



R20AO

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE
NHTSA Campaign Number: 20V-234 (School Bus)
NHTSA Campaign Number: 20V-235 (Non-School Bus)

DATE: June 11, 2020
TO: U.S. DEALERS
SUBJECT: Recall R20AO, FMVSS 105 Noncompliance – Hydraulic Brake Units W/Floor Mounted Park Brake Hand Lever Assembly

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 buses identified by both Blue Bird Body Number and Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on the attached yellow cover sheet.

Blue Bird Body Company is voluntarily recalling certain model year 2006 to 2021 Blue Bird Vision School Buses manufactured from September 24, 2005 through February 13, 2020; certain model year 2007 to 2013 All American School Buses manufactured from September 27, 2006 through June 15, 2012; and certain model year 2009 to 2019 Vision Non-School Buses manufactured on September 6, 2008 and March 12, 2018. On the subject buses, it has been determined that certain Blue Bird buses could fail to conform to the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard Number 105 "Hydraulic and Electric Brake Systems" for the parking brake system requirements. Subject buses may fail to meet the FMVSS 105 S5.2.3 requirements for holding the vehicle stationary for 5 minutes on a 20% grade when loaded to its maximum gross vehicle weight. Blue Bird must conduct a recall to correct this noncompliance. The potentially suspect population includes buses equipped with hydraulic brakes with a hand lever mounted on the right side of the driver seat to actuate the parking brake (Feature 40049-03). Blue Bird shall conduct a voluntary safety recall to correct any potential noncompliance.

Blue Bird has evaluated the risk to motor vehicle safety related to this noncompliance and determined that there is a potential for injury to the occupant and bystanders in the event that the parking brake system is set to an insufficient application force. A parked bus that moves unexpectedly could increase the risk of injury and/or a crash. Therefore, the bus should be parked on a level surface and properly chock the wheels until the hand brake assembly has been inspected.

Corrective Action:

To correct this noncompliance, Blue Bird will notify the affected dealers and owners that the application force of the floor mounted park brake hand lever assembly must be inspected and set according to the Blue Bird Service Manual requirements, if found to be incorrect. Blue Bird will provide the affected dealers and owners with instructions regarding this recall remedy.

Labor Reimbursement:

Blue Bird will reimburse the labor cost of potential repairs relating to this recall at no cost to you the Dealer or to the vehicle owner. Repair Options and allowable labor times for this campaign:

- **Repair A (Inspection):**
 - 0.1 (6 minutes)
- **Repair B (Handle Adjustment – As Needed)**
 - 0.1 (6 minutes)
- **Repair C (Yoke Adjustment – As Needed)**
 - 0.2 (12 minutes)



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Parts to complete Recall R20AO are not required for this campaign. To assist with this recall remedy, Blue Bird will supply the Dealer with a Beslands SF-500 Digital Force Gauge Push and Pull Tester Dynamometer Pressure High Precision LCD Measuring Instrument Thrust Meter (2N-500N).

If Blue Bird's records indicate bus(es) subject to this recall were delivered in your service area, a list of affected bus(es) will be enclosed. The bus(es) will be identified by Blue Bird Body Number and Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on the enclosed yellow cover sheet. **Dealers should verify correct owners and assure that complete mailing and shipping addresses are provided for each listed owner.**

It is the Dealer's responsibility to verify that the correct owner name, address, and telephone number is provided for each listed vehicle. Any corrections or updates should be made in ClaimsCenter. Addresses that cannot be updated should be forwarded to the Recall Administrator.

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

Dealers are reminded of their responsibilities under Section 154 of The National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1991. Dealers are required to complete modifications on units in their inventory before delivering to the final owner. Reference Blue Bird Body Company Distributor Memo No. 42-92.

If you have in your possession or have sold a bus that was purchased from another Dealer that may be affected by this recall, please notify Lisa Hancock at 478-822-2242 or lisa.hancock@blue-bird.com. Questions regarding this recall campaign should be directed to Lisa Hancock, as well.

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