



**BLUE BIRD**

**R11TA**

**DATE: APRIL 12, 2011**

**TO: U.S. DEALERS**

**SUBJECT: RECALL R11TA STARTER CABLE MAY CONTACT POWER  
STEERING HOSE**

Dear Blue Bird Dealer:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Blue Bird has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2004 through 2006 model year "Vision" model conventional style school and non-school buses manufactured from June 26, 2003 through December 09, 2004.

On the subject buses, the starter cable may contact and potentially chafe against the steel braid power steering hose thereby creating a direct short. A direct short could result in a fire which could cause property damage, personal injury or death. Blue Bird is conducting a recall to correct this defect. Buses with this defect must be modified according to the enclosed instructions for Recall R11TA.

If our records indicate affected buses were delivered in your service area, a printout identifying affected buses is enclosed. **Dealers should verify correct owners and assure that complete shipping addresses are provided for each listed vehicle.**

If you have in your possession or have sold a bus that was purchased from another dealer that may be affected by this recall, please notify me at 478-822-2242.

Labor time to inspect the routing of the starter cable is 0.1 hrs (6 minutes) per bus.

Labor time to reroute and install saddle clamps and cable ties, if needed, is 0.5 hours (30 minutes) per bus.

Labor time to remove and replace a damaged starter cable, if necessary, is 0.3 hours (18 minutes) per bus.

Labor time to remove and replace a damaged power steering hose, if necessary, is 0.5 hours (30 minutes) per bus.

**BLUE BIRD BODY COMPANY**

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

**Replacement parts must be requested from Recall Administration. You will need to provide body number(s) and UPS shipping address.**

Warranty applications for labor reimbursement may be submitted to Blue Bird iWarranty (Campaigns/Claims).

Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

Dealers are reminded of their responsibilities under section 154 of The National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1991. Dealers are required to complete modifications on units in their inventory before delivering to the final owner. Reference Blue Bird Body Company Distributor Memo No. 42-92.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Coleman".

Bill Coleman  
Corporate Recall Administrator  
Blue Bird Corporation



BLUE BIRD

R11TA

April 12, 2011

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 has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2004 through 2006 model year "Vision" model conventional style school and non-school buses manufactured from June 26, 2003 through December 09, 2004.

On the subject buses, the starter cable may contact and potentially chafe against the steel braided power steering hose thereby creating a direct short. A direct short could result in a fire which could cause property damage, personal injury or death. Blue Bird is conducting a recall to correct this defect. Buses with this defect must be modified according to the enclosed instructions for Recall R11TA.

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

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 sold to section of the **labor reimbursement** sheet and return to Blue Bird in the enclosed pink postage prepaid envelope.

**To receive parts, if required, to correct this condition, you must return the yellow recall reply sheet to Blue Bird in the pink, self addressed, postage prepaid envelope. Be sure to provide a valid shipping address as UPS does not deliver to P.O. Boxes.**

Labor time to inspect the routing of the starter cable is 0.1 hrs (6 minutes) per bus.

Labor time to reroute and install saddle clamps and cable ties, if needed, is 0.5 hours (30 minutes) per bus.

Labor time to remove and replace a damaged starter cable, if necessary, is 0.3 (18 minutes) hours per bus.

Labor time to remove and replace a damaged power steering hose, if necessary, is 0.5 hours (30 minutes) per bus.

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Reimbursement for labor may be obtained by completing the "**Completed Reply/Labor 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  
1200 NEW JERSEY AVENUE, SE  
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.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV)

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

Thank you,

  
Bill Coleman  
Corporate Recall Administrator  
**BLUE BIRD CORPORATION**



## Starter Cable May Contact Power Steering Hose

# RECALL

**Models Affected: 2004 through 2006 Model Year "Vision"**

### ISSUE

The starter cable may contact and potentially chafe against the steel braided power steering hose thereby creating a direct short which could result in a fire.

