

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

18V-263

Manufacturer Name : Blue Bird Body Company**Submission Date :** APR 25, 2018**NHTSA Recall No. :** 18V-263**Manufacturer Recall No. :** R18ZE - SB**Manufacturer Information :****Population :**

Manufacturer Name : Blue Bird Body Company

Number of potentially involved : 4,886

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

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Company phone : 478-822-2242

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2018-2019 Blue Bird All American

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : CNG/LPG

Descriptive Information : Blue Bird is issuing a recall for certain Blue Bird Vision and All American vehicles with either the 2017 or 2018 Ametek Dixon Instrument Air Clusters.

Production Dates : APR 24, 2017 - APR 13, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2018-2019 Blue Bird Vision

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : CNG/LPG

Descriptive Information : Blue Bird is issuing a recall for certain Blue Bird Vision and All American vehicles with either the 2017 or 2018 Ametek Dixon Instrument Air Clusters.

Production Dates : APR 13, 2017 - APR 12, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR Not sequential**Description of Noncompliance :**

Description of the Noncompliance : When turning the key to the ignition "ON" position, the two gauges on the instrument cluster that display the primary and secondary system air pressure intermittently display "0 psi" instead of the correct air pressure in the tanks. When this occurs the air gauges remain zeroed and will not display the actual system air pressure correctly.

FMVSS 1 : 121 - Air brake systems

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : The two gauges give a false indication to the driver that there is a brake pressure issue, when there is adequate pressure in the air tanks.

Description of the Cause : Blue Bird determined the Ametek Dixon instrument cluster had a synchronization error issue between two microprocessors in which one of the microprocessors is dedicated to drive the two air pressure gauges. A timing error caused the issue.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The driver could observe that the gauges display 0 air pressure and yet pressing on the brake would indicate there is system pressure.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Ametek
Address : 27755 Diehl Road, Suite 300
Warrenville ILLINOIS 60555
Country : United States

Chronology :

January 25, 2018, Blue Bird Field Service notified Engineering of five buses reported of having the air pressure gauge issue. Blue Bird notified Ametek Dixon of the intermittent issue.

March 15, 2018, Ametek determined the root cause, solution, and performed further testing and sent a software fix to Blue Bird. Blue Bird tested the software fix and confirmed there were no further issues.

On April 19, 2018, a decision was made to issue a recall on the affected units. No accidents or injuries have been reported as a result of this issue.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Ametek Dixon has provided a software update that must be performed by your local Blue Bird Dealer.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : NR

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : NR

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Software Update is currently available.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAY 18, 2018 - MAY 18, 2018

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAY 18, 2018 - MAY 18, 2018

* NR - Not Reported