

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

20V-125

Manufacturer Name : Blue Bird Body Company**Submission Date :** MAR 03, 2020**NHTSA Recall No. :** 20V-125**Manufacturer Recall No. :** R20AM-SB**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Blue Bird Body Company

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

Company phone : 478-822-2242

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 2,790

Estimated percentage with defect : 60 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2008-2021 Blue Bird Vision

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : CNG/LPG

Descriptive Information : It has been determined that certain Blue Bird buses may fail to conform to the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 222 "School bus passenger seating and crash protection" requirements for the seat barrier behind the driver seat with integrated 3-point seat belt. Subject buses may fail to meet the FMVSS 222 Barrier performance forward (S5.2.3) requirements. The barrier on subject buses must be inspected and replaced according to the Blue Bird recall instructions, if found to be incorrect. A secondary inspection will have to be conducted on certain Vision buses to determine the presence of the reinforcing bracket below the floor.

Production Dates : FEB 28, 2007 - JAN 18, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2008-2021 Blue Bird All American

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : CNG/LPG

Descriptive Information : It has been determined that certain Blue Bird buses may fail to conform to the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 222 "School bus passenger seating and crash protection" requirements for the seat barrier behind the driver seat with integrated 3-point seat belt. Subject buses may fail to meet the FMVSS 222 Barrier performance forward (S5.2.3) requirements. The barrier on subject buses must be inspected and replaced according to the Blue Bird recall instructions, if found to be incorrect. A secondary inspection will have to be conducted on certain Vision buses to determine the presence of the reinforcing bracket below the floor.

Production Dates : SEP 26, 2007 - DEC 21, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : It has been determined that certain Blue Bird buses may fail to conform to the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 222 "School bus passenger seating and crash protection" requirements for the seat barrier behind the driver seat with integrated 3-point seat belt. Subject buses may fail to meet the FMVSS 222 Barrier performance forward (S5.2.3) requirements. The barrier on subject buses must be inspected and replaced according to the Blue Bird recall instructions, if found to be incorrect. A secondary inspection will have to be conducted on certain Vision buses to determine the presence of the reinforcing bracket below the floor.

FMVSS 1 : 222 - School bus passenger seating and crash protection

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Blue Bird evaluated the risk to motor vehicle safety related to this noncompliance and determined that in the event of an accident there is a potential for injury to the occupant seated behind the seat barrier separating them from the driver seat with integrated 3-point seat belt.

Description of the Cause : On certain school buses the seat barrier behind the driver seat with integrated 3-point seat belt may have been installed incorrectly during the assembly process.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : There is no audible or visual warning, which would precede an event.

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

On February 6, 2020, Blue Bird discovered the incorrect seat barrier may have been installed on certain school buses behind the driver seat with an integrated 3-point seat belt. The barrier should have a reinforced frame to comply with the requirements of FMVSS 222. Additionally, certain Vision school buses with this barrier also require a reinforcing bracket under the floor to be compliant with FMVSS 222. Blue Bird initiated a campaign on February 6, 2020 to inspect a total of 40 school buses, 20 in process and 20 customer-owned buses still on property, that should have had the reinforced barrier installed. Twenty-one of the forty were found to be incorrect and were corrected. Blue Bird has determined that a total of 3,233 school buses have been sold in North America (United States and Canada populations combined) with the reinforced passenger seat barrier

behind a driver seat with an integrated 3-point seat belt, and decided to issue a recall on February 28, 2020 to inspect the barrier on these buses to ensure the proper reinforced barrier assembly is installed according to the engineering instructions. If either the incorrect barrier is found, or if the barrier on certain Vision buses is not installed according to engineering requirements then barrier will be replaced with the correct part and/or a reinforcing bracket will be installed under the floor, as required.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Seat barriers positioned immediately behind an integrated 3-point driver seat must have a reinforced construction on all buses and utilize a reinforcing bracket under the floor attached to the frame rail on certain Vision buses. Visual inspection will be required to ensure that the proper reinforced barrier and barrier reinforcing bracket are installed. If the correct components are not in place, the barrier will be replaced and the barrier reinforcing bracket will be installed.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : NR

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : NR

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Planned notification date is April 23, 2020, or before.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : APR 23, 2020 - APR 23, 2020

Planned Owner Notification Date : APR 23, 2020 - APR 23, 2020

* NR - Not Reported