

NAFLIC

National Association For Leisure Industry Certification

Standards & Related Documents Committee

TECHNICAL BULLETIN - OCTOBER 1998

172. Hydraulic Fluid Leaks and Bursts

A recent minor incident brought this subject to our attention.

Leaks, burst hoses, etc. may sometimes give rise to hazards as a result of the following :-

- loss of safety-related function associated with the hydraulic circuit;
- spraying of passengers or others with high pressure jets or high temperature fluid;
- slippery surfaces on walkways and maintenance areas;
- an explosion possibility from atomised sprays;
- being struck (e.g. in the eye) by large drops of falling fluid.

Where the associated risk is significant some of the control measures are :-

- guarding;
- choice of protected location for hydraulic components;
- change of design (e.g. use of lower pressure, use of more highly rated components, etc);
- temperature control (e.g. cooling of hydraulic oil).

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

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