



R13WM

August 28, 2013

Dear Blue Bird Owner:

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 certain 2007 through 2014 model year All American and Vision model school buses manufactured from March 10, 2006 through June 18, 2013 and equipped with transit sliding windows fail to conform to the joint strength requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 221, "School Bus Body Joint Strength" at the transit sliding window body panel joints.

On the subject buses, adhesive may have been omitted at the transit sliding window interior and exterior body panel joints on both sides of bus. Buses without adhesive at the transit sliding window body panel joints fail to conform to the joint strength requirements of FMVSS No. 221. Bus passengers may sustain injuries in the event of a vehicle crash. Buses with this noncompliance must be corrected immediately according to the enclosed instructions for Recall R13WM.

Parts and labor required to complete Recall R13WM, according to the attached instructions, will be provided at no cost to you.

Your Blue Bird bus(es) affected by this recall are identified by body serial number(s) on the enclosed reply sheets. If you no longer own the subject bus(es), please complete the appropriate section of the **yellow** parts request sheet and return to Blue Bird in the enclosed pink postage prepaid envelope.

You should contact your Blue Bird dealer to have this recall performed. Or, if you prefer, you may perform this recall yourself or have a qualified repair facility convenient to you perform this recall. A qualified technician should perform this recall.

If you elect to perform this recall yourself, or have a qualified repair facility convenient to you perform this recall, you should return the **yellow parts request sheet**, with a valid UPS delivery address, to Blue Bird in one of the enclosed pink, postage paid reply envelopes. The required parts will be shipped to you or the repairing facility at "no charge".

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

Labor time to perform recall R13WM according to the attached instructions is 4.4 hours per bus.

If you perform Recall R13WM, or have a qualified repair facility convenient to you perform this recall, **reimbursement for labor** may be obtained by completing the pink request for reimbursement sheet provided and returning it to Blue Bird in the enclosed pink postage prepaid envelope.

If the modifications directed by this notification were performed on your bus prior to the receipt of this recall notification, complete and sign the recall reply sheet and attached a copy of the work order/invoice. Mail the documents in the **pink** self-addressed postage paid envelope included with the recall notification to Blue Bird for warranty consideration. Reimbursements will be made in accordance with the requirements of the National Highway Transportation Safety Act, Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 573 and 577.

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

If Blue Bird Body Company should fail to or is unable to remedy this condition without charge to you, you may contact:

**ADMINISTRATOR
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
1200 NEW JERSEY AVENUE, SE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590**

Or, you may call The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration toll free at:

1-888-327-4236
TTY 1-800-424-9153

Or, go to: [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV)

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

Thank you,



Bill Coleman
Corporate Recall Administrator
BLUE BIRD BODY COMPANY



Adhesive Omitted at Transit Sliding Window Body Panel Joints

RECALL

Models Affected: 2007 thru 2014 All American and Vision with optional Transit Sliding Windows

ISSUE

Adhesive required to meet FMVSS 221 “School Bus Body Joint Strength” requirements may have been omitted at the outside and inside side transit sliding window body panel joints.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

Install additional rivets as required to comply with FMVSS 221 “School Bus Body Joint Strength” requirements.

PROCEDURE

WARNING: Always follow all Federal, State, Local and Shop safety standards and use proper safety equipment, and thoroughly read and understand all instructions before performing these procedures. This procedure may require working from ladders or scaffolds to reach the top of the bus. Observe all safety precautions to secure the bus from rolling and for use of ladders or scaffolds.

1. Park bus on a level surface, apply parking brake, remove ignition key and chock wheels.
2. At the joints on the outside transit sliding window side panels, using template provided, mark new holes above and below existing rivets as shown in Figures 1 & 2.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Adhesive Omitted at Transit Sliding Window Body Panel Joints

RECALL

3. Near the top of the bus are four rivets that are close together. Make a mark for one rivet in the center of these four existing rivet. (Fig. 3)
4. Mark an additional rivet 1.33" (1" and 11/32") below the bottom rivet. (Fig. 4)
5. Using a 17/64" drill bit, install provided drill stop at 1/2" (0.50). The drill stop must be used to prevent possible damage to wires in bow cavities. Be sure holes are centered between rivets. (Fig. 5) Take extra care in drilling through reflective tape where applicable.
6. Install part number #01854397 Rivet, Blind, .25 Dia, .38 grip, in each hole drilled using a rivet gun/tool. (Fig. 5) Be sure to use the rivets painted Exterior Fleet White.
7. Touch up each rivet with the provided Exterior Fleet White touch-up paint.

There should be 15 rivets installed in each bow section beginning between the first set of passenger windows and continuing, on each bow, to the rear of the bus.



Fig. 3

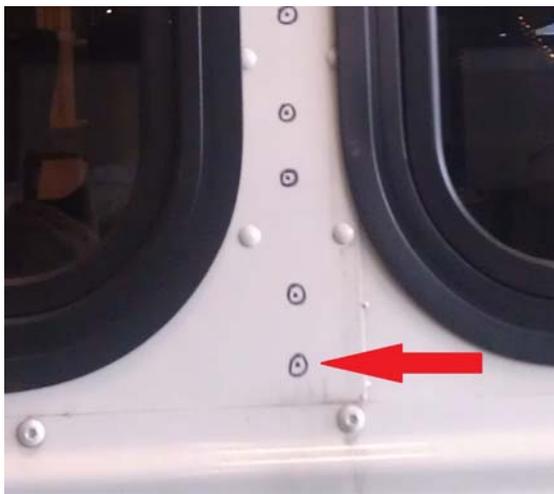


Fig. 4



Fig. 5

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Adhesive Omitted at Transit Sliding Window Body Panel Joints *RECALL*

8. Between the transit sliding windows, on the inside side panels, mark hole locations on 1" (one inch) centers, extending from the top of the inside side panel upwards to the lower wire molding extrusion. (Fig 6)
9. Center the holes between the windows, in line with the existing rivets.
10. Drill holes using 17/64" drill bit with drill stop set to 1/2 (.50) inch.
11. Install painted rivets. Be sure to use the Interior Astro White rivets.
12. Touch up rivets using Interior Astro White touch-up paint.
13. There should be 24 rivets installed between each window.
14. Repeat this procedure between each passenger window from front to rear of the bus, on each side.



Fig. 6

Each Kit will contain the following parts per bus:

Quantity	Part Number	Description
170	01854397	Rivet, Blind, .25 Dia, .38 grip—Exterior- Fleet White
300	01854397	Rivet, Blind, .25 Dia, .38 grip—Interior-Astro White
2 bottles	NPN	0.5oz Bottle of Exterior Touch Up Paint-Fleet White
2 Bottles	NPN	0.5oz Bottle of Interior Touch Up Paint-Astro white
2	NPN	17/64" drill stops
2	NPN	Templates for Rivet Spacing
As Required	NPN	17/64" drill bit, obtain locally

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