



**BLUE BIRD**

**R07LW**

**DATE: APRIL 07, 2008**

**TO: AFFECTED DEALERS**

**SUBJECT: RECALL R07LW FMVSS 217 "BUS EMERGENCY EXITS AND WINDOW RETENTION AND RELEASE" NONCOMPLIANCE**

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 2006-2008 model year Blue Bird All American and Vision model school and transit buses manufactured from January 14, 2005 through March 13, 2007 fail to conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 217 "Bus Emergency Exits and Window Retention and Release". The subject buses were manufactured with an incorrect number of emergency exits.

Blue Bird is conducting a recall to correct this noncompliance. Buses with the noncompliance must be corrected by installing additional pushout emergency windows as required. Instructions for installing additional pushout emergency windows are attached. A diagram indicating correct pushout window location by body number will be included with each parts shipment.

If our records indicate affected units were delivered in your service area, a printout identifying affected units is attached. Dealers should verify correct owners and that complete shipping addresses are provided for each listed vehicle.

If you have in your possession or have sold a vehicle that was purchased from another dealer that may be affected by this recall, please notify me at 478-822-2242.

Time required to perform Recall R07LW is 3.0 hours per bus. **Parts required to correct this condition must be ordered through Recall Administration.**

For repairs performed by the Blue Bird Dealer, warranty applications may be submitted via BBOND/ClaimTrac. If owners/operators have repairs performed at a repair facility other than their Blue Bird Dealer, a recall reply sheet is included with the owner's notification letter that permits the owner/operator to request reimbursement from Blue Bird for their labor costs to perform this repair. See the Owner's Notification Letter for details.

**BLUE BIRD CORPORATION**  
402 Blue Bird Blvd. PO Box 937 • Fort Valley, Georgia 31030  
(478) 825-2021

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/repairs on units in their inventory before delivering to the final owner.** Reference Blue Bird Body Company Distributor Memo No. 42-92.

Important: Your prompt return of the pink reimbursement sheet, complete with the correct Body Serial Numbers, permits Blue Bird to update our record indicating recall has been completed and prevents the mailing of a second notice. This is much appreciated. We regret any inconvenience this may have caused.

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

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Coleman".

Bill Coleman  
Corporate Recall Administrator  
Blue Bird Corporation



R07LW

April 07, 2008

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 2006-2008 model year Blue Bird All American and Vision model school and transit buses manufactured from January 14, 2005 through March 13, 2007 fail to conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 217 "Bus Emergency Exits and Window Retention and Release". The subject buses were manufactured with an incorrect number of emergency exits.

Blue Bird is conducting a recall to correct this noncompliance. Buses with the noncompliance must be corrected by installing additional pushout emergency windows as required. Instructions for installing additional pushout emergency windows are attached. A diagram indicating correct pushout window location by body number will be included with each parts shipment.

Your Blue Bird bus(es) affected by recall R07LW 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 pink reply sheet and return to Blue Bird in the enclosed pink postage prepaid envelope.

**To receive parts required to correct this noncompliance, confirm your correct shipping address, sign and return the enclosed yellow parts request sheet and return it to Blue Bird in the enclosed pink postage prepaid reply envelope. Be sure to include your telephone number.**

A qualified technician should perform this modification or you may contact your Blue Bird dealer for assistance. Immediately upon completion of the repair, the owner/operator should complete and sign the pink recall reply sheet and mail it to Blue Bird in the enclosed pink postage prepaid envelope. Indicate in the appropriate section of the pink recall reply sheet who performed the repair (Blue Bird dealer, owner/operator or another repair facility). Be sure to include a copy of the repair facility's work order/invoice if requesting reimbursement of labor costs incurred by the owner/operator. Labor time required to perform recall R07LW is 3 hours per bus.

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If the modifications/repair directed by this notification was performed on your bus prior to the receipt of this recall notification, complete and sign the recall reply sheet and attach 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 reimbursement. 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>

Questions regarding this recall campaign should be directed to Blue Bird Recall Administration at (478) 822-2242.

Thank you,



Bill Coleman  
Corporate Recall Administrator  
**BLUE BIRD BODY COMPANY**



# Emergency Exits

# RECALL

**MODELS AFFECTED:** Certain A3FE & A3RE units manufactured from January 14, 2005 through March 13, 2007.

## ISSUE

Non compliance, insufficient quantity of Emergency Exits.

## CORRECTIVE ACTION

Install additional Pushout Windows. A diagram indicating correct pushout window location by body number will be included with each parts shipment. Return the yellow parts request sheet with a proper shipping address to receive the new pushout windows and related parts. Obtain required windows and related parts before scheduling repairs.

