owners may contact Blue Bird Customer Service at 478-822-2242. Blue Bird's number for this recall is R23CK (NSB).

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 [nhtsa.gov](https://www.nhtsa.gov).



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 49 U.S.C. § 30118(f), submission of eight consecutive quarterly reports followed by three annual reports is required. As described in 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. The first of three consecutive annual status reports will be due on, or before, 1 year after the eighth quarterly report was submitted.

Blue Bird Body Company's contact for this recall will be Hensly Guerra who may be reached by email at hensly.guerra1@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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