



**Technical Standards and Safety Authority**  
Minutes of the Amusement Devices Advisory Council  
Meeting on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Minutes of the Amusement Devices Advisory Council meeting of the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) held by teleconference at 10:00 a.m. on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023.**

**Present:** Mike Cruz, Canadian National Exhibition (CNE); Keith Brown, BOPS Inc; Joelle Javier, Engineer, Elevating and Amusement Devices Safety Program; Peter Switzer, Canada's Wonderland; Cindy Sypher (Chair), Sypher & Associates Field Engineering Ltd; Andreas Tanzer, Proslide Technology Inc.

**Guests:** Alexandra Campbell, VP, Communications and Stakeholder relations; Joelle Javier, Engineer, Elevating and Amusement Devices Safety Program; Ammara Khan, Manager, Stakeholder Relations; AJ Kadirgamar, Director, Shared Services; Michelle Playfair, Bigemands Inc; Rob Kremer, Manager, Engineering, Elevating Devices Safety Program; Roger Neate, Director, Elevating and Amusement Devices Program; Sonny Silva, Regional Supervisor, Elevating and Amusement Devices Program; Olga Sousa-Dias, