

# NAFLIC

*National Association For Leisure Industry Certification*

## **Standards & Related Documents Committee**

### **TECHNICAL BULLETIN - DECEMBER 1998**

#### **176. "Bungee Rocket" Accident - Ontario**

We have received a "Safety Alert" from Ontario's Technical Standards and Safety Authority. The text included the following :-

"This safety alert is issued in an effort to warn of a potential hazard and to prevent future incidents similar to the one which occurred on the amusement device named "Bungee Rocket" at the Canadian Central Exhibition, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada on August 24, 1998. The rider was launched upwards at an incline trajectory by means of the two diverging pre-stretched bungee cords. Upon reaching the full vertical height, as expected the rider began to free-fall. As the bungee cords reached their natural length to prevent the rider from the free-fall, the attachment of the rider's full body harness separated from the two side-by-side karabiners connected to the two bungee cords. This separation of the harness attachment caused the rider to free-fall to the ground, and as a result the person suffered fatal injuries.

At the preliminary stage, the investigation appears to indicate that the locking mechanisms of both karabiners allowed the separation of the harness attachment from the karabiners. Further tests are in process, to determine whether it was human error or mechanical failure."

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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