

## 425.

# Prohibited areas during ride operation

A number of incidents involving operating and/or maintenance staff on rides have occurred where employees have ventured into areas around or within a riding device and been injured, or worse, after being struck by a moving part of the attraction or dragged into machinery. One such case, for example, involved a member of staff entering the rear of a Miami through a back door while the ride was in motion, exposing the person to an extremely dangerous and potentially life threatening situation.

NAFLIC would like to remind controllers of the importance of ensuring all staff are aware of these dangers and that access to such areas on riding devices is prohibited while a ride is in operation. Suitable training, clear signage and lockable doors would be some of the ways controllers could help to alleviate such issues.

In addition, an interlock could be fitted; specifically an interlock tied in to the E-stop circuit so that it activates the emergency stop safety function and therefore prevents unexpected start-ups. We would also expect the operator to have in place suitable lock-off procedures that require their maintenance staff to electrically isolate the ride and place a padlock on the isolator prior to working on it (to prevent anyone else from turning the ride on whilst it is being worked on).

