

NAFLIC

National Association For Leisure Industry Certification

Standards & Related Documents Sub-Committee

TECHNICAL BULLETIN - AUGUST 1992

029. IE Park Juvenile Roundabout

Leisure Technical Consultants Ltd have brought to our attention some problems relating to this ride. It consists of a flat platform to which are attached vehicles and toy animals. An outer row consists of 9 cars and motorbikes. There is a middle row of 8 toy animals on top of which the passengers sit. The inner row consists of 4 jet-cars which can be raised and lowered by exposed ram-operated linkages.

An incident occurred when a small child, who had been seated astride one of the toy animals, fell onto the platform. The operator, observing that the child was distressed by his fall, applied the "Emergency Stop". This caused the 4 jet-cars to commence descending. Had the operator not acted quickly the child would have been trapped by a jet-car and would have suffered serious injury. The ride has temporarily been allowed to continue in operation with the jet-cars immobilised.

We take this opportunity to remind you that the implications of operating "Emergency Stop" buttons should be carefully considered. They are often not the ideal recourse, depending on the nature of an emergency, since they normally cut power completely. Apart from the problem described above, a ride will often take longer to come to rest when the emergency stop is pressed than when normal braking is applied. If this is the case then emergency procedures may need to be reviewed with ride operators.

LTC also pointed out that the roundabout :-

- a) did not have documentation consistent with the Code of Practice;
- b) had unsatisfactory attachment of some of the vehicles / toys to the platform;
- c) had some unsuitable pin / bolting arrangements;
- d) had sharp edges and protrusions on some of the vehicles.

These problems have been taken up with the importer.