**WARNING** Always follow all federal, state, local and shop safety standards, and use proper safety equipment when performing this procedure.

## PROCEDURE

**1** Park vehicle on a level surface, apply parking brake, turn engine off, remove ignition key and chock wheels.

**2** Disconnect battery ground cable(s).

**3** From outside bus, use a putty knife and cut the sealant at both sides and across the bottom of the window.



**4** From inside bus, remove 6 window retaining screws and washers.



**5** From inside bus, open window and grip the top frame with both hands at the sides. Pull window inward from top and out of the opening.

**6** Remove any old sealant remaining around the opening.

**7** Remove two retaining screws at ends of wire molding above windows and remove as much molding as necessary. Push molding upward from behind top window frame flange and remove.



**8** Route wire for Pushout Windows (Driver's Side):

8.1 Locate buzzer switch red with black striped wire #2401 in main harness above the window opening and remove 1/2 inch of insulation.



8.2 Strip 1/2 inch of one end of a 2 foot length of 16 ga. wire (B.B. #2270197) and splice into #2401 wire above window opening.

8.3 Using **rosin core** solder, solder and then insulate splice with several wraps of electrical tape.

8.4 Using a fish tape, route opposite end of wire through notch in headlining panel to the rearmost notch in window header. Let wire hang in window opening.



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## 9 Route wire for Pushout Windows (Curb Side):

9.1 Remove 12 roof hatch interior trim retaining screws and remove trim panel.

9.2 Using a fish tape, pull an 8 foot length of 16 ga. wire (B.B. #2270197) from the roof hatch opening to the notch in the headlining panel above the window.



9.3 Route wire with existing harness to pushout window location.

9.4 Using a fish tape, route through hole in interior roof panel to the rearmost notch in window header. Let wire hang in opening.

9.5 Locate red with black stripe wire #2401 on driver's side of roof hatch and remove 1/2 inch of insulation.



Wire #2401

9.6 Strip 1/2 inch of insulation from end of previously routed wire and splice into #2401 wire at roof hatch.

9.7 Using rosin core solder, solder and then insulate splice with several wraps of electrical tape.

9.8 Reinstall roof hatch trim panel.

**10** Apply bead of sealant, B.B. 0862953, across bottom of window opening, 3 inches up on both sides and in the top corners of window opening.

**11** Place new Pushout Window into opening making sure window is fully seated at bottom.

11.1 Cut wire in window opening to required length.

11.2 Connect wire to buzzer switch wire with 16-14 gage butt connector.

11.3 Secure wire to side of window frame with electrical tape.

11.4 Push top of window into opening.

*Note: Light tapping with rubber hammer may be required to fully seat top of window into opening.*



Electrical Tape

**12** Reinstall six window retaining screws and washers.

**13** Reinstall wire molding and molding retaining screws.

**14** Check Pushout Window latch handle operation. Handle must clear seat back 2 inches in all directions and require between 5 and 20 lbs. of force to open latch.

**15** With ignition "ON", pull release handle up to ensure buzzer operates. Open window fully to ensure there is no hanging or binding. Close and latch window, buzzer should turn off.

**16** On exterior of bus, apply bead of sealant (B.B. #0862953) on both sides, top to bottom and across the bottom of the window, sealing it into the opening.

**17** On exterior of bus, apply yellow "Reflective Tape" (B.B. #1717529) around each Pushout Window. Install per attached diagram #1727452.

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# RECALL

## 18 Apply Decals to interior:

18.1 Apply decal #1495399 (**EMERGENCY EXIT-SEE INSTRUCTION BELOW**) directly above window on headlining panel. **Do NOT** apply to wire molding.



18.2 Apply decal #0812222 (**EMERGENCY EXIT TO OPEN PULL HANDLE PUSHOUT WINDOW**) to glass. Locate decal on lower sash glass 6 inches from latch handle.



18.3 Apply decal #1495530 (**EMERGENCY EXIT-OPERATES FROM INSIDE ONLY**) at top and centered on upper sash glass. Decal to be read from outside bus.



### PARTS LIST

PART NUMBER	QTY. PER BUS	DESCRIPTION
0862953	1	Sealant
2270197	30 ft	Wire, red w/black stripe, 16 ga.
1717529	16 ft	Tape, Reflective
1495399	2	Decal, Emergency Exit - See Instruction Below
1495530	2	Decal, Emergency Exit - Operates From Inside
0812222	2	Decal, Emergency Exit - To Open Pull Handle Pushout Window

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