

# NAFLIC

*National Association For Leisure Industry Certification*

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

### **TECHNICAL BULLETIN - SEPTEMBER 1997**

#### **153. Gondola Wheel Accident - Trapping Hazard**

As required by "Fairgrounds and Amusement Parks - A Code of Safe Practice", NAFLIC member Leisure Technical Consultants Ltd have reported to the HSE (and to us) the facts of an accident at Ocean Beach, Rhyl. This resulted in a 16 year old girl passenger on a Gondola Wheel ride suffering a broken wrist.

LTC witnessed a number of complete rotations of the wheel and noted that, as it moves through the "quarter-to" and "quarter-past" positions, there is a possibility of a trap between gondola guard-rail / post members and the wheel drive rim. (The guard-rails have been added to the device since it was imported into Britain). The fact that the gondola may be rotated, i.e. spun about a vertical axis, by other passengers accentuates the trap and reduces the passenger's perception of the risk.

LTC also point out that another type of Gondola Wheel has been found to permit a hand trap between the main drive rim and drive wheel.

We advise Controllers of Gondola Wheels, and Inspection Bodies reporting on them, to re-assess whether their wheels have these problems and whether any consequent measures need to be taken.

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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