



R19AH

ADDITIONAL NOTICE

DATE: October 14, 2020

TO: Blue Bird Owners

Subject: RECALL R19AH – Joint Strength Noncompliance – Insufficient Roof Rivet Quantity

According to our records, we have not received confirmation that the above referenced recall, dated October 25, 2019, has been completed. A copy of Recall R19AH is attached. Your buses affected by Recall R19AH are identified by Blue Bird body number and VIN under Section 2 on the enclosed cover sheet.

If this is the first time you received notification of Recall R19AH, please read the enclosed notification carefully. Recall R19AH must be completed, as soon as possible. To correct this noncompliance, the roof sheet joints on these subject buses must be inspected and, if found not in compliance, modified according to the Blue Bird repair instructions. Roof panel joints are assembled with two rows of rivets. Each joint must have a minimum of 6 rivets in each 8-inch segment. Utilizing an 8-inch template moving along the roof panel joint, the repair personnel will count the rivets that appear in the cutout section of the template. In the event that an 8-inch roof section has less than 6 rivets, the repair personnel will be required to add a sufficient number of rivets evenly spaced such that there are 6 rivets installed in that 8-inch segment. The 8-inch template was included with the notification letter issued on October 25, 2019. **Parts for this campaign are currently available. Parts can be ordered through campaignparts@blue-bird.com**

If you have already had R19AH performed on your affected buses, please complete and mail the enclosed recall pink reply sheet to us in the enclosed postage paid pink reply envelope so we may update our recall records. Be sure the reply sheet is filled out properly. Blue Bird will reimburse the labor cost of inspection and potential repairs relating to this recall at no cost to you the vehicle owner. The standard repair time (SRT) to accomplish these repairs in accordance with the R19AH installation procedure is 0.8 hours (48 minutes) for the inspection and 2 minutes per rivet, that must be installed.

Questions regarding this recall campaign should be directed to me at (478) 822-2242 or campaignparts@blue-bird.com

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Lisa Hancock
Corporate Recall Administrator
Blue Bird Corporation
402 Blue Bird Blvd, Fort Valley, Georgia 31030
Phone 478.822.2242
lisa.hancock@blue-bird.com

BLUE BIRD BODY COMPANY
3920 Arkwright Road, Suite 200, Macon, GA 31210 – (478) 825-2021



R19AH

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

NHTSA Recall Number: 19V-707 School Bus

DATE: October 25, 2019

SUBJECT: RECALL R19AH – Joint Strength Noncompliance – Insufficient Roof Rivet Quantity

Dear Blue Bird Owner:

This important safety recall 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 reply sheet and return to Blue Bird in the enclosed pink postage prepaid envelope.

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Bird Body Company is recalling certain model year 2019 to 2021 Vision with manufactured dates from July 16, 2019 through August 27, 2019 and 2019 to 2021 All American School Buses manufactured from July 17, 2019 through August 25, 2019. It has been determined that certain Blue Bird buses fail to conform to the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard Number 221, School Bus Body Joint Strength. These subject buses may not comply with the 60% joint strength requirement on certain 8-inch segments of the exterior roof joints. Blue Bird evaluated the risk to motor vehicle safety related to this noncompliance and determined that there is a potential for the roof sheets to separate in the event of a crash when less than 6 rivets are installed in an 8-inch roof joint segment. In the event of a crash, if the roof sheets separate, there is an increased risk of injury.

To correct this noncompliance, the roof sheet joints on these subject buses must be inspected and, if found not in compliance, modified according to the Blue Bird repair instructions. Roof panel joints are assembled with two rows of rivets. Each joint must have a minimum of 6 rivets in each 8-inch segment. Utilizing an 8-inch template moving along the roof panel joint, the repair personnel will count the rivets that appear in the cutout section of the template. In the event that an 8-inch roof section has less than 6 rivets, the repair personnel will be required to add a sufficient number of rivets evenly spaced such that there are 6 rivets installed in that 8-inch segment. **The 8-inch template is included with this notification letter.** Parts for this campaign are currently available.

Blue Bird will reimburse the labor cost of inspection and potential repairs relating to this recall at no cost to you the vehicle owner. The standard repair time (SRT) to accomplish these repairs in accordance with the R19AH installation procedure is 0.8 hours (48 minutes) for the inspection and 2 minutes per rivet, that must be installed.

Parts to complete Recall R19AH can be obtained from Blue Bird Recall Administration via e-mail at campaignparts@blue-bird.com or by returning the yellow cover sheet to Blue Bird in the pink self-addressed, postage prepaid envelope to receive parts at no charge. You should retain a copy of the reply sheet for your records.

BLUE BIRD BODY COMPANY

3920 Arkwright Road, Suite 200, Macon, GA 31210 – (478) 825-2021



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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, 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.

Please contact your local Blue Bird Dealer with any questions regarding this recall campaign.

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 1-800-424-9153 or go to: <http://www.safercar.gov>



RECALL

R19AH – Insufficient Roof Rivet Quantity

Models Affected: Certain 2019-2021 Vision and All American buses

Issue: On certain units, the roof sheet rivet spacing may be incorrect in some segments, resulting in noncompliance with FMVSS 221, School Bus Body Joint Strength.

Corrective Action: Inspect the rivet spacing at each roof sheet joint and install additional rivets, as required by specification.

Parts/Items Needed:

Item Number	Part Number	Description	Quantity
1	10052610	FASTENER,HUCK,.25 BLIND,MAGNALOK,MGLP-R8-ES	12 (Approximately)
2	NA	*RIVET SPACING TEMPLATE	1

*Rivet spacing template will be included in the dealer/owner letters sent in the US mail.

[WARNING] This procedure requires working from ladders or scaffolds to reach the top of the bus. Observe all safety precautions to secure the bus from rolling and for use of ladders or scaffolds. Thoroughly read and understand all instructions before performing these procedures. Park bus on level surface, apply parking brake, turn off ignition key, and chock wheels.

Instructions

1. On one side of the bus, starting at either the front or the rear, go to the first roof panel joint seam of double rivets. These will be the rivet rows that need to be inspected.
2. Use a ladder or scaffold that will allow access to the roof of the bus.





3. Inspect rivet spacing at each roof sheet joint. Roof sheet joints are assembled with two rows of rivets. Joint must have a minimum of six rivets in an eight inch segment. The full length of the roof sheet joint, including the top of the bus, must be inspected and corrected, if needed.
 - a. Place the supplied rivet spacing template over the joint and parallel to the edge of the roof sheet, allowing roof rivets to be exposed through the opening in the template, as shown.
 - b. Move the template from one side of the roof sheet towards the center of the roof.
 - c. If a segment in the roof joint contains less than six rivets, additional rivets are required. Mark each area that requires additional rivets.
 - d. If one rivet is required; add a rivet equally spaced between the two rivets with the largest space in this section.
 - e. If additional rivets are required; add additional rivets between the largest spaces until a minimum of six (6) rivets have been added in the eight (8) inch segment.
4. Using a short 17/64" drill bit, drill a hole through the roof sheet and bow flange only. **Be sure not to drill through the inside headliner.** Drill any required holes on a common centerline with existing rivets.
5. Install rivet (Item 1) in each drilled hole.
6. With the correct color paint, touch up each blind rivet installed.
7. Repeat procedure on the opposite side of the bus.