

ACTION NOTE

SAFECO CRAZY FROG

On 30th July 2009 a Crazy Frog suffered a collapse in one of its arms at a fair in Blackpool. An investigation is underway by HSE. Parts of the ride have been removed to the Health and Safety Laboratory at Buxton. The ride was 6 years old and had been in the current owner's possession for approximately 5 years.

Problem:

The ride affected is the Safeco Crazy Frog and the area that failed can be seen at Fig 1:

Fig 1:



Following a similar failure on a machine in Ireland approximately 5 years ago the requirement for NDT in this general area was promulgated and all design reviews for this machine should now contain this requirement as part of the inspection schedule.

I stress that it is not at present clear whether the crack began in the area requiring NDT. Neither is it clear how the crack resulting in the failure began, propagated or indeed at what speed it propagated though initial investigations suggest this happened

rapidly. It is further stressed that this cannot be confirmed until HSL have conducted their examination.

A closer picture of the failure can be seen at Fig 2 and it will be readily seen by operators/controllers that the area where the failure occurred would have been hidden behind the lighting boards during normal operation.

Fig 2:



Action required:

Action required at this point is:

1. Operators are to visually and regularly inspect their rides in the areas shown in Figs 1 & 2 to ensure there is no sign of any crack propagation or other obvious damage in the area. This will mean removing the lighting boards to ensure a proper examination can be made and may require removal of a small amount of paint to ensure any crack can be seen.
2. Operators are to ensure that their rides have received testing in accordance with the NDT schedule required by their design review and that this testing is in date.

HSE Action:

1. I am writing to HSE NFIT Inspectors informing them of the contents of this Action Note. They may wish to discuss with you your procedures for regularly monitoring this area of your ride.

2. As soon as HSL have completed their investigations into this failure I will promulgate details of their findings and the need for any further action as a result of them.

Any further information required can be obtained from M Sandell on 07527002689.

M Sandell
HM Inspector of H&S

Dated: 31 July 2009