

The HSE has voiced concerns regarding a 'MINI WHEEL' children's ride.

The manufacturer of this ride was M K Chester of Skegness (the firm is no longer in business.)

The rough dimensions and specifications of this ride were:-

Wheel diameter 760 mm,

Seat height at the highest position (top), 1170mm,

Seat height for loading 450mm

Running clearance from base 330mm.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS WHEN EXAMINING THIS TYPE OF RIDE.

Normally this machine was mechanically good.

Check that the seat slopes a little to the rear keeping the child reasonably secure.

Check the lap chain restraint is in good condition

The seat was originally designed not to 'swing'. Check this is the case and that the attitude is fixed and remains the same throughout the cycle

Particular attention is drawn to the electrical system.

- 1 On the original ride as supplied new the lighting around the "wheel" was supplied direct with 240 volts feeding a daisy ring of 12 volt lamps in a series configuration.
- 2 On earlier versions the timing mechanisms and coin slot may have been supplied on a 240 volt ac supply.
- 3 The lighting around the wheel was poorly secured behind the displayed area by cheap clip on lamp holders, which were prone to falling off into the running gear.
- 4 The earth bonding of the seat and mechanism depended on the transmission of continuity via bearings, considering 2 & 3 above, this is not acceptable.

Attention is also drawn to the following non electrical parts.

- 1 The reject loop in the coin mechanism could trap a small child's finger.
- 2 The gap between the wheel and the yellow main body may also be a finger trap.
- 3 This type of machine is intended to be positioned against a wall, stability may be threatened if not so positioned.

If any of the above conditions are found to give concern then a **REPORT OF URGENT DEFECT** must be considered, and the controller instructed to ensure before further operation of the ride:-

1. That Lighting, timing and coin mechanisms are supplied with a completely isolated or separated 12 volt supply circuit. (SELV or PELV circuit). That the earth is properly bonded to the frame and mechanical parts. However if the lighting and control is via a 12 volt SELV or PELV circuit, then earthing via the bearings would probably be acceptable for the seat.
- 2 That the 3 non electrical items listed are attended to also.

AS ALWAYS CHILD SAFETY IS FOREMOST IF IN ANY DOUBT DO NOT ISSUE A D.O.C.