

NAFLIC

National Association For Leisure Industry Certification

Standards & Related Documents Sub-Committee

TECHNICAL BULLETIN - MAY 1992

009. Dodgem Wipers

An incident has occurred where, as a result of a broken wiper (current collector), a reversing dodgem car pushed up the net to cause a short circuit with the roof. The resulting shower of sparks and hot globules of metal rained down on the passengers. This could have caused minor burns or even blinding.

The Joint Advisory Committee for Health & Safety in the Fairground Industry (JAC) considers that it should be a requirement of the daily inspection of the ride that the wipers be examined for condition, spring tension and security. Appointed persons would be advised to ensure that this is clearly itemised on the daily inspection schedule.

In case of a broken wiper lifting the netting, adequate roof insulation or clearance should exist such that a short circuit of this nature will not occur.

On some Dodgem tracks it is possible for the wiper blade to cause a short circuit by bridging the gap between the net and the side wall structure. On these tracks adequate insulation must be in place to prevent this.