



**BLUE BIRD**

**R20AL**

**FINAL NOTICE**

**DATE:** August 5, 2020  
**TO:** Blue Bird Owners  
**Subject:** **RECALL R20AL, Cummins Power Drive EV Wiring Harness Connection Failure**

According to our records, we have not received confirmation that the above referenced recall, dated March 12, 2020, has been completed. A copy of Recall R20AL is attached. Your buses affected by Recall R20AL 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 R20AL, please read the enclosed notification carefully. Recall R20AL must be completed, as soon as possible. On the subject buses, Blue Bird and Cummins have determined that certain Vision and All American electric school buses sold with PowerDrive 7000 EV electric drivetrain units, a connector within the wire harnesses installed in the subject EV drivetrains may be susceptible to becoming unplugged. If the connector becomes unplugged, under certain circumstances the communication between control modules may be lost and the system may command off the high voltage contactors, resulting in unexpected loss of all systems powered by high voltage, including the traction drive system and power steering. A sudden and simultaneous loss of motive power and loss of power steering may increase the risk of a crash.

To correct this condition, Cummins will arrange to have the remedy performed that addresses this condition. The remedy is to install a cable tie around the connector body, routed under the connector locking tab, forcing it into the locked position so that it cannot unplug. Cummins will work directly with affected customers and a limited number of service engineers and field technicians to implement the remedy. Cummins expects to be able to immediately begin working with vehicle owners to have the remedy installed on their school buses. The remedy will be performed free of charge and will take four hours to complete.

If you have already had R20AL performed on your affected buses, please complete and mail the enclosed recall yellow coversheet 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.

Questions regarding this recall campaign should be directed to me at (478) 822-2242 or [lisa.hancock@blue-bird.com](mailto:lisa.hancock@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](mailto:lisa.hancock@blue-bird.com)

**BLUE BIRD BODY COMPANY**

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



**R20AL**

**IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE**

**NHTSA Recall Number: 20V-074 School Bus**

**DATE: March 12, 2020**

**Dear Blue Bird Owner:**

**SUBJECT: RECALL R20AL, Cummins Power Drive EV Wiring Harness Connection Failure**

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

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 cover sheet and return to Blue Bird in the enclosed pink postage prepaid envelope.

Blue Bird Body Company is recalling certain model year 2018-2019 Vision School Buses manufactured from January 19, 2019 through September 9, 2019, and certain model year 2018-2019 All American School Buses manufactured from August 1, 2018 through January 30, 2020. On the subject buses, Blue Bird and Cummins have determined that certain Vision and All American electric school buses sold with PowerDrive 7000 EV electric drivetrain units, a connector within the wire harnesses installed in the subject EV drivetrains may be susceptible to becoming unplugged. If the connector becomes unplugged, under certain circumstances the communication between control modules may be lost and the system may command off the high voltage contactors, resulting in unexpected loss of all systems powered by high voltage, including the traction drive system and power steering. A sudden and simultaneous loss of motive power and loss of power steering may increase the risk of a crash.

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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.**



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