

NAFLIC

National Association For Leisure Industry Certification

Standards & Related Documents Committee

TECHNICAL BULLETIN - SEPTEMBER 1999

194. Anti-Rollback Failures

Since we reported on earlier roller coaster rollback accidents (TB 089, TB 124 and TB 161, the Oklahoma fatal accident) there have been further such accidents in 1999 - all of those on which we have information occurred in the USA.

A lift chain breakage in Ohio didn't, so far as we are aware, result in any injuries. However, a rollback accident in New Jersey on 28 August 1999 resulted in the deaths of a mother and child when they were ejected from their car as it travelled back through curves which were too tight for the high speed associated with the rollback.

The unsatisfactory nature of the design of some anti-rollback systems has been a feature of NAFLIC's comment in recent years - indeed we have, with the backing of BSI committee MCE/3/4, been advocating improvement of relevant subclauses of the draft European Standard on *Fairground and amusement park machinery and structures - Safety*.

For those designers and Design Review inspection bodies who have to consider the adequacy of anti-rollback devices we advise that, in the light of the accident record, the utmost of care needs to be taken in assessing the nature of the impact capacity - considered by us to be often faulty in design calculations.

Committee Members :- Dr Garry Fawcett (Chairman), Mr Richard Barnes, Mr Bob Nicholls, Mr Robert Casey, Mr Peter Smith, Mr Richard Cousins, Mr Ian Grant and representatives of Plant Safety Ltd

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