



R15YI

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

**NHTSA RECALL NO. 15V-730 SCHOOL BUS
NHTSA RECALL NO. 15V-731 NON-SCHOOL BUS**

December 1, 2015

Dear Blue Bird Owner:

This important safety recall notice applies to your buses identified by both Blue Bird body number and Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on the attached white coversheet.

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 safety related defect exists in certain Blue Bird school bus and non-school bus models identified below equipped with a Ricon S-Series model platform wheelchair lift.

2007 through 2015 model year All American model
2007 through 2011 model year Micro Bird model
2007 through 2015 model year Vison model
2007 through 2008 model year Conventional model

Under certain conditions present in some applications, the platforms included on the S-Series Model Wheelchair Lifts (S2005, S2010, S5005, S5010, S5505, S5510) can exhibit cracking of the platform pivot plate while in the stowed position. If left unchecked, the crack can propagate to the point where separation of the rear portion of the pivot plate occurs rendering the lift potentially inoperable and possibly unsafe for the operator. In the event the crack occurs on both sides of the platform and is allowed to propagate to the point of material separation on both sides it is possible for the lift platform to lean against the vehicle lift door(s) and fall out of the vehicle when the door(s) is (are) opened putting the lift operator at risk. The holes in the folding link arms may have been manufactured oversized allowing a substantial amount of free play in the platform. Replacing the link arms does alleviate the issue.

The link arms should be inspected for damage or bearings moved out of position. If damage is found Ricon Corporation will provide parts required to remedy the issue at no cost. The Ricon recall number is 15E-068.

You can locate your nearest Ricon wheelchair servicing dealer by using the Ricon Dealer Locator at the lower left of the Ricon Website www.riconcorp.com. You may also contact Gerald Quimpe, Customer Support Manager, gquimpe@wabttec.com or you may call Gerald at (818) 267-3033 or Customer Service at (800) 322-2884 or (818) 267-3000.

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

If you no longer own the subject bus(es), please complete the appropriate section of the yellow cover sheet and return to Blue Bird.

When the recall remedy has been performed on your Ricon wheelchair lift(s) complete and return the enclosed R15YI Recall Completion Reply Sheet so we may update our records. This will prevent you from receiving additional follow up notices.

If the remedy directed by this notification was provided for your bus(es) prior to the receipt of this recall notification, complete and sign the white Recall Completion Reply Sheet and return to Blue Bird Attn: Recall Administrator. Mail the documents in the pink self-addressed postage paid envelope included with this recall notification.

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 after contacting Ricon Corporation, you do not receive replacement parts in a reasonable time and without charge 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>

Questions regarding this recall campaign should be directed to me at lisa.hancock@blue-bird.com or (478) 822-2242.

Regards,

Lisa Hancock

Lisa Hancock
Corporate Recall Administrator
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