

# NAFLIC

*National Association For Leisure Industry Certification*

## **Standards & Related Documents Sub-Committee**

### **TECHNICAL BULLETIN - SEPTEMBER 1995**

#### **121. SDC Matterhorn Accidents**

We have recently learned of some accidents involving SDC Matterhorns. SDC used to manufacture in Italy but they are no longer trading; however, there are still many of their rides remaining in service.

The Matterhorn is a rotating ride having swinging cars suspended from main radial arms. The car suspension is via steel hollow sections members extending up from the front and rear of each unit.

Several years ago an accident occurred in Buenos Aires in which one of these members failed. Subsequently, SDC decided to modify the car suspension by including a pinned hinge in the car's front hollow section member.

Last year (1994) an accident happened in the city of Rieti in Italy in which one such hinged joint suddenly broke and the front end of a car came completely free.

We do not have sufficient information to advance authoritative explanations for these accidents. Nor do we know whether there are many of these SDC rides for which NAFLIC members bear some responsibility. We advise any person responsible for examination or maintenance of an SDC Matterhorn to look out for problems in the car suspension structural members.

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