BLUE BIRD

R26AH

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL

NHTSA Number: 26V-556 (School Bus)

DATE: **October 29, 2026**

SUBJECT: **R26AH: Ricon K-Series Wheelchair Lift Electrical Failure**

Dear Blue Bird Owner:

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 a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain:

- Model years 2025-2027 Blue Bird Vision School Bus (BBCV)
    - Manufactured from May 7, 2024 through October 24, 2025

This notice applies to your bus(es) identified by both Blue Bird Body Number and Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on the enclosed yellow cover sheet. If you no longer own the subject bus(es), please complete the appropriate section of the yellow cover sheet and return to Blue Bird in the enclosed pink postage prepaid envelope.

Blue Bird is recalling certain model year 2025-2027 Blue Bird Vision School Bus vehicles equipped with a Ricon K-Series Lift where the electrical contactor controlling power to the lift motor can fail in a closed (latched) state. Under certain conditions, this may allow voltage to continue powering the lift motor, leading to unintentional movement of the lift despite the operator commanding the lift to stop. A platform lift that moves unintentionally could increase the risk of injury to the occupant or individual(s) in the vicinity.

Corrective Action:
To correct this condition, Blue Bird shall conduct a safety recall to repair the Ricon K-Series Lift, per the enclosed Ricon's Recall Instructions. A Ricon Field Service Technician will install two diodes within the lift's electrical system wiring to prevent voltage from a failed contactor maintaining a closed (latched) condition and proper de-energization of the motor contactor when the operator commands the lift to stop. The repair should take approximately .5 hours to complete (30 minutes).

Ricon will provide a technician on-site at Clark County to perform the R26AH Recall Remedy. Please contact Transit Technical with the contact information below:
Contact: Phil DeHaan
Phone: 269-567-8606
Email: pdehaan@transittechnical.com

Questions regarding this recall campaign should be directed to the Ricon contact listed above. If Ricon does not provide the necessary repair services, you may contact Blue Bird Body Company Recall Administration at campaignparts@blue-bird.com

Ricon will notify Blue Bird Campaigns Administration of the completion of the recall.

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

If the modifications directed by this notification were performed on your bus prior to the receipt of this recall notification, complete and sign the pink Recall Reply Sheet and attach a copy of the work order/invoice. Mail the documents in the pink self-addressed postage prepaid envelope included with the pink reply sheet to Blue Bird for warranty consideration. Reimbursements will be made in accordance with the requirements of the National Highway Transportation Safety Act, Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 573 and 577.

If Blue Bird Body Company should fail to or is unable to remedy this condition without charge to you, you may contact:

ADMINISTRATOR
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
1200 NEW JERSEY AVENUE, SE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

Or, you may call The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration toll free at:
1-888-327-4236 TTY 1-888-275-9171 or go to: http:/www.safercar.gov

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS
KIT, CONTACTOR DIODES

- Be certain that these supplemental instructions are read and understood completely before installation is attempted. You should also refer to the Service/Owner Manual for additional installation instructions and safety precautions.
- Check contents of this kit and notify Ricon immediately of any missing parts. Claims for damages that have occurred during shipping must be made to the shipper.

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- Under no circumstances is maintenance, repair, or adjustment of the product to be performed without the presence of an individual capable of giving aid.
- Give immediate attention to all injuries, and administer first-aid, or seek medical attention as necessary.
- Protective eye shields and clothing should be worn during maintenance, repair, and adjustment of the lift.
- Work in a properly ventilated area.
- Check for hidden obstructions before drilling and cutting. Avoid interference with wiring, fuel tank, fuel lines, hydraulic lines, subfloor members, etc.
- Read and understand all instructions before attempting to operate the product.
- Read and understand all instructions before attempting to perform maintenance, repairs, or adjustments to the product.
- Read and comply with warning labels attached to lift

I. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to outline the step-by-step procedure for installation of CONTACTOR DIODE KIT.

A. COMPONENTS

FT0156392-K01 KIT, S/K CONTACTOR RETROFIT		
P/N	**Description**	**QTY**
FT0156362-101	DIODE ASSY, CONTACTOR	2
FT0156391-101	HARNESS, JUMPER	1
26368	TERM, SLP M 16-14 FULINS	1

B. TOOLS REQUIRED

- Socket wrench set
- Wrench set
- Wire cutters
- Wire strippers
- Wire terminal crimping tool

II. RETROFIT INSTRUCTIONS

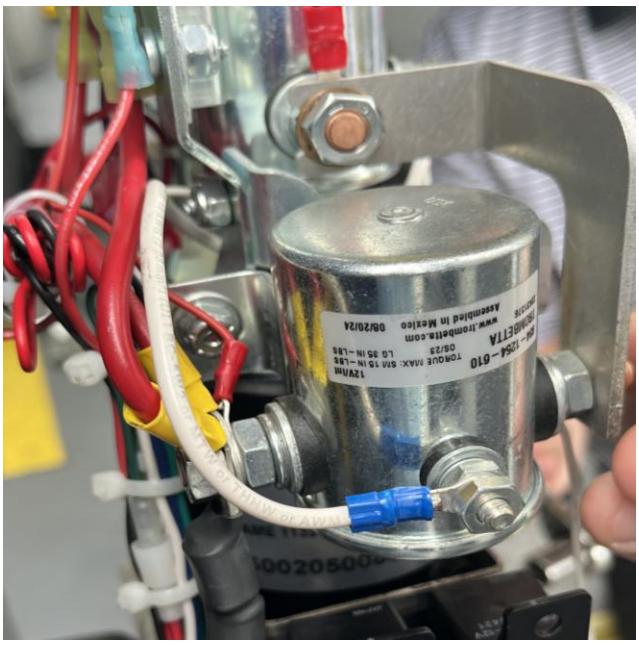
1. Power off the lift by tripping the lift breaker.

2. Remove the pump cover.

3. Locate Motor contactors
   a. 12vdc Lifts: The motor contactors are mounted on top and side of the pump motor.



Top Motor Contactor, 12vdc Lifts



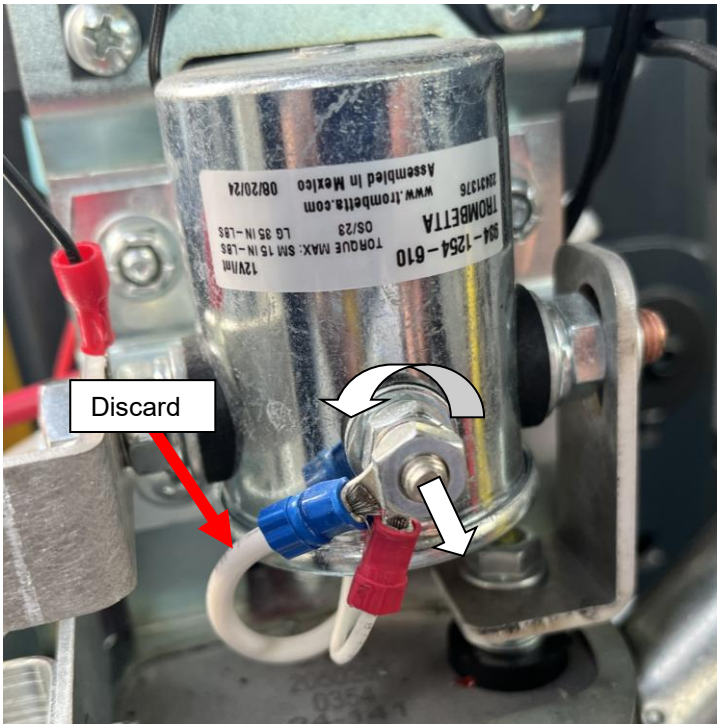
Side Motor Contactor, 12vdc Lifts

b. 24vdc lifts: Motor contactors are mounted at the bottom of the chassis.

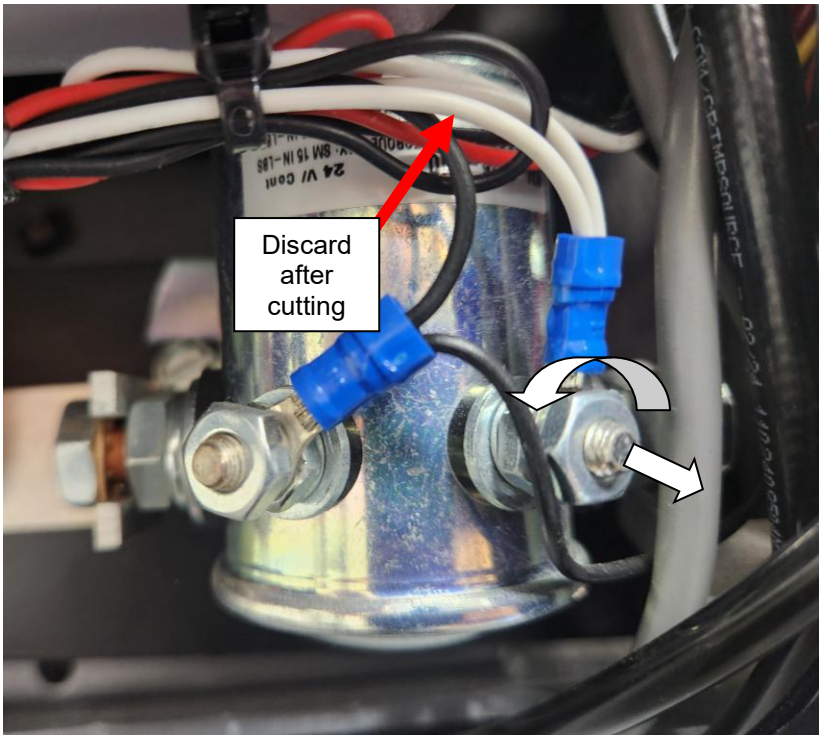


4. Wire Removal

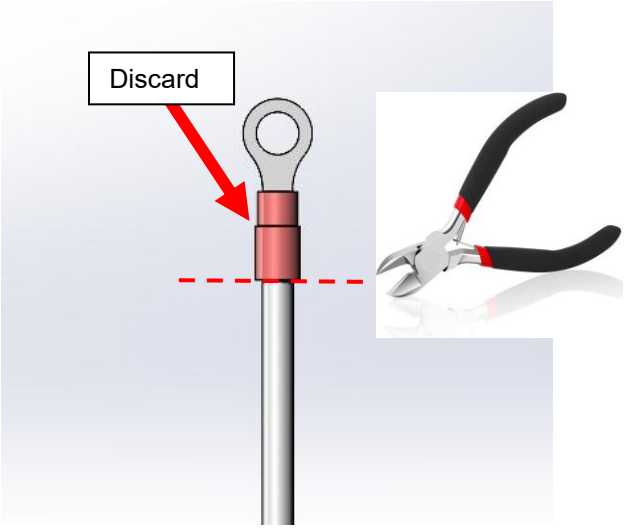
a. 12vdc Lifts: Remove nut and lock washer from both motor contactor coil studs and retain hardware for re-use. Discard the ring terminal jumper.



b. 24vdc Lifts: Remove nut and lock washer from both positive motor contactor studs and retain hardware for re-use.

