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New ASTM International standard for measuring waterslide g-forces

The US based organisation ASTM International's amusement rides and devices committee (F24) has approved a new standard that will be used to collect gravitational force data for water slides. The new standard (which was due to be published as F3493) focuses on using humans fitted with measuring instruments to generate the G-force data. NAFLIC has received information about the new standard which it believes may be of interest to inspection bodies.

The details provided note that "the new standard will be useful to designers as a tool for collecting and measuring accelerations on a waterslide to validate their calculations as they pertain to G-forces. This can also be globally used by inspectors and third party inspection agencies which validate rides and use data collected to ensure it meets existing waterslide standards that have acceleration limits."

The information received also noted that the new standard will ensure consistent measurement of forces on a rider and removes the interpretation of results based on different methods that are inconsistent with each other. The standard will assist in the measurement of forces that are actually felt by a rider, which directly relate to the maximum allowable forces prescribed in ASTM's standard on classification, design, manufacture, construction and operation of water slide systems (F2376).

The task group that developed the standard will continue to gather real-time data used to update acceleration requirements and ensure values for the forces reflect real time current data within F2376.

ASTM standards can be purchased by contacting ASTM International customer relations at sales@astm.org

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