The information below is for use by State Amusement Ride Officials Only - It is being provided to you under section 29(e) of the Consumer Product Safety Act, 15 U.S.C. 2078(e), which allows the Commission to share certain information with state and local governmental authorities. It should not be released to the public.

The information listed below is based upon information we have obtained, including information provided to us by the Florida Bureau of Fairs and Expositions, Department of Agriculture.

## AMUSEMENT RIDE SAFETY BULLETIN Cliff Hanger Mobile Amusement Ride March 1, 2004

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) staff is notifying state and local authorities having jurisdiction over amusement rides that we have completed our investigation of the Dartron Cliff Hanger mobile amusement ride. CPSC staff has accepted Dartron's Corrective Action Program to inspect and correct as necessary existing Cliff Hangers, and to make prospective changes in the design of future Cliff Hangers.

On January 22, 2004, CPSC staff issued a safety bulletin alerting amusement ride officials of an incident that occurred on January 17, 2004 at the Florida Citrus Festival in Winter Haven, FL, involving a Cliff Hanger. A car was thrown from the sweep, injuring the three passengers in that car.

The cause of the failure has been determined to be a combination of design and operational factors, leading to fracture of the welded joint between the hanger stem and the hanger arch, at the point where the gussets are welded to the stem. The hanger stem can be overloaded and bent if the cars are lowered from the transport rack without removing the pins that attach the Car Stabilizer Cross Tube to the transport rack. If the hanger stem is bent and difficult to insert into its socket, and is forced into the socket by hammering, the welded joint may be damaged and subsequently fail during operation.

Dartron has developed a sequential program including magnetic particle inspection of all Cliff Hanger stems, certification of backup safety device installation, installation of a redesigned Car Stabilizer Pin assembly, and prospective design and manufacturing changes to the hanger stem assembly and backup device. Before Dartron will allow a Cliff Hanger to operate, the owner/operator must present a Dartron-approved Safe To Operate form verifying that the above measures have been taken.

Details of the Dartron program are described in Dartron Bulletin PIB-5K-0204-001, which is attached to this bulletin.

CPSC staff has accepted the Corrective Action Plan proposed by Dartron. Based upon this action, we are withdrawing our earlier recommendation that you not allow Cliff Hangers to operate, on the condition that they meet the requirements of the Dartron program. Please contact me if you have any questions or comments on this matter.

Roy W. Deppa Associate Director Office of Compliance 301-504-7514

	Issuing Entity: Dartron Industries, Inc	Bulletin # PIB-5K-0204-001
Dartron	P. O. Box 13114 Salem, Oregon 97309 Phone: 503-362-2341 Fax: 503-362-2536 www.dartronrides.com	Release Date: February 27, 2004Effective Date: February 27, 2004Supercedes:N/ACompletion Date:N/APage 1 of 6

## **PRODUCT INFORMATION BULLETIN**

Ride Manufacturer	: Dartron Industries, Inc.	Affected Production Dates: All Cliff Hangers
Ride Name:	Cliff Hanger	Affected Serial #'s: All
Model #	All Cliff Hangers	

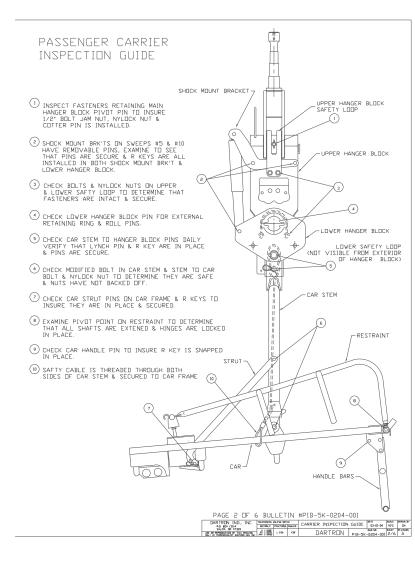
<u>Abstract of Issue:</u> On January 17, 2004, an incident occurred on a Cliff Hanger ride operating in Florida. As a result of the incident, Dartron required Cliff Hanger ride owners to cease operation of Cliff Hangers until they complied with the requirements of Dartron Safety Bulletin SR-5K-002. Additionally, the US Consumer Product Safety Commission recommended that Cliff Hanger rides not be operated until their investigation was complete. On February 27, 2004, CPSC accepted Dartron's Action Plan and approved Cliff Hanger rides to operate but only upon approval by Dartron of measures taken by the owners/operators in accordance with Dartron Bulletins SR-5K-002, 003, and 004 (see <a href="https://www.dartronrides.com">www.dartronrides.com</a>).

