

R03HB

November 03, 2003

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 Corporation has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2001 through 2004 model year Blue Bird All American (A3FE, A3RE), TC/2000 (TCFE, TCRE, T2RE) and Conventional (SBCV, GMCV, BBCV) model school buses manufactured at the Lafayette, Georgia plant. Subject buses are equipped with Blue Bird manufactured seats with optional seat belts or seat belt "ready" seat frames. Blue Bird Corporation is conducting a recall to correct this defect.

The defect involves the bolts that attach the seat at the wall side on seats equipped with seat belts or seat belt "ready" seat frames. The seats affected by this recall as described above must have three bolts attaching the seat at the wall side. Subject buses with two bolts attaching the seat at the wall side must have an additional bolt installed. Regular school bus seats without belts or factory installed seat belt "ready" seat frames only require two bolts and do not require the additional bolt.

Blue Bird Corporation's evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety is that in the event of a severe crash, subject seats could detach from the wall side attachment points which could increase the risk of personal injury or death to passengers.

Your Blue Bird bus(es) affected by recall R03HB are identified by body serial number(s) on the enclosed reply sheets. **You should have this condition corrected immediately.**

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 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 complete this recall, confirm your proper 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. Additional bolts will be shipped to you "No Charge" via UPS.

A qualified technician should perform this modification or you may contact your Blue Bird distributor for assistance.

Time required to perform recall R03HB is five (5) minutes per seat for each seat requiring the addition of a bolt at the wall side mounting flange.

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/repair directed by this modification was performed on your bus prior to the receipt of this recall notification, complete and sign the **pink** recall reply sheet and attach a copy of the work order/invoice. Mail the documents in the self-addressed postage paid **pink** 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.

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 Corporation 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 CORPORATION



Seat Frame Anchorage

MODELS AFFECTED: All School Buses Equipped With Seat Belts or Seat Belt Ready Seats

RECALL CAMPAIGN RO3HB

ISSUE

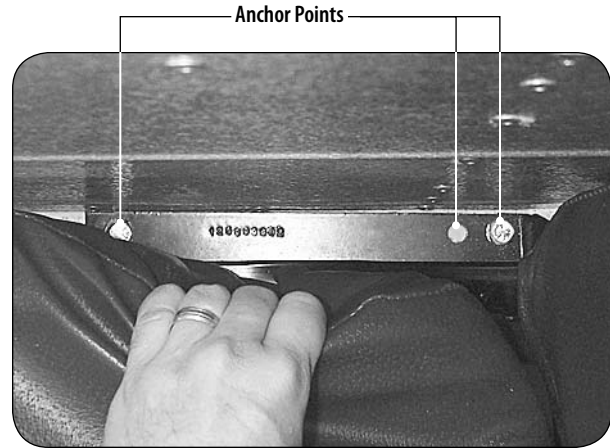
Seat frame to ledge anchoring may be missing anchor bolts.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

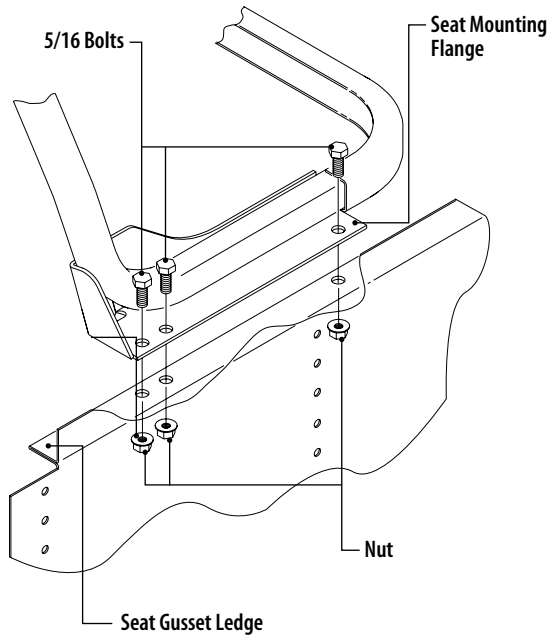
Inspection of each seat frame to ledge anchoring point and installation of additional bolts as necessary. Three bolts are required.

PROCEDURE

- 1** Inspect each seat frame mounting flange to wall anchoring point. Compress the seat cushion for adequate inspection. If three (3) bolts are found, **STOP**. If not, proceed to step #2.
- 2** Back drill 11/32 inch diameter hole through seat gusset ledge where required by seat frame mounting flange .
- 3** Install 5/16 - 18 x 3/4 inch bolt, BB #1032283 and nut, BB #0829390 as required. Torque bolt(s) to 18 - 20 ft. lbs.



Anchor Point Inspection



Installation Diagram

PARTS LIST

Part Number	Quantity	Description
1032283	As Required	Bolt, 5/16 -18 x 3/4, GR5, Yel. Zn. Dich
0829390	As Required	Nut, 5/16 -18, Ser. Washer, Yel. Zn. Dich