

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

23V-276

Manufacturer Name : Blue Bird Body Company**Submission Date :** APR 18, 2023**NHTSA Recall No. :** 23V-276**Manufacturer Recall No. :** R23CG (SB)**Manufacturer Information :****Population :**

Manufacturer Name : Blue Bird Body Company

Number of potentially involved : 419

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

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Company phone : 478-822-2242

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2018-2021 Blue Bird All American

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : HYBRID ELECTRIC

Descriptive Information : Blue Bird and Cummins is recalling the System Control Module (SCM) for certain electric drivetrain systems. This recall relates to the software calibration installed in these SCM's and includes the entire population of SCM's built within the specified dates and installed as original equipment in certain school buses.

Production Dates : AUG 01, 2018 - APR 20, 2022

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

Vehicle 2 : 2018-2021 Blue Bird Vision

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : HYBRID ELECTRIC

Descriptive Information : Blue Bird and Cummins is recalling the System Control Module (SCM) for certain electric drivetrain systems. This recall relates to the software calibration installed in these SCM's and includes the entire population of SCM's built within the specified dates and installed as original equipment in certain school buses.

Production Dates : JAN 19, 2019 - MAR 16, 2022

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

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : The SCM may activate the anti-rollback feature, causing the vehicle to move backwards uphill at a rate that may exceed certain driver's expectations. This may occur once the driver releases the brake while the vehicle is in reverse and pointing downhill on a grade greater than approximately 7 percent.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : This condition may increase the risk of a crash.

Description of the Cause : The cause is a software calibration issue.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : None

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Software Calibration (Cummins)

Component Description : SMC Calibration Software (Cummins)

Component Part Number : 6373041 SMC Calibration Software (Cummins)

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Cummins Incorporated

Address : 500 Jackson Street
Columbus Indiana 47201

Country : United States

Chronology :

July 20, 2022: Cummins received a report on two Blue Bird buses at a Canadian fleet customer. No accidents or injuries were reported. Both Blue Bird & Cummins Field Service Engineers were present during the initial discovery to evaluate the complaint.

July 21, through August 12, 2022: Cummins conducted engineering tests & was able to replicate the condition.

August 12, 2022 through September 30, 2022: Cummins conducted further testing to understand the cause & in conjunction with this testing, developed a preliminary calibration that addressed this condition on the vehicles from which the complaint originated.

September 30 through November 28, 2022: Cummins began a Product Safety Hazard Analysis & constituted a

cross-functional team to conduct further vehicle evaluation comparing the vehicle performance with the original calibration & the preliminary new calibration.

November 28, 2022 through January 30, 2023: Cummins gathered additional info regarding the operation of the anti-rollback feature, conducted an additional vehicle evaluation, & completed the Product Safety Hazard Analysis.

February 14, 2023 through March 20, 2023: Cummins escalated the issue through multiple reviews in its Product Safety Defect Determination process including gathering additional information to answer questions from the Product Safety Defect Board & arranging a vehicle demonstration of the issue for the members of the Board.

March 20, 2023: Based upon the information developed during the investigation & the additional info, Cummins Product Safety Defect Board decided to conduct a safety campaign to address this condition. To date, there have been no reports of accidents or injuries related to this condition, & no further complaints (other than the initial two complaints that prompted this investigation).

March 28, 2023: Blue Bird was notified by Cummins of the Power Drive 7000 BES CM0904 EV104B Safety Recall.

April 12, 2023: Blue Bird authorized a recall to correct this condition.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : The remedy is to update the SCM software calibration. Cummins will reimburse the labor cost of the repair related to this recall at no cost to the Dealer or to the vehicle owner. A recall specific reimbursement plan will be provided on the Cummins Recall Portal for those units not covered by the limited warranty.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The software calibration part number will not change, but the remedy Calibration Number will be a new unique number.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Cummins Production of this product ceased on October 30, 2021. Therefore, no correction was necessary for Production units.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealer and Owner Notifications are to be issued on or before May 26, 2023.

Parts are not required; this is a software calibration.

Cummins will reimburse the labor cost of the repair related to this recall at no cost to the Dealer or to the vehicle owner. A recall specific reimbursement plan will be provided on the Cummins Recall Portal for those units not covered by the limited warranty.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAY 26, 2023 - MAY 26, 2023

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAY 26, 2023 - MAY 26, 2023

* NR - Not Reported