

NAFLIC

National Association For Leisure Industry Certification

Standards & Related Documents Sub-Committee

TECHNICAL BULLETIN - OCTOBER 1997

158. Bennett Twist Incident

BALPPA (the British Association of Leisure Parks, Piers and Attractions) have circulated information concerning a capstan shaft failure on a Bennett's Twist ride operated by one of its British members. Fortunately no one was injured although the ride was in motion.

It has been known for many years that there is a limited fatigue life at certain cross-sections of the capstan shafts of this make of Twist and of others. Many such rides were modified in the 1970s and 1980s. The industry included guidance on the subject in *Guidance Note PM49 from the Health and Safety Executive: Safe operation of passenger carrying amusement devices - the Cyclone Twist*, published in September 1985 and still in print. Some comments on this particular design limitation and on Thorough Examination are in paragraphs 14 - 16 and 38b of that publication.

The Health & Safety Executive expressed their views in widely distributed correspondence in August 1987 and May 1988. A design re-appraisal of this region of all Twists was recommended at that time. It is important for controllers of such Twists (i.e. predating May 1988), and those Inspection Bodies responsible for their thorough examination, to be familiar with the recommendations of the ride's design re-appraisal carried out at that time.

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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