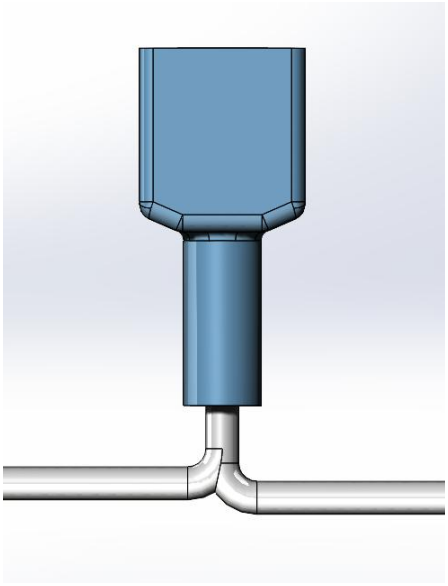


5. Cut off the ring terminals of the main harness and discard.

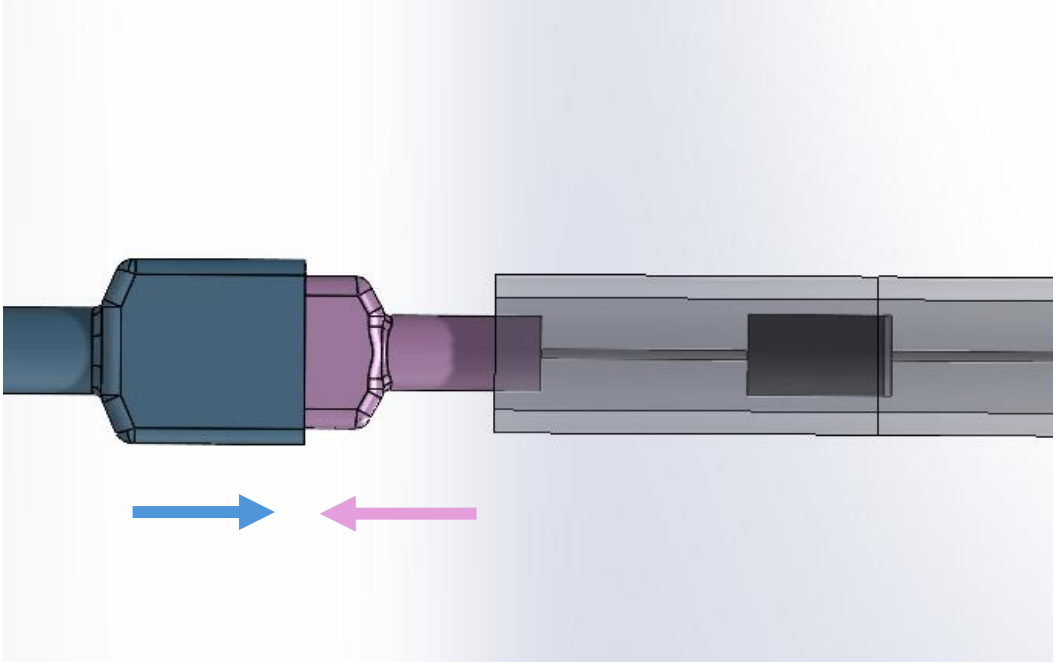


6. Strip the wire end of the new jumper cable (P/N FT0156391-101), and the wire from the main harness.

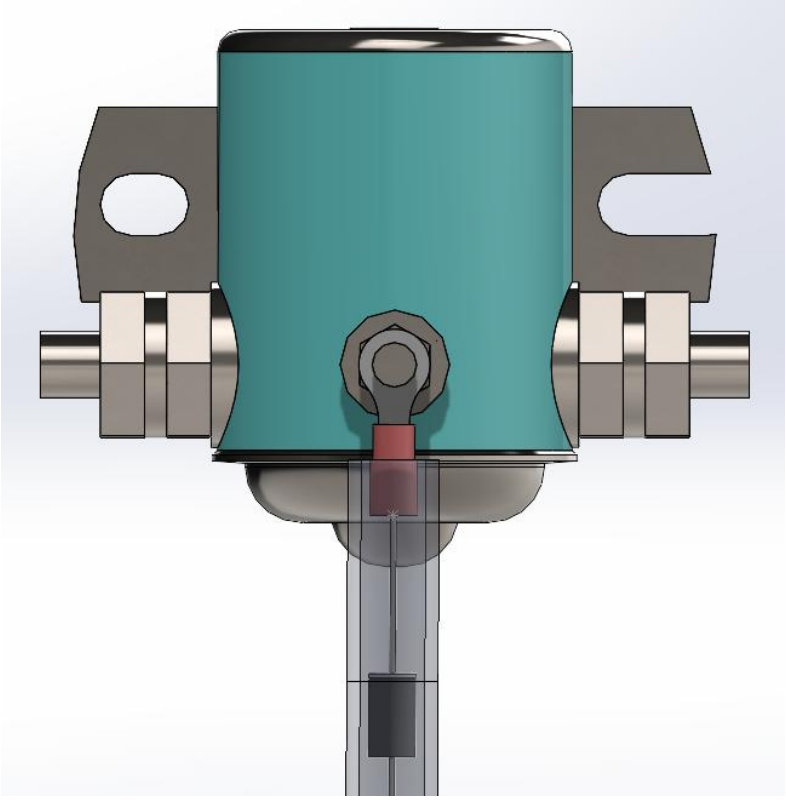
7. Crimp both wires together using the male faston terminal provided (P/N 26368).



