

NAFLIC

National Association For Leisure Industry Certification

Standards & Related Documents Committee

TECHNICAL BULLETIN - APRIL 1999

179. Persons Affected by Amusement Device Hazards

As a result of a recent incident when a feature of an amusement device had an adverse effect on adjacent crowds, the Committee discussed the fact that hazards to be considered, by those responsible for carrying out risk assessments, are not limited to persons on or in a ride.

There are several groups of persons who may be put at risk, including the following :-

- staff (ride operators, attendants, maintenance personnel)
- patrons (on the ride)
- inspection body personnel
- persons outside the normal envelope, or inside an inner envelope, of the device (spectators, passers by, nearby crowds)

Some hazards relating to this last group are not always obvious but should, so far as possible, be considered at the design stage.

For example, it may be necessary to consider public order or crush problems resulting from :-

- crowd formation due to, and reaction to the motion of, novel new rides;
- splashing from amusement devices involving water;

Also, more commonly :-

- being struck by dropped or falling objects from stairs, walkways, monorails, etc.

In the case of new or modified equipment, some unusual hazards may only come to light after operational experience, when feedback to designers, inspection bodies, etc., is vital.

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