



BLUE BIRD

SERVICE MEMORANDUM

NO. SM1310

MEMO TO: All Blue Bird Dealers

SUBJECT: Steam Cleaning Powertrain and Chassis Components on Blue Bird Buses.

MODEL YEAR(S): ALL

MODEL(S) AFFECTED: ALL

WARNING: Always follow all Federal, State, Local and Shop safety standards and use proper safety equipment when performing these procedures. Always follow all Federal, State, and Local laws for proper disposal of waste water. When using a steam cleaner, wear safety glasses or a face shield, as well as protective clothing. Hot steam can cause serious personal injury. Always follow the steam cleaning equipment manufactures operation and safety guidelines.

Steam cleaning is the recommended cleaning method for all powertrain and chassis components by both the component manufacturer and Blue Bird.

Cleaning with a high pressure power washer is **NOT** recommended.

Refer to the specific component manufacturer for detailed cleaning requirements, (Cummins, Allison, Bendix, Wabco, etc.). *This memorandum is not intended to replace or supersede related information provided by the component manufacturers.*

The intent of this Blue Bird service memorandum is to highlight powertrain and chassis components on Blue Bird buses that should be protected when cleaning. Cleaning Blue Bird powertrain and chassis components only requires a few preventative measures. By following these simple guidelines the engine compartment and chassis components can be safely cleaned. The biggest concern is that water will short out electrical connections.

The bus electrical components and housings are tightly sealed from the elements of daily operation. Care should be taken to ensure that a strong stream of water from any type of cleaning equipment is not directed at these components. As required, use plastic bags and rubber bands to cover up some of the more sensitive areas of the engine such as the coil, air intake vents and key electrical, electronic, components. **Remove plastics bags before returning bus to service.**

The following list highlights some of the major components that should NOT be steam cleaned. The bus could be equipped with additional components based on features ordered at time of manufacture and/or aftermarket additions.

Contact your Blue Bird dealer or Blue Bird field service representative for questions related to any chassis components that should NOT be steam cleaned.

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Ensure that the engine has been turned off and all components are cool before cleaning.

Do **NOT** steam clean the following components:

- Electrical Components (Connectors, Sensors, Relays)
- Wiring Harnesses
- Belts and Hoses
- Bearings (ball or taper roller)
- Air Intake
- Electronic Control Module (ECM)
- ECM Connectors
- Capacitive Coil Driver Module (CCD)
- Ignition Coils and Leads
- NOx Sensor
- Dosing Control Unit (DCU)
- DCU Connectors
- Fuel Control Valve
- Throttle Driver and Actuator.
- Transmission Control Module (TCM)
- TCM Connectors
- Transmission breather (oil vent)
- Anti-lock Brake System Electronic Control Unit (ABS ECU)
- ABS ECU Connectors
- Alternator

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