

NAFLIC

National Association For Leisure Industry Certification

Standards & Related Documents Sub-Committee

TECHNICAL BULLETIN - MAY 1992

011. Zamperla Balloon Race

A NAFLIC member company (LTC Ltd) has informed us of a problem encountered on a Zamperla Balloon Race ride. They have found crack indications, using magnetic particle inspection, in the transverse butt weld at the bend in the main centre column - clearly a safety critical component.

Although this defect has only so far been found on one of the four Balloon Races covered by LTC it was thought that it would be useful to publicise the findings in a Technical Bulletin.

The NDT results have been reported to the manufacturer who believes that the cracking may result from welding defects rather than a design inadequacy. An independent review of the relevant part of the calculations provided by the manufacturer is now being repeated (by Wilson Consultants) in order to confirm whether this is likely to be the case.

Owing to the safety critical nature of the area concerned we would advise any other NAFLIC members who carry out thorough examination of a Zamperla Balloon Race to take account of the above facts. The Committee would be grateful if members involved with this ride type could keep us informed of the results of NDT in the region of the butt weld involved.