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Battery & Generator Back-up Systems

A number of different types of devices, such as Top Scans, Top Spins, Booster rides and some coaster type devices, have back-up power systems. These systems vary in their function.

In some coasters, for example, that have redundant restraints, an external battery is connected to the restrains in order to test that both are functioning correctly. In addition to this the battery can be used as a means of releasing the restraint, in an evacuation situation, if the train stops at a point in the track away from the station. Other rides have UPS systems that provide emergency power for a specific period of time in the event of failure of the main power supply. This may be to ensure important information is retained by the plc or in some instances provide specific and important safety back-up systems.

In other cases the back-up system may take the form of a small stand-by generator. In the case of some Ferris Wheels, for example, in the event of a power failure the back-up power supply can be used for evacuation.

It is therefore important that any back-up system, be it a battery or small generator, is maintained correctly and is available at all times during operation. IBs are reminded that these items of equipment are an integral part of the device and are often safety related and should therefore be included in the annual inspection and function test.

Committee Members: Mr. D Dadswell (Chairman), Mr. A Mellor (Secretary), Mr. P Smith, Mr. J Green, Mr. D Cox, Mr. M Thirkettle, Mr. I Davies, Mr. J Shilling & Mr. D Inman

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