

NAFLIC

National Association For Leisure Industry Certification

Standards & Related Documents Committee

TECHNICAL BULLETIN - SEPTEMBER 2005

298. Miami Restraints

We were advised in June 2004, by MP Fairground Inspections, of weld cracking involving a Miami Trip ride manufactured by Fairmatt or Eurofab. The same or similar design may apply to Fairmatt / Eurofab and Nottingham (UK) Limited. We don't know whether the FGL rides are the same. The device in question was the conventional 18 seat bench type and was four years old.

The problem was spotted by the controller of one of these rides, who contacted Nottingham (UK) Ltd for their help. The location of the fatigue damage was in the area of the lap bar to actuating arm joint. (A similar problem, at a similar location, was described in TB 138, September 1996, in relation to a K Emmett & Sons' Miami Trip).

In July 2004, Nottingham (UK) Ltd produced a Service Bulletin. (For a copy of this please contact them directly - contact details may be found at www.nottingham-uk.co.uk).

This Service Bulletin not only discussed the cracking issue described above, but also an accident involving a Nottingham (UK) Ltd. Mk. VII "Dangly Legs" Miami in which a girl managed to move her arm into a position such that it was broken.

Information about this accident was limited until this Committee indirectly got hold of a copy of part of the NFIT¹ accident investigation report dated 23 July 2004. This describes two possible accident scenarios. The injured person was seated in the left outermost seat and could have :-

- got her arm caught between the seat back and the side panel; or
- being an agile young person, bent her arm up and back over the plate between the seats; to make contact with the main rotating arm.

An October 2004 email from a member of NFIT suggests that the second of these possibilities was what occurred. The email also suggests that the Nottingham (UK) Ltd modification, described in their Service Bulletin, may not necessarily address the problem.

¹ The Health and Safety Executive's National Fairground Inspection Team

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