

NAFLIC

National Association For Leisure Industry Certification

Standards & Related Documents Sub-Committee

TECHNICAL BULLETIN - AUGUST 1992

028. Miami Trip Rides

A number of these rides have been sold in the UK this year and HSE have received complaints. A serious accident has also occurred in the UK and others are thought to have occurred abroad. The rides were therefore the subject of discussion at the meeting of the JAC (Joint Advisory Committee for Health & Safety in the Fairground Industry) held at Preston on 13 August 1992.

There are two UK manufacturers of these rides - Fairmatt of Redhill, Surrey and Keith Emmett and Sons of Milton Keynes. A third type, by CAH, is imported from Holland. It is thought that all three types may be subject to one or more of the problems identified which are as follows :-

- a) Passengers tending to slip under the lap bar.
- b) Insufficient padding, resulting in severe bruising as passengers slide along the reinforced plastic seats and contact the partitions.
- c) Occasional opening of restraint bars during the ride cycle.

A number of actions have been agreed including :-

- a) the fitting of suitable padding, particularly on seat sides, the seat arms and the lower part of the restraint bar;
- b) further studies of the mechanical integrity of certain safety critical components, particularly the locking mechanisms of the lap bars;
- c) consideration of the need for further padding to protect the neck and upper torso of passengers;
- d) critical review of the operating instructions to ensure that essential safety requirements are adequately covered.

Amongst other things, HSE Inspectors have been advised to recommend to operators that a height restriction should be adopted. The serious accident occurred when a passenger slipped under the lap bar on a ride to which the additional padding had not been fitted.

Appointed Persons should satisfy themselves that the HSE's recommendations have been heeded.