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Zamperla Air Race – themed wing failure

NAFLIC has been advised of a failure on a Zamperla Air Race (trailer mounted model) manufactured in 2012, where the lower themed wing, attached to the underside of the seat unit, became detached during operation of the ride. Initial investigations show that the failure was at the bolted connections securing the themed wing section to the supporting box section (see areas highlighted below).



Committee Members: Mr. D Inman (Chairman), Mr. A Mellor (Secretary), Mr. P Smith, Mr. J Green, Mr. D Cox, Mr. I Davies, Mr. J Shilling, Mr. A Jenkins & Mr. A Hussein

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It is noted that when manufactured, the box section through which the securing bolt is located has been strengthened by the fitting/inserting of a bush that has been secured with a circumferential weld top and bottom. The crack(s) appear to have initiated in these circumferential welds and then propagated along the side(s) of the box section until failure (see photos below).





While it is noted that the park model detail of this connection is of a slightly different design, this area on all Zamperla Air Race models, fixed park and trailer mounted, should be visually checked to ensure there are no cracks present. The visual inspections should be supplemented by NDT as recommended by your Inspection Body. How this is then inspected going forward to ensure its continued integrity should be discussed and agreed with your Registered Inspection Body.