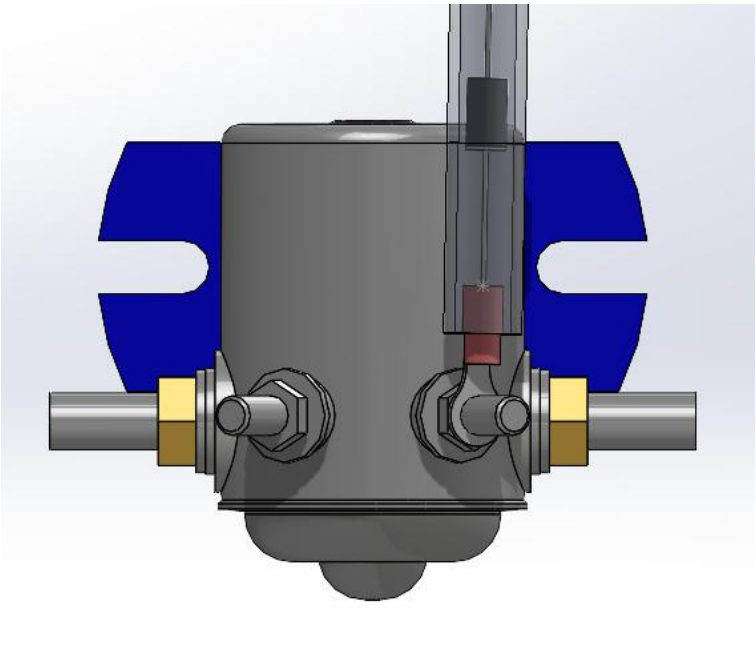
8. Install the diode assy's onto the wires by connecting each diode to the faston terminals.



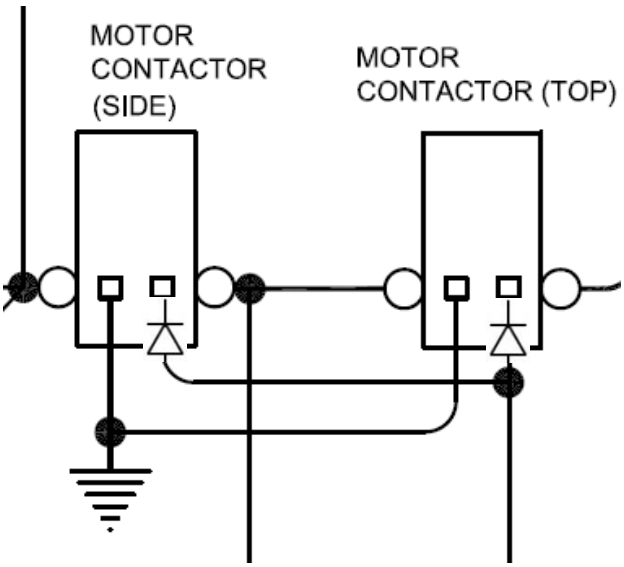
9. Install the diode assy's onto the contactor coil terminals using the previously removed hardware. Adjust the wire routing as necessary before tightening the hardware.



12vdc Lifts



24vdc Lifts


MOTOR
CONTACTOR
(SIDE)
MOTOR
CONTACTOR (TOP)

Functional Verification

1. Reset the lift breaker and power on the lift
2. Starting at the Stowed position, run the lift through ten complete cycles using the pendant.
    a. Deploy to floor level
    b. Lower to the ground
    c. Raise to floor level
    d. Stow to the stowed position
3. Verification satisfactory if the platform moves to all the indicated positions for ten cycles.