### CORRECTIVE ACTION

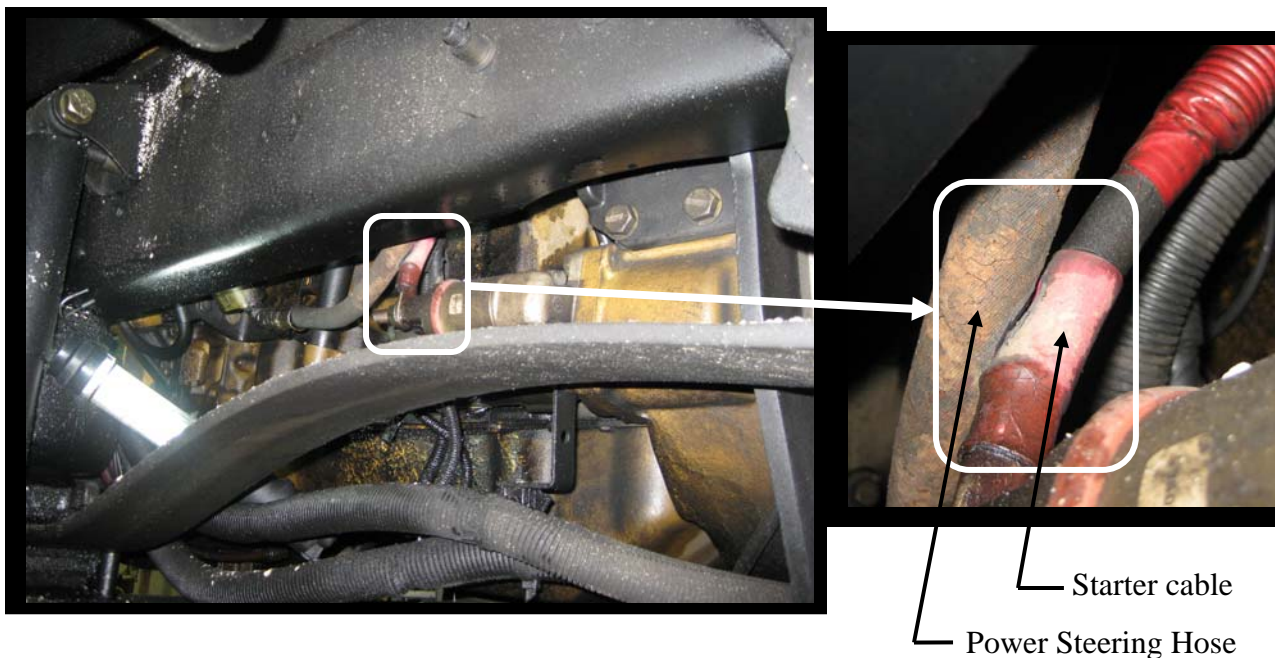
Inspect for proper clearance between the starter cable and the power steering hose. If insufficient clearance is found, install a clamp to prevent further contact. Any damaged power steering hoses or starter cables must be replaced.

### PROCEDURE

**WARNING:** Always follow all Federal, State, Local and Shop safety standards and use proper safety equipment when performing these procedures.

### INSPECTION PROCEDURE

1. Park the bus on a level surface, apply parking brake, and remove ignition key and chock wheels.
2. Disconnect Batteries: Note when disconnecting the batteries, remove the Negative cable first.
3. On lower left side (driver's) of engine; inspect the positive starter cable and power steering hose for possible contact as shown below.



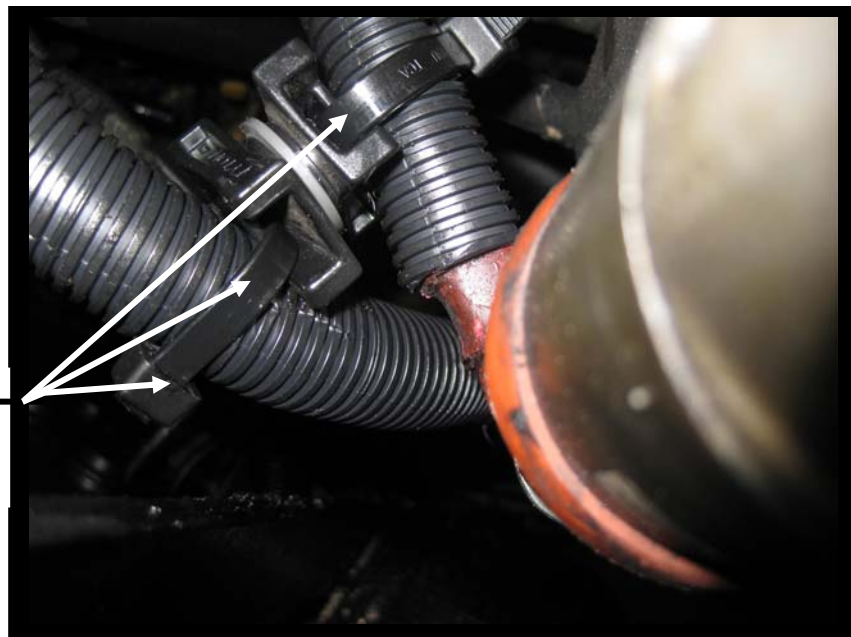


# Starter Cable May Contact Power Steering Hose

# RECALL

- 4. If the starter cable has contacted the power steering hose, separate and inspect both for any possible damage. If either has been damaged, contact Blue Bird Recall Administrator for a replacement.
- 5. If there is no contact and a minimum of one (1) inch clearance between the starter cable and power steering hose, no further action is required.
- 6. If there less than one (1) inch clearance, install a dual swivel saddle mount and two cables ties between the power steering hose and starter cable and secure with two cable ties.

Install dual swivel saddle mount and cable ties.



- 7. Reconnect the batteries by connecting the negative last and place bus back in service.

### PARTS

PART NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY
00029253	Dual Swivel Saddle Mount	1
00029998	Tie, cable	2

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R E C A L L C A M P A I G N