

Engagement & Policy Division

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Laurence Monaghan**BY EMAIL ONLY**Date 31st January 2024

Dear FJAC members

RE: ROUND UP AMUSEMENT DEVICES

I am writing to formally confirm HSE position on matters relating to Round Up amusement devices, following discussions at the Fairground Joint Advisory Committee meetings in September and December 2023.

In early 2023 HSE was informed that several Round Up amusement devices had been subject to safety critical modifications, i.e. installation of a new electronic monitoring system to address matters set out in an Information note issued by HSE in November 2022 (copy attached), and that ADIPS declaration of operational compliance (DOC) were being issued without the necessary partial design review, assessment to conformity to design (relevant parts only) and an initial test being completed.

In addition, representations were also made to HSE that a company supplying and fitting the electronic monitoring system was claiming that HSE had authorised and approved the design and that it addressed the issues set out in the Information Note.

HSE wrote to the company in March 2023 regarding their claim and requested that they inform their customers that HSE had not approved or authorised their electronic monitoring device.

The letter also confirmed HSE's position that any safety critical modifications should be subject to a partial design review, an assessment to conformity to design (relevant parts only) and an initial test, as required by the Amusement Device Inspection Procedures Scheme rules, HSG 175 - Fairgrounds and amusement parks: Guidance on safe practice, and as set out in the published Information Note.

Taking these matters into consideration, and additional concerns raised by an ADIPS Inspection Body regarding the suitability of the electronic monitoring system, HSE planned to visit several Round Up amusement devices to carry out an assessment.

Unfortunately, at this point it has not been possible for HSE to arrange any visits and assess the suitability of the modification provided, but HSE will endeavour to undertake a visit as soon as possible.

In any case, Round Up devices will be part of the proactive inspection plan for 2024/2025, and HSE inspectors will assess whether the necessary work has been completed, the device is safe to be operated and if necessary, take appropriate enforcement action.

In the meantime, I would ask that you inform your members that HSE require that the following action is undertaken to maintain safety.

1. The AIB responsible for collating the relevant inspections for any Round Up amusement devices that have been subject to a safety critical modification, i.e. the installation of an electronic monitoring system which has not been subject to a partial design review, an assessment to conformity to design (relevant parts only) and an initial test, should not issue a DOC for that amusement device until it has been deemed safe to operate, and all necessary work has been completed.
2. Ride Controllers of Round Up amusement device that have been subject to a safety critical modification, i.e., the installation of an electronic monitoring system which has not been subject to a partial design review, an assessment to conformity to design (relevant parts only) and an initial test, should not use their device until a competent person has deemed it safe to operate, and all the necessary work has been completed.
3. Any Round Up amusement devices that do not meet the requirements set out in the Information Note should not be used until all necessary work has been completed including the completion of partial design review, an assessment to conformity to design (relevant parts only) and an initial test by suitably qualified Inspection Body and they have been deemed safe to operate.

I hope that this provides suitable clarity on the issue, but if you have any queries in relation to the matters set out in this letter, then please feel free to contact me in writing.

Yours faithfully



HM Inspector of Health and Safety
Entertainment, Leisure, Commercial & Consumer Services Sector
OPST | Engagement and Policy Division

HSE Information Note

Safety of Cadoxton Meteorite and similar Round-up amusement devices

This information note is aimed at ride controllers of Cadoxton Meteorite and similar Round-up type amusement devices where, it is possible to operate the ride in such a way, that the hydraulic arm may lift the rotating passenger drum before it has reached sufficient rotational speed, or sufficient rotational speed is not maintained whilst the rotating passenger drum is lifted, to ensure passenger safety.

Ride controllers have duties to take reasonably practicable steps to ensure the safety of people on their amusement device. On these devices HSE expects that the ride controller ensures that:

- The amusement device is provided with a device to monitor rotational speed to ensure that the threshold safe rotational speed for the amusement device is achieved, with a means to prevent the lifting of the arm until such safe rotational speed has been reached during operation.
- This device used to monitor rotational speed should be integrated into the safety related parts of the control system to ensure that the correct safe rotational speed required for the safe operation of the device is maintained throughout the ride cycle, including when the rotating passenger drum has been lifted.
- Measures should also be put in place to mitigate risk during foreseeable events such as power loss or operation of an emergency stop (see NAFLIC TB151).
- The amusement device is operated at the correct revolutions per minute (rpm) in both the horizontal and vertical plane (i.e., with and without the arm raised) as identified in the design specification, design review or design risk assessment.
- If this information is not available, it should be determined by a competent person to ensure that the rpm is sufficient to ensure that the forces generated to adequately secure the passengers during the ride cycle of the amusement device.

- Periodic functional checks, inspection and ongoing maintenance of the amusement device are carried out in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and the operational risk assessment. This should be recorded and only undertaken by a competent person and is in addition to the annual in-service inspection.
- Any safety critical modifications to the amusement device are subject to a full or partial design review by a competent person.
- The operational risk assessment and/or instructions for the amusement device should be reviewed to ensure that they reflect any changes to the operation of the device.
- All ride operators and attendants must be provided with suitable information, instruction, training in relation to the safe operation of the amusement device including emergency procedures.
- Clear, unambiguous advice and instructions about safety on the amusement device is provided, including clearly visible height restriction boards that should be positioned at any of the open access points to the ride.
- The amusement device is observed during operation at all times by the operator, and that any passengers who demonstrate any signs of distress, inappropriate and/or dangerous behaviour are identified so that the device can be quickly brought to a safe stop if necessary.
- Passengers are in a fit condition to ride the amusement device and are able to follow basic safety instruction.
- Passengers are of the correct height and body mass to fit correctly into the amusement device and can brace themselves sufficiently.

Where an amusement device does not conform to the above requirements, or it fails to have equally effective measures that have been assessed as suitable and safe by a competent person, then the ride should not be operated.

Where amusement devices are found to be in operation without measures to control the ability to raise the rotating passenger drum until it has reached the required rpm to ensure rider safety, the enforcement expectation would be that a prohibition notice should be issued to prevent the operation of the amusement device until such time as a competent person has assessed it, implemented any remedial actions, and deemed that it is safe to operate.

HSE acknowledge there will be circumstances where it will be necessary to raise the passenger drum, whilst it is not rotating i.e., maintenance/inspection activities. In such situations there should be a clearly defined and documented safe system of work.

Date: 22nd November 2022