

NAFLIC

National Association For Leisure Industry Certification

Standards & Related Documents Committee

TECHNICAL BULLETIN — February 2015

392. HSE letter on the standard of Pre-Use inspections

The HSE has recently distributed the attached letter regarding the standard of pre-use inspections by IBs in the UK. IBs are advised to review the content of the letter.

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HM Principal Inspector
Mr Cameron Adam

Reference: Pre use
Inspections

Date: 4 February 2015

Dear Sir,

You may be aware that HSE has been conducting investigations into the standard of some pre-use inspections of fairground rides across parts of the industry.

As you know, pre-use inspections of rides should be carried out to ensure compliance with Section 6 of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974. The system of pre-use checks in the Amusement Devices Inspection Procedures Scheme (ADIPS) are set out in HS(G)175 Fairgrounds and amusement parks: Guidance on safe practice. These include a Design Review (DR), an Assessment of Conformity to Design (ACD) and the Initial Tests (IT).

The competent and diligent completion of these pre-use checks is fundamental to ensuring that a fairground machine has been designed and manufactured so that it is safe when in use. The checks and tests carried out at this stage will often not be repeated and consequently the integrity of the machine depends on them being done properly.

The DR must cover all of the safety related features of the machine. This will include systems such as electronic controls, restraint, containment and fencing as well as the more conventional structural, electrical and mechanical features. Any DR that has not covered all of the safety related features is not valid. Equally, the ACD inspection must cover all of the aspects in the DR. If this is not done the ACD will also be invalid.

HSE's National Fairgrounds Inspection Team will assess whether the pre-use inspection process has been adequately completed for individual machines during investigation of any incidents. Inspectors will pay particular attention to the machine's DR and ACD. There will also be other occasions where the adequacy of DRs and/or ACDs may be examined by HSE.

Where HSE has evidence that these checks have not been carried out competently or diligently we will act to ensure that the fairground machine is demonstrably safe for use. In addition to reporting any concerns to ADIPS Ltd, HSE may require the DR and/or ACD to be reviewed and if necessary redone. You should be aware that in some cases HSE may have to take formal enforcement action and this may involve prohibiting the use of the machine.

All Inspection Bodies involved in pre-use inspection work are therefore strongly advised to ensure that they are in a position to demonstrate, if required, that their pre-use inspections have been completed in accordance with HSG 175 and the ADIPS guidance for pre-use inspection. If you are not in a position to do

so you should review the work you have carried out and take appropriate action to ensure that the machine is demonstrably safe when in use.

If you have any questions concerning anything in this letter please get in touch using the details at the top of this letter.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MS', followed by a long, wavy horizontal line.

Melvin Sandell
HM Inspector of Health and Safety