



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration

## Part 573 Safety Recall Report

## 26V004

**Manufacturer Name:** Blue Bird Body Company

**Submission Date:** Jan 06, 2026

**NHTSA Recall No.:** 26V004

**Manufacturer Recall No.:**

### Manufacturer Information

### Population

**Manufacturer Name:** Blue Bird Body Company

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

**Total number of potentially involved:** 11

**Estimated percentage with defect:** 54.5%

### Vehicle Information

**Vehicle 1:** 2026-2026 BLUE BIRD VISION TRANSIT BUS (ELECTRIC)

**Product Category:** Buses, Medium & Heavy Vehicles

**Product Type:** Transit Bus

**Fuel / Propulsion:** Spark Ignition Fuel

**Production Dates:** May 19, 2025 - Nov 29, 2025

**Number of potentially involved:** 4

**Descriptive Information:**

These are the buses with wheel chair lifts installed and the buses that are not part of this population would be the ones that were built before the issue started or after the issue has been resolved.

**Vehicle 2:** 2026-2026 BLUE BIRD ALL AMERICAN TRANSIT BUS (ELECTRIC)

**Product Category:** Buses, Medium & Heavy Vehicles

**Product Type:** Transit Bus

**Fuel / Propulsion:** Compression Ignition Fuel

**Production Dates:** May 19, 2025 - Nov 26, 2025

**Number of potentially involved:** 7

**Descriptive Information:**

These are the buses with wheel chair lifts installed and the buses that are not part of this population would be the ones that were built before the issue started or after the issue has been resolved.

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## Defect / Noncompliance Description

### Description of the defect or noncompliance:

Q'straint Retractor provided in certain Blue Bird school buses may not lock

**FMVSS1:**

**FMVSS2:**

### Description of the safety risk, including crash, fire, death, injury:

An unlocked Q'Straint retractor will not properly secure a wheelchair and place the passenger at a risk of serious injury or death during normal vehicle travel, emergency maneuvers, or a crash.

### Description of the cause:

Q'straint informs that Sticking of the auto release function due to friction between internal components.

### Identification of any warning that can occur:

An unlocked retractor is detectable when performing standard functional inspection, pre-trip inspection, or observed abnormal wheelchair movement per Q'Straint User and Care Manual.

## Component Manufacturer

**Tier of Supplier:** Tier 1

**Supplier Type:** OEM

**Name:** Q'Straint

**Address:** 5553 Ravenswood Rd  
BLDG 110  
Fort Lauderdale FL, 33312

**Country:** United States

## Involved Components

**Component Name 1:** Retractor

**Component Description:** QRT-Max, Auto Release, Auto Retract

**Component Part Number:** Q8-6209

**Component Name 2:** Retractor

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**Component Description:** QRT-Deluxe, Auto Release, Auto Retract

**Component Part Number:** Q8-6200

## Chronology

December 2nd 2025: NHTSA reached out to Blue Bird and informed about Q'straint defect report submission. NHTSA also requested Blue Bird to submit defect information report since we purchased this equipment for our school buses.

December 9th 2025: Blue Bird is submitting defect report for this defective component.

**Related NHTSA Recall Number:**

## Description of Remedy

**Remedy Type:** Inspect, Replace

**Consumer Advisories:**  Do Not Drive  Park Outside

**Description of remedy program:**

Customers will be notified to inspect and remove any retractors bearing the suspect Part Number, Lot Number, and Lot Identification. Suspect products will be replaced by Q'Straint at no expense.

**How remedy component differs from recalled component:**

Remedy components will be of a different Lot Number and Lot Identification and will not exhibit the defect.

**Identify how/when recall condition was corrected in production:**

All Q'Straint suspect material was quarantined and products manufactured after September 10, 2025 did not use any suspect supplied material.

## Reimbursement Plan

**Description of reimbursement program:**

Q'Straint will replace suspect components free of charge

**Period of reimbursement:**

Product shipped to Blue Bird from 05/07/2025 - 09/10/2025.

**Costs to be reimbursed:**

Replacement product and freight

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**26V004****Address for reimbursement claims:**

4031 NE  
12th Terrace  
Oakland Park FL, 33334

## Recall Schedule

**Description of recall schedule:**

Notification letters will be sent to all Blue Bird customers starting on February 6th 2026 listing the Part Number, Lot Number, and Lot Identification requesting the removal of suspect units with instructions for obtaining replacement units.

**Planned Dealer Notification Date:** Feb 06, 2026 No Dealers**Planned Interim Owner Notification Date:** No Owners**Planned Remedy Owner Notification Date:** Feb 01, 2026 Phased Recall**Date when VIN will be searchable:**