

R02GE

September 27, 2002

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 determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain Blue Bird 2002 and 2003 model year All American school and transit rear engine buses and Commercial Series transit rear engine buses manufactured from June 05, 2001 through July 11, 2002. Affected models are equipped with Cummins ISB electronic engines. Blue Bird is conducting a recall to correct this defect.

The defect involves the wiring harness for the combustion air intake grid heater on the subject buses. The grid heater wiring harness may rest against the engine or engine components and chafe through the wiring harness protective loom.

Blue Bird Body Company's evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety is the possibility that in the event of an abrasion of the wire harness insulation, a short in the grid heater power supply could occur and in turn result in a fire hazard.

You should have your vehicle inspected for this potential condition and if necessary corrected immediately. Your Blue Bird bus(es) affected by recall R02GE 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 reply sheet and return to Blue Bird in the enclosed pink postage prepaid envelope.

To receive parts required to reroute the grid heater wiring harness, sign and return the enclosed **yellow** parts request sheet and return it to Blue Bird in the enclosed pink postage prepaid reply envelope. Modification parts will be shipped "No Charge" to you via UPS.

R02GE

Page 2

You may perform this modification yourself or have the work done by a qualified repair facility convenient to you. You may contact your Blue Bird distributor for assistance. 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. Time required to perform recall R02GE is 18 minutes (0.3 hour) per bus.

Important: Your prompt return of the pink reimbursement sheet, complete with the correct Body Serial Numbers, permits Blue Bird to update the 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.

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
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590**

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

1-888-327-4236

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

Thank you,

Bill Coleman
Recall Administrator

BLUE BIRD BODY COMPANY

**RECALL R02GE
GRID HEATER WIRING MODIFICATION**

**2002-2003 ALL AMERICAN AND COMMERCIAL SERIES BUSES
WITH
CUMMINS ISB REAR ENGINE**

1. Disconnect the battery.
2. Inspect the wiring harness from the engine grid heater to the grid heater relays mounted on the electrical component bracket for any damage to the insulation. If any damage is found, replace the original wiring harness with a new wiring harness (#1971951).
3. Remove Cummins bolt on left-hand rear of turbo inlet.
4. Install bracket (#0006378) in the direction shown in Figure 1 using the Cummins bolt and torque to 18 ft. lb. Attach mount (#0024168) to bracket with bolt (#0870477), flat washer (#1247709), and nut (#0659979) as shown in Figure 1. Install tie cable (#0029998) through the hole in the mount. Lift grid heater wires up to the new mount to provide clearance between the grid heater wires and the Cummins fuel injector lines. Wrap tie cable around grid heater wires and pull tie cable tight. Cut off excess tie cable.
5. Inspect fuel injector line for any possible damage due to contact with wires. If there is any damage, or any concerns about the fuel injector lines, have your local Cummins dealer replace as required.
6. Reconnect battery cables.

ITEM	PART	DESCRIPTION	QTY.
NUMBER	NUMBER		
1	0006378	BRACKET, MOUNTING, GRID HEATER	1
2	0024168	MOUNT, HEAVY DUTY, .25 HOLE SIZE	1
3	0870477	BOLT, HEX HEAD, 1/4-20 X 1, GRADE 8, YEL ZN	1
4	1247709	WASHER, 17/64 ID X 5/8 OD, YEL ZN	1
5	0659979	NUT, HEX, FLANGE, 1/4-20, BLACK ZINC	1
6	0029998	CABLE TIE	1

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Page 2



Figure 1