

# NAFLIC

*National Association For Leisure Industry Certification*

## Standards & Related Documents Committee

### TECHNICAL BULLETIN - JUNE 2004

#### 279. Ohio Dodgems Electrical Fatality

There has been news recently of prosecutions, in Ohio, USA, connected with an accident in which an 8 year old boy was electrocuted while standing in line to ride on dodgems. He died three weeks later as a result of his injuries. An electrician, the ride's controller, and two Ohio state employees (inspectors), have been involved in what is said to be the first time in Ohio that an amusement ride fatality led to criminal charges.

We have no proper details of the circumstances which contributed to the accident so this bulletin will not attempt to guess. However, we note that dodgems are electrically unusual and there is a range of particular safety issues pertaining to them. Until recently, there has never been a good guidance document providing a rational discussion of the electrical safety of dodgems in their various configurations. We believe that this is now satisfied by Appendix 1 of *Safety of amusement devices: Design* published, in partnership with the Health and Safety Executive, by NAFLIC on behalf of the industry associations making up the Amusement Device Safety Council.

The Appendix is entitled *Electrical safety of dodgem rides* and, together with Chapter 11, *Electrical systems*, of the same publication, provides designers and design reviewers with a source of sound advice.

*Safety of amusement devices: Design* may be purchased from NAFLIC at the address below and, at the time of writing, is priced at £20. There is an additional charge for post and packing, varying according to geographical location.

Committee Members :- Dr Garry Fawcett MBE (Chairman), Mr Richard Barnes, Mr Peter Smith, Mr Ian Grant, Mr Steve Parker, Mr Eddie Price, Mr Mike Preston & Mr Dave Inman

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