

Tech Tip

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT
NEW YORK BUS SALES!



Blue Bird BBCV Radiators

- Complaint –** Coolant leak at the radiator.
- Cause –** Mainly the cause has been found to be a leak where the tank is crimped to the aluminum core. Please see Photo #1 where you can see the “wet” showing on the tank. Photo #2 shows the crimp is becoming un-seated at the joint. Photo #3 shows the crimp to the point where it has actually moved away from the tank. Photo #4 shows an extreme case where the crimp has come right off of the tank.
- Shall we remember we are in the Northeast where they use salt on the roads.....This type of failure is called Crevice corrosion and what happens is a new layer of Road salt spray is being dried in place between the Aluminum Header and the Galvanized Crimp retainer. Over time as these layers build up it will actually push the retainer off the header therefore losing the crimping of the gasket to tank joint which then causes a leak. This only happens on the bottom tank crimp joint as it hangs down between the frame rails and is the prime path for road salt.
- Correction –** Replace the radiator, or in some instances radiator repair shops can remove the tank, clean and reinstall with a new crimp.
- Prevention –** Good washing of the area and applying the area of the radiator with a good silicone spray!
- Please Note –** The manufacturer of the radiator has done quite a bit of research and found that garages who store the buses indoors actually have a worse problem because as they collect road salt during the day. They are then placed in a warm garage overnight where it dries in place creating this thin layer or build up.....Busses that are kept outside are less likely to have this issue from their findings.

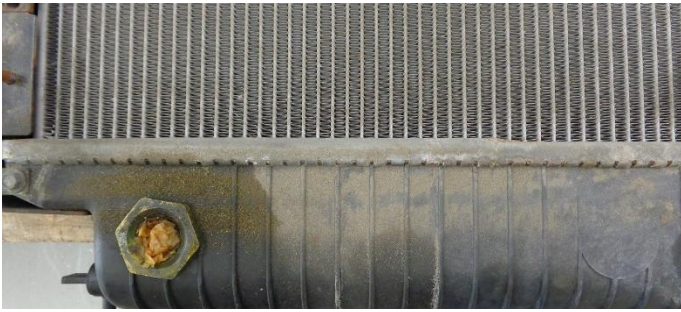


Photo #1



Photo #2



Photo #3



Photo #4



Contact Our Service Department With Any Questions

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<http://www.newyorkbussales.com/pages/bulletins.cfm>

Or at the New York Head Mechanic website at

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