

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

October 14, 2021

Ms. Lisa Hancock Corporate Recall Administrator Blue Bird Body Company 402 Blue Bird Blvd Fort Valley, GA 31069 NEF-107MR 21V-778

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

**Subject:** Brake Line Retaining Clamp May Not Be Installed

Dear Ms. Hancock:

This letter serves to acknowledge Blue Bird Body Company's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

#### Makes/Models/Model Years:

**BLUE BIRD/VISION/2022** 

Mfr's Report Date: October 6, 2021

NHTSA Campaign Number: 21V-778

### **Components:**

SERVICE BRAKES, HYDRAULIC:CRITICAL FASTENERS
SERVICE BRAKES, HYDRAULIC:FOUNDATION COMPONENTS:HOSES, LINES/PIPING, AND FITTINGS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 135

#### **Problem Description:**

Blue Bird Body Company (Blue Bird) is recalling certain 2022 Vision school buses equipped with Ford 7.3L engines. The retaining clamp used to secure the hydraulic brake line near the engine may not have been installed, which could cause a brake fluid leak and result in a loss of brake function.

### **Consequence:**

Loss of braking ability increases the risk of a crash.

## Remedy:

Dealers will inspect the hydraulic brakes lines, and install any missing hardware, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed on November 30, 2021. Owners may contact Blue Bird's customer service at 1-478-822-2242. Blue Bird's number for this recall is R21BN-SB.

### **Notes:**

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.nhtsa.gov.



# Please ensure the following requirements are met:

Your company's program shall include a plan for reimbursing an owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall within a reasonable time in advance of your company's notification of owners, purchasers and dealers, in accordance with § 573.13. Your company's plan may incorporate by reference a general reimbursement plan it previously submitted to NHTSA, together with information specific to the individual recall. Information required by § 573.13 that is not in a general reimbursement plan shall be submitted in your company's report to NHTSA. If your company submits one or more general reimbursement plans, your company shall update each plan every two years (§ 573.13). If the vehicles are new and would be covered under the manufacturer's warranty program, please state that in the remedy section of your filing.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Blue Bird Body Company's contact for this recall will be Michelle Rice who may be reached by email at michelle.rice@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Alex Ansley

Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigation

Enforcement

