



BLUE BIRD

R14XE

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

**NHTSA RECALL NO. 14V-309 SCHOOL BUS
NHTSA RECALL NO. 14V-306 NON-SCHOOL BUS**

DATE: JULY 08, 2014

TO: U.S. DEALERS

**SUBJECT: RECALL R14XE STEERING SHAFT CLAMP MAY CONTACT RUBBER
CLOSEOUT BOOT**

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

Blue Bird Body Company has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2012 through 2015 model year Blue Bird All American model school and non-school buses manufactured from August 20, 2011 through May 21, 2014.

On the subject buses, the steering shaft clamp may contact the rubber closeout boot at the floor resulting in increased steering effort. At no time would steering become fully inoperable. However, Blue Bird determined the degradation in steering effort is deemed an undesirable occurrence and could potentially result in a vehicle crash. Blue Bird is conducting a recall to correct this defect.

To correct this defect, the intermediate steering shaft bellows clamp must be removed and bellows raised to eliminate any interference with rubber close out boot and bellows re-secured with a new clamp. If closeout boot is damaged or worn, boot must be replaced.

If our records indicate buses subject to this recall were delivered in your service area, a printout identifying affected buses by body number and VIN is enclosed. **Dealers should verify correct owners and assure that complete mailing and shipping addresses are provided for each listed owner.**

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 me at 478-822-2242.

BLUE BIRD BODY COMPANY

P.O. Box 937 – 402 Blue Bird Blvd – Fort Valley, Georgia – (478) 825-2021



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Labor time to remove original clamp, relocate the rubber closeout boot and install new retaining clamp is 0.1 hours (six minutes) per bus.

Labor time to remove and replace a torn rubber close out boot and install new retaining clamp, if needed, is 1 hour per bus.

Parts required to complete Recall R14XE must be obtained from Blue Bird Recall Administration. Owners are being advised to return their completed R14XE Inspection Form with correct shipping address to receive parts.

For repairs performed by 'the Blue Bird Dealer', the Dealer may submit 'campaign-type' claims in iWarranty for labor reimbursement. For repairs performed by 'other than the Blue Bird Dealer', the Owner's recall notification letter includes a reply sheet that the Owner can send to Blue Bird Recall Administration for reimbursement of labor costs to the Owner.

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.

Questions regarding this recall campaign should be directed to me at (478) 822-2242.

Sincerely,

Bill Coleman
Corporate Recall Administrator
Blue Bird Body Company