

NAFLIC

National Association For Leisure Industry Certification

Standards & Related Documents Committee

TECHNICAL BULLETIN — JULY 2008

347. Message from the HSE regarding passenger segregation - Waltzers

The following text is from an email received on 20 June from Barry Baker, HSE Principle Inspector of Health & Safety.

“We have now had 2 serious accidents this season where a member of the public has fallen/slipped on the loading platform and been struck by the moving platform of the waltzer. I spoke about this subject at FJAC a couple of years ago, during a session on crowd management and passenger segregation and explained that I hoped that ride operators would not simply limit their actions to the rides we had used as examples (twists & orbiters). I also said that the time would come when, if the industry didn't move on this subject then HSE would have to make a decision on what its position would be. Since then, we haven't seen much movement, although I am aware than some waltzer operators now do prevent access onto the loading bay, and are to be commended on that.

That decision we have reached is that we consider that it is reasonable to prevent further accidents of this sort by preventing members of the public standing around the moving platform while the ride is in operation. This is based on the accident history of this ride, and the reasonably practicable measures that can be employed to control the risk without unduly adversely affecting the ride.”

We would also point out that whilst the basic advice is being given in relation to “passenger segregation” of Waltzers the same risks may be present on many other amusement devices including, but not limited to Arks etc.

The need to assess and minimise the risks relating to passenger segregation applies to most devices and the HSE are keen to minimise all such risks.

Whilst the above might not be a thorough examination issue, we would ask all IBs to assist in passing this information on to their controllers.

Committee Members:- Mr. R Nicholls(Chairman), Mr. Peter Smith,
Mr. John Green, Mr. Phil Mitchell, Mr. Ron Dale, Mr. Mark Wolstenholme, Mr. Graham Dockerty & Mr. David Inman

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