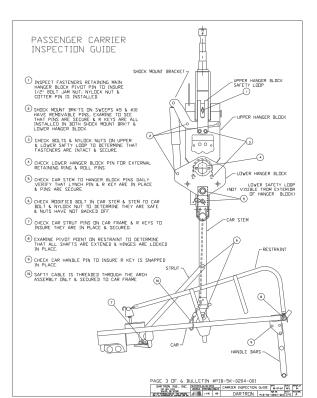
**<u>Reason for release</u>**: To inform Cliff Hanger owners/operators, inspectors and State authorizing authorities of Dartron requirements that must be met before a Cliff Hanger ride can operate. Page 2, 3, 4 and 5 of this bulletin provide a guide for inspecting the Cliff Hanger car suspension components.

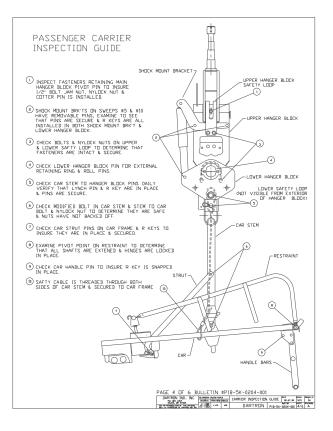
Action to be taken: Before a Cliff Hanger ride is allowed to operate, it must comply with the following:

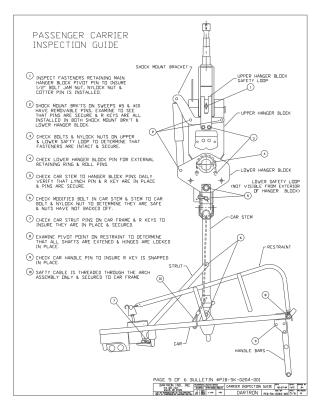
- 1. The owner/operator must present a Dartron-approved Safe To Operate form (see page 6). The Dartron Safe To Operate Form verifies that the Cliff Hanger complies with Dartron requirements including NDT inspection and that the structural integrity of the gusset joint has not been compromised. It also verifies that a Dartron-approved back-up device is in place. These requirements are found in Safety Bulletins SR-5K-002 and SR-5K-003.
- 2. Car hangers must be capable of insertion into lower hanger blocks without force, and by April 1, 2004, all Cliff Hangers must have car rack pins cabled to rack turnbuckles (see Bulletin # SR-5K-004).
- 3. When the Cliff Hanger meets the requirements of numbers 1 and 2 above, it is approved to operate. The Cliff Hanger can be inspected to the drawings attached as Pages 2, 3, 4 and 5 of this bulletin. Any configuration shown is approved if installed correctly and not showing any indications of distress.

**Detail of issue**: Page 2, 3, 4 and 5 provide inspection guides for approved back-up devices and approved gusset joint configurations. Page 6 is a sample Dartron Safe To Operate form.









## **Dartron Industries, Inc.**

In accordance with Safety Bulletin # SR-5K-002 Dartron has received a NDT Magnetic Particle and a Back Up Device Report for Cliff Hanger Serial Number					
The Mag Particle Report provided the below information about the gusset to Stem joint:					
Gusset Joint Uncompromised on car:12345678910none					
Allowable defects were found on cars: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 none					
Action Required					
Action Required					
Action Required					
<b>Rejected car hanger stems were found on cars</b> : 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 None					
<b>Rejected car hangers must be replaced with a new car hanger purchased from Dartron Industries.</b>					
Summary of NDT action taken:					
Successfully Completed Inspection:					
Rejected: Status of Rejected Stems:					
Summary of Back Up device installation:					
Original Cable					
Retrofit Strap					
Information provided by:					
Cliff Hanger S/O # owned by complied with the NDT and backup device requirements of Safety Bulletin # SR-5K-002 on the date of and is determined by Dartron Industries, Inc. to be safe to operate.					
J. Robert Coil – President Dartron Industries, Inc.					