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13V-200  
(3 pages)

May 15, 2013

Ms. Nancy Lewis  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington DC 20590

Dear Ms. Lewis,

In accordance with the requirements of CFR 49 Part 573.6 Blue Bird Corporation is submitting the attached defect report.

This report was emailed to Kelly Schuler at NHTSA on May 15, 2013.

If you should have any questions concerning the information submitted, please contact me at 478-822-2242.

Respectfully,

Bill Coleman  
Corporate Recall Administrator

Enclosure:

49 CFR Part 573.6 Defect Notification Report for Recall R13WF C. E. White Inc.  
Flip Seat Recall



## 49 CFR, PART 573.6 Defect and Noncompliance Reporting

### Defect Report

**Report Date:** May 15, 2013

**1. Vehicles affected are manufactured by:**

Blue Bird Corporation  
P. O. Box 937  
Fort Valley, GA 31030

**2. The following vehicles are being recalled:**

Certain 2010 through 2014 model year Blue Bird All American and conventional (Vision) model school buses manufactured from August 25, 2009 through March 19, 2013 and equipped with C.E. White Inc. Flip Seats.

**3. The total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect are:**

441

**4. The approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect is:**

100%

**5. The defect consists of:**

C. E. White has advised Blue Bird that it is recalling certain of its Flip Seat model Quasi Static "QSJ11" (30", 36", 39" and 45"), Flip Seat model Student Safety Seat "SSSJ" (30", 36", 39" and 45"), and Flip Seat model School Bus Seat "SBJ" (30", 36", 39" and 45") shipped to Blue Bird between the dates of August 04, 2006, and January 31, 2013.

If the subject Flip Seats are installed in front of another passenger seat it is possible for the occupant of the rearward passenger seat to insert their toes and/or foot into the lower frame area of the subject Flip Seat. When a vehicle passenger occupies the Flip Seat, pushing the seat bottom downward to the horizontal position to sit in the seat, the occupant of the rearward seat could suffer a pinch point injury to their toes and/or foot. To correct this defect a safety guard will be installed to cover the gap in the lower frame of the Flip Seat to prevent the possibility of personal injury to bus passengers behind the subject Flip Seats.



BLUE BIRD

**6. The following data is the basis for the determination of the defect.**

On April 18, 2013 Blue Bird received notification from C. E. White that they intended to file a safety defect notification on Flip Seats for school buses.

On May 13, 2013 Blue Bird received notification from C. E. White Inc. of a safety defect on certain of its Flip Seat model Quasi Static "QSJ11", Flip Seat model Student Safety seat "SSSJ" seats and Flip Seat model School bus seat "SBJ" seats.

On May 14, 2013 Blue Bird completed review of the C.E. White defect notification and decided to recall all buses equipped with the subject Flip Seat.

**7. The defect will be corrected in the following manner:**

C. E. White Inc. will provide a safety guard which will be shipped to dealers and/or owners to be installed on the Flip Seat to prevent passengers from placing their toes or feet in the opening on the back of the subject Flip Seats.

**8. Notification will be as follows:**

Dealer notification is scheduled to be mailed on or about June 13, 2013.

Owner notification is scheduled to be mailed on or about June 13, 2013.

C. E. White advises parts are anticipated to be available at time of notification.

**9. Blue Bird's identification number assigned to this recall is:**

R13WF

**10. Dealer and Owner Notification:**

A draft copy of the notification documents will be submitted to NHTSA for review prior to mailing.

**Questions regarding this recall should be directed to:**

William P. Coleman  
Corporate Recall Administrator  
Blue Bird Corporation  
P.O. Box 937  
Fort Valley GA 31030  
(478) 822-2242

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*William P. Coleman*

William P. Coleman, Corporate Recall Administrator