

NAFLIC

National Association For Leisure Industry Certification

Standards & Related Documents Committee

TECHNICAL BULLETIN - AUGUST 2003

262. Security of Signs and Themeing

A recent accident in California caused injury to a woman when she was struck by a metal pin falling from a Fabbri "Booster" ride. The pin was apparently 6 inches (150 mm) long with ½ inch (13 mm) diameter and was used to attach a sign to the ride. At this stage we do not know whether the pin was a Fabbri component or an additional item associated with a subsequently added sign. The injured person is reported to have suffered a broken jaw, several broken teeth, and facial wounds requiring more than 20 stitches.

There is clearly a need to ensure the security of fixings of signage, themeing, etc. in all areas to which persons may have access, remembering that small items might be thrown some distance if they are meant to be attached to moving parts. But even stationary parts, such as themeing, are sometimes involved in accidents and dangerous occurrences as a result of deterioration.

We discussed instances of bolts failing as a result of incorrect tightening torques in Technical Bulletin 183 (May 1999). However, it is not just the risk of the loss of fixing pins or bolts that has to be considered - the structure or components which they secure may fall. In Technical Bulletin 082 (April 1994) we reported on a fatal accident resulting from a collapsed lighting support structure.

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