



BLUE BIRD

October 30, 2008

Dear Blue Bird Owner,

You will find enclosed a copy of Service Bulletin S08NT regarding the wheelbearing lubricant installed in the steer and drive axles on your 2009 model year Blue Bird All American front and rear engine buses.

Petroleum lubricant may have been installed in the front steer and/or rear drive axle wheelbearings in lieu of customer ordered synthetic lubricant. To correct this condition, the wheelbearing lubricant must be drained and replaced with synthetic lubricant according to the procedures in Service Bulletin S08NT, copy attached

Your buses affected by Service Bulletin S08NT are identified by Blue Bird body number and vehicle identification number on the enclosed cover sheet.

Labor time allowed to replace the wheelbearing lubricant is:

Time allowed to drive bus to warm up wheelbearing lubricant: 0.5 hrs (30 minutes) per bus
Time allowed to drain and refill steer axle lubricant: 1.0 hour per bus.
Time allowed to drain and refill drive axle lubricant: 0.5hrs (30 minutes) per bus

Synthetic lubricant SAE 50 viscosity must be used for the steer axle wheelbearings and synthetic lubricant SAE 75W/90 viscosity must be used for the drive axle. Synthetic lubricant must be purchased locally. If needed, "Synthetic Lubricant" identification tag, and tag attaching plug and nut identified in Service Bulletin S08NT should be ordered through your usual Blue Bird service parts source.

A qualified repair technician should perform Service Bulletin S08NT. When wheelbearing lubricant has been changed according to the Service Bulletin S08NT instructions, complete and return the enclosed service bulletin reply sheet in one of the enclosed pink postage paid envelope to receive reimbursement for parts and labor.

Service Bulletin S08NT expires one (1) year from date of issue.

Should you have any questions concerning this bulletin, please contact your Blue Bird field service representative at 478-822-2218 or 478-822-2399.

Sincerely,

Bill Coleman

BLUE BIRD CORPORATION

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Incorrect Wheelbearing Lubricant

BULLETIN

Models Affected: 2009 Model Year All American Front and Rear Engine GSA Buses

ISSUE

Petroleum wheelbearing lubricant installed in steer and drive axles in lieu of customer ordered synthetic wheelbearing lubricant

CORRECTIVE ACTION

Drain steer and Drive axle lubricants and refill with synthetic lubricant.

PROCEDURE

Note: Bus should be driven 30 minutes to warm up wheelbearing lubricant to make it easier to drain before starting below replacement procedure.

WARNING: Always follow all Federal, State, Local and Shop safety standards and use proper safety equipment when performing this procedure. Take caution when draining lubricant, lubricant may be hot.

Steer Axle Procedure:

1. Park vehicle on a level surface, apply parking brake, turn engine off, remove ignition key and chock wheels.
2. Jack up steer axle and rotate wheel(s) until hub cap drain plug is at 6 o'clock position. Position drain pan under wheel(s) to drain lubricant into.
3. Remove drain plug from R.H./ L.H. hub caps and allow all lubricant to drain.
4. Reinstall hub cap drain plug, remove center rubber press-in fill plug and refill with Synthetic lubricant (SAE 50 viscosity) to "minimum fill line" on face of hub cap (see photos # 1 & 2). Reinstall fill cap, clean wheel/tire of any lubricant that spilled during draining.

Remove drain pans from under wheels, lower bus and remove jack.



Photo 1



Photo 2

Drive Axle Procedure:

1. Park vehicle on a level surface, apply parking brake, turn engine off, remove ignition key and chock wheels.
2. Position drain pan under center of drive axle housing at Carrier assembly.
3. Remove drain plug from bottom of drive axle housing assembly and allow all lubricant to drain.
4. Reinstall drain plug.
5. Remove fill plug from curb side of axle housing bowl (see photo # 3) and fill with Synthetic lubricant (SAE 75W/90 viscosity) until lubricant start draining out fill hole.
6. Reinstall fill plug and clean axle housing of any lubricant spilled during filling procedure.
7. Check fill plug for proper identification marking and attached tag. If fill plug has “SYN” stamped on end of plug and has tag attached to plug that states “FILL WITH SYNTHETIC FLUID ONLY” no further action is required. If fill plug is not stamped and/or tag is not attached, order plug (p.n. 01928324), tag (p.n.00127749) and tag retaining nut (p.n.10000571) from your normal Blue Bird service parts source and once received install at a later date per enclosed drawing # 00127925.
8. Remove drain pan and place bus back in service.



Photo 3

Parts, If Required:

- 00127749 Tag, Warning, Synthetic Oil, Rear Axle
- 01928324 Plug, Fill, Drv Axle, ¾-14, NPTW/3/16, Syn LT
- 10000571 Nut, Seal, ¾ - 14 FPT, Syn Label