

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

24V-365

Manufacturer Name : Blue Bird Body Company

Submission Date : MAY 23, 2024

NHTSA Recall No. : 24V-365

Manufacturer Recall No. : R24DA (School Bus)



Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Blue Bird Body Company

Address : P.O. Box 937
402 Blue Bird Boulevard Fort Valley
GA 31030

Company phone : 478-822-2242

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 112

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2021-2023 Blue Bird Vision

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : HYBRID ELECTRIC

Descriptive Information : BBCV Electric Powertrain equipped with fuel fired heater. Certain BBCV EV vehicles equipped with a fuel fired heater can allow excessive diesel fuel spillage from an improperly placed return tube on the tank. This issue was reported from a customer on April 24, 2024 citing several recently delivered EV's leaking diesel fuel.

Production Dates : MAY 07, 2021 - MAR 07, 2024

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR **End :** NR

Not sequential

Description of Noncompliance :

Description of the Noncompliance : The diesel tank that supplies the fuel fired heater was improperly designed. The tank has an improperly placed return tube at the vent location, which allows for fuel spillage during refueling activities, or when excess pressure is built in the tank. This return tube is not needed for the fuel delivery system to function and should be removed.

FMVSS 1 : 301 - Fuel system integrity

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Diesel fuel spillage can pose a risk to a thermal event under certain circumstances, and can also be considered an environmental hazard.

Description of the Cause : FMVSS 301 Fuel System Integrity specifies an acceptable maximum fuel leak rate of 28 grams per minute in the context of a crash scenario. Based on information received from field reports, tanks affected by this issue are estimated to be leaking at a rate greater than this maximum threshold under

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : None certain conditions. Even though this issue was not reported in the context of a vehicle crash, it could present a concern with compliance to FMVSS 301.

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : EV Fuel Fired Heater Diesel Tank
Component Description : TANK ASSY,FUEL,25 GAL,DSL,EV
Component Part Number : 10076725

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : TankCraft Corporation
Address : N2900 FOUNDRY ROAD
Darien Wisconsin 53114
Country : United States

Chronology :

April 24, 2024: Blue Bird received a customer complaint related to leaking diesel fuel on recently delivered EV units equipped with a fuel fired heater. After review, it was determined that the diesel tank that supplies the heater was improperly designed. The tank has an improperly placed return tube at the vent location, which allows for fuel spillage during refueling activities, or when excess pressure is built in the tank. The same day, a stop ship was approved to contain all RFD units on site at Fort Valley. In total, 25 units were repaired prior to delivery. The repair consisted of removing the return tube located at the vent port. All in process units were also repaired with the same method prior to being RFD. All remaining inventory of the affected fuel tank was reworked so that any units setting up April 25, 2024 or later would not have this issue.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : All affected units in the field will need to have the tank reworked to remove the return tube.
If the modifications directed by this notification were performed on your bus prior to the receipt of this recall notification, provide a copy of the work order/invoice to campaignparts@blue-bird.com for Blue Bird warranty consideration.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The reworked fuel tank will not have a return tube located at the vent port, which should prevent any diesel fuel spillage.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : April 24, 2024, a stop ship was approved to contain all RFD units on site at Fort Valley. In total, 25 units were repaired prior to delivery. The repair consisted of removing the return tube located at the vent port. All in process units were also repaired with the same method prior to being RFD. All remaining inventory of the affected fuel tank was reworked so that any units setting up April 25, 2024 or later would not have this issue.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealer and Owner Notifications are to be issued on or before 07/18/2024.
If the modifications directed by this notification were performed on your bus prior to the receipt of this recall notification, provide a copy of the work order/invoice to campaignparts@blue-bird.com for Blue Bird warranty consideration.

Parts are not required.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JUL 18, 2024 - JUL 18, 2024

Planned Owner Notification Date : JUL 18, 2024 - JUL 18, 2024

* NR - Not Reported