

**R06KW**

August 31, 2006

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 2004 through 2007 model year Blue Bird "Vision" school and non-school buses manufactured from August 05, 2003 through June 13, 2006.

The defect involves the ammeter shunt power cable. The original ammeter shunt power cable installed from the firewall to the ammeter shunt is too short and may break due to material fatigue from engine vibration. In the event the power cable should break, the engine may shut down while in operation. An engine shutdown while in operation could result in the vehicle coming to a stop in a potentially hazardous location which could result in a vehicle crash causing injury or death to occupants.

Blue Bird is conducting a recall to correct this defect. Buses with this defect must be modified according to the enclosed instructions.

Note: To ensure a properly functioning ammeter shunt, this recall also includes upgrades to the shunt. These upgrades must be performed on each affected bus and are included in the recall instructions.

Your Blue Bird bus(es) affected by this recall 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 condition return the yellow parts request sheet in the pink self addressed postage prepaid envelope. Parts are anticipated to be available beginning September 14, 2006**

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

Labor time required to perform Recall R06KW is eighteen minutes (0.3 hrs.) per bus for installing new shunt base. Time for installing new shunt base and replacing the power cable is 24 minutes (0.4 hrs.) per bus.

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 directed by this notification were performed on your bus prior to the receipt of this recall notification, complete and sign the recall reply sheet and attached 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 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.

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  
400 SEVENTH STREET, SW  
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.SAFECAR.GOV](http://WWW.SAFECAR.GOV)

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

Thank you,

Bill Coleman  
Recall Administrator  
**BLUE BIRD CORPORATION**



# Ammeter Shunt Power Cable

MODELS AFFECTED: 2004-2007 Vision with Option 40280-02 Ammeter

RECALL

## ISSUE

The power cable connecting the shunt to the fire wall terminal block may be too short. Also, the original screws which attach the plastic shunt base to the air cleaner bracket are oversized, and may back out.

## CORRECTIVE ACTION

This procedure describes measuring the cable, and replacing a 16" cable with a 20" cable. Regardless of cable length, the shunt base is removed, replaced, and re-mounted with through-bolts.

## PROCEDURE

**1** Park the vehicle on a level surface. Apply the parking brake. Turn off the ignition and remove the key. Chock the wheels. Disconnect the negative battery cable.

**2** Disconnect the power cables and remove the shunt base from its mounting:

2.1 Raise and secure the engine hood. Locate the shunt mounted on left side of air cleaner bracket.

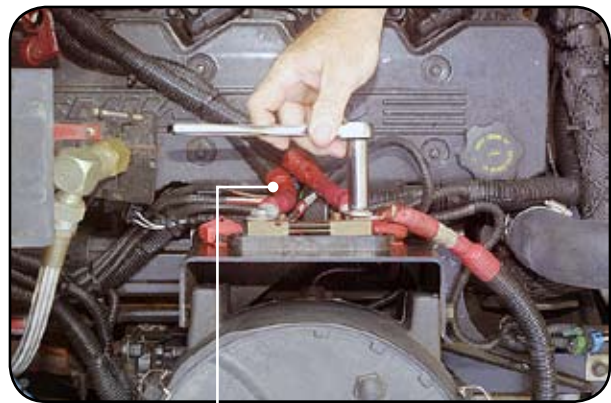


**Shunt Assembly**  
Plastic base will be replaced and re-mounted with through-bolts.

**Clearance Varies**  
If required, the air cleaner mounting bolts will be removed to allow room for a hand and wrench to reach back side of bracket.

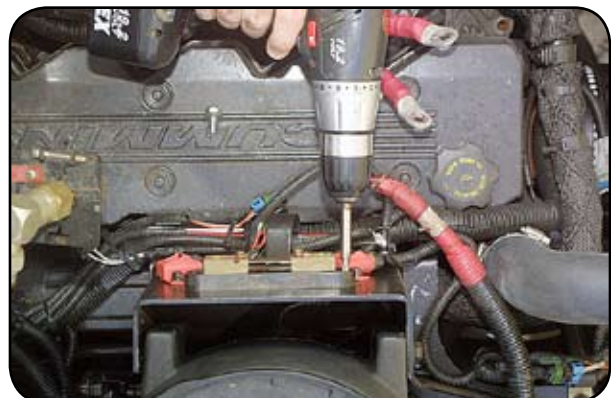
**Ammeter Cable**  
Will be replaced if shorter than 20".

2.2 Remove the cap screws which secure the large power cables to the shunt terminals.



**Ammeter Cable**  
Will be replaced if shorter than 20".

2.3 Remove the two # 14 phillip head screws and flat washers which fasten the shunt base to the air cleaner bracket. Discard screws and washers.



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S E R V I C E R E C A L L

**3** Replace the original shunt base:

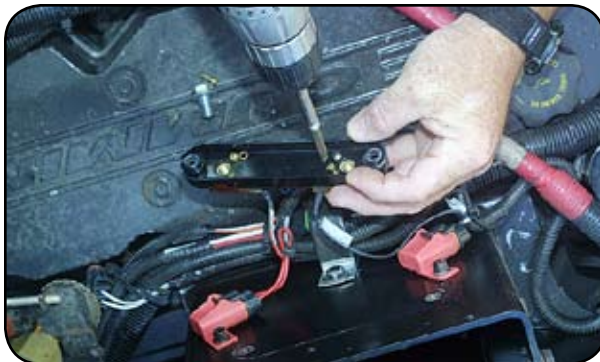
3.1 Rotate the shunt and base assembly downward to see the four screws attaching the plastic base to the metal shunt. Remove and retain these four screws and washers.



**4 Shunt Base Screws**  
Remove in order to discard existing plastic base. Use red Loctite upon re-installation.

3.2 Remove the plastic base and discard.

3.3 Install a new plastic base (part number 0109303) with the four screws and washers removed in step 3.1. Apply red LOCITE 271 to each screw before installing.



**4** The spacing between the air cleaner housing and the air cleaner mounting bracket varies. Sufficient clearance will be needed to allow tightening of the shunt mount through-bolts. If necessary, remove the screws attaching the air cleaner to the air cleaner support bracket, and tilt the air cleaner assembly away from the bracket enough to provide working space.

**5** Remount the shunt and base assembly:

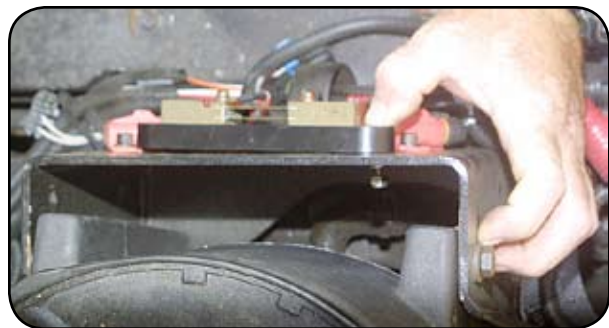
5.1 Slide the shunt back in place.

5.2 Slide a flat washer (0108776) onto a # 10-24 machine screw (2000768). Insert the machine screw through the new base and the original mounting hole of the air cleaner bracket. From the back side of the bracket, install a flat washer number (0108776) and # 10-24 locknut (1469287) onto the screw, finger-tight.

5.3 Repeat on the opposite end of the shunt. Then tighten the two locknuts to 10-12 in lb.

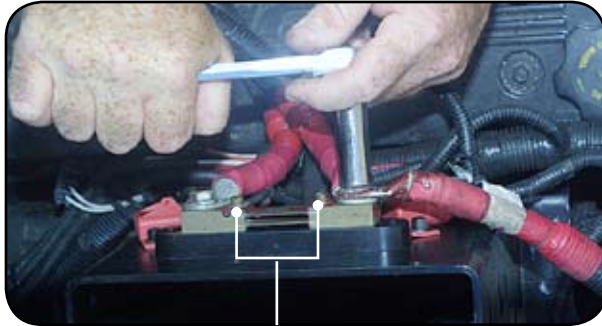


**New Base**  
Will be through-bolted to air cleaner bracket.



5.4 Tilt the air cleaner back into its original position, reinstall its original mounting fasteners and tighten securely.

**6** Reattach the power cables which were originally attached to the frontmost terminal of the shunt. Tighten to 90 in lb.



2 Small Signal Lead Screws  
Torque: 25-30 in lb.

**7** Measure the ammeter power cable which was originally attached to the rearmost terminal of the shunt. If this cable measures 20", proceed to step 8. If this cable measures less than 20" from eye to eye, replace it with the provided 20" cable as follows:



7.1 Disconnect the ammeter cable from the firewall terminal stud. Then slide the cable through the existing cable ties to remove it from the bus.



7.2 Slide the new cable (0081100) through the same cable ties. Attach the new cable to the stud on the firewall using the original terminal fasteners.

**8** Attach the ammeter cable to the rearmost terminal of the shunt with the original terminal fasteners. Tighten to 90 in lb.



**9** Check all electrical connections to the shunt to ensure that the fasteners are tight. Apply a protective coating to all electrical connections.

**10** Close and fasten the hood. Reconnect the battery cable and remove wheel chocks. The procedure is complete, and the bus may be returned to normal service.

PART NUMBER	QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION
0109303	1	Base, Plastic, VDO Shunt, Service
2000768	2	Screw, Machine, 10-24 X 1, Round Head, Yellow Zinc Dich.
0108776	4	Washer, Flat, WFL .203/.206 X 0.44 X 0.025 STCA
1469287	2	Locknut, Elastic, 10-24
0109341	1	Thread Lock 271, Loctite (5 ml bottle)
0081100	1	Cable Assy., Power, 3/0, 3/8-3/8 eye, 20"