



BLUE BIRD

October 10, 2012

Dear Blue Bird Owner,

The current mounting bracket for the rear height control valve assembly on your 2012 and 2013 model year All American rear engine bus(es) equipped with rear air suspension does not allow for proper rear suspension leveling arm travel. A new mounting bracket for the height control valve assembly and a new P-mount link assembly is now available which lowers the height control valve assembly to allow for additional leveling arm travel. The new bracket and P-mount must be installed according to the attached instructions for Service Bulletin S12VJ. (Copy attached)

Your buses affected by Service Bulletin S12VJ are identified by Blue Bird body number(s) on the enclosed cover sheet.

You may contact your Blue Bird dealer to arrange to have Service Bulletin S12VJ performed. Or, if you prefer, you may perform Service Bulletin S12VJ yourself or have a qualified repair facility convenient to you perform this service bulletin. A qualified technician should perform Service Bulletin S12VJ.

Time to perform Service Bulletin S12VJ is 0.3hrs (18 minutes) per bus.

Parts required to perform Service Bulletin S12VJ must be ordered through your Blue Bird dealer. Parts are anticipated to be available on or about October 16, 2012.

Service Bulletin S12VJ ends one (1) year from date of issue. Claims for repairs performed after the end date cannot be submitted to Blue Bird.

Should you have any questions concerning this bulletin, please contact your Blue Bird dealer.

Sincerely,

Bill Coleman
Engineering Services
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BLUE BIRD BODY COMPANY

P.O. Box 937 – 402 Blue Bird Blvd – Fort Valley, Georgia – (478) 825-2021



Rear Suspension Leveling Valve Bracket Replacement

BULLETIN

Models Affected: 2012 and 2013 Model Years All American Rear Engine with Rear Air Suspension

ISSUE

Current mounting bracket does not allow for proper leveling arm travel.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

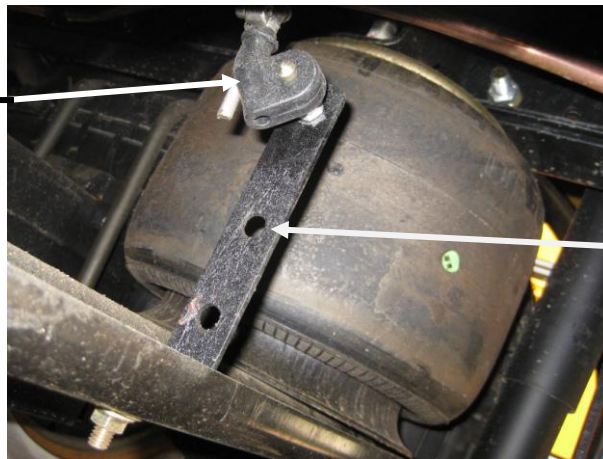
Replace current bracket with new bracket which lowers the height control valve assembly for additional leveling arm travel.

PROCEDURE

WARNING: Always follow all Federal, State, Local and Shop safety standards and use proper safety equipment, and thoroughly read and understand all instructions before performing these procedures.

1. Park the bus on a level surface, apply parking brake, turn off ignition, remove ignition key, and chock wheels.
2. Drain wet air brake tank.
3. Locate the leveling height control valve linkage behind the rear axle.

Current Location of P Mount, NOTE: Damaged P Mount shown.



Move stud to second hole from top.

WARNING: Be sure to keep hands and arms from the moving portion of the suspension when lowering and raising suspension.

4. Remove lower link assembly by sliding P Mount off of stud. With the link off, lower the leveling arm to exhaust the air from air bags and lower suspension.
5. Remove the stud that is installed in top hole of bracket and reinstall in next hole down. (see above photo) Torque to 100-150 in. lbs.
6. If the P Mount has been damaged, replace with new P Mount Blue Bird 10032467.

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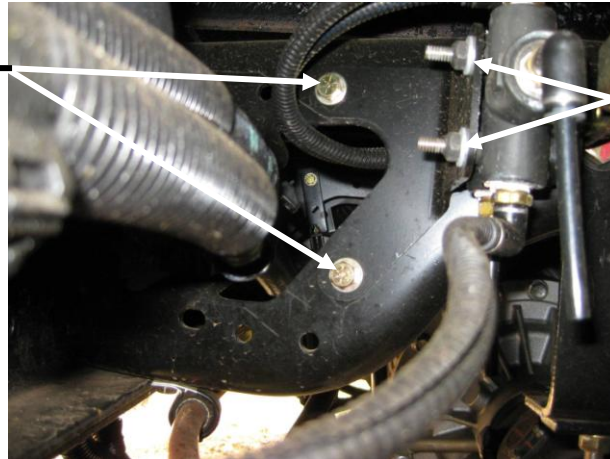


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BULLETIN

7. Remove the current leveling control bracket from the crossmember by removing two 3/8 capscrews, washers and locknuts. Discard locknuts.

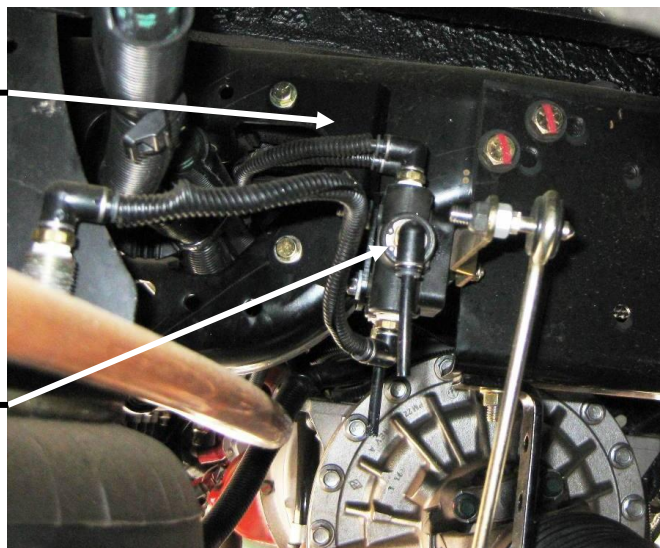
Remove two 3/8 capscrews and locknuts.



Remove and retain two 1/4 nuts and washers

8. Remove and retain the two 1/4 nuts and washers that attach the height control valve to the leveling control bracket.
9. Install the new leveling mounting bracket 10029082 to the crossmember with two 3/8 capscrews, hardened flat washers on both sides of crossmembers, and two new 3/8 locknuts. Torque to 30 ft – lb.
10. Install height control valve to new bracket and install 1/4 nuts and washers removed in step 8. Torque to 60-85 in. lbs

Install bracket 10029082 with 3/8 capscrews, hardened washers and lock nuts



Install height control valve to new bracket with 1/4 washers and nuts.

S I 2 V J

S E R V I C E B U L L E T I N



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BULLETIN

11. Verify the stud has been moved from the top hole to second hole from top.



Stud moved to second from top and P Mount installed

12. Reconnect lower link by pushing P Mount onto stud.

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13. Close the petcock on the wet air brake tank.
14. Build up the air system to 120 PSI.
15. Adjust ride height. Shock length at ride height (eye to eye) is 22.68 + or - 0.25.
16. Place bus back into operation.

S I 2 V J

S E R V I C E B U L L E T I N



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BULLETIN

PARTS LIST

<u>Part Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
10029082	Bracket, Mounting, Leveling Valve	1
00826297	Nut, Hex Head, 3/8 – 16, Lock	2
01107085	Washer, Flat, 13/32 X 13/16 X 3/32 Hardened	2
10032467	P Mount, Leveling Valve Link	1

S I 2 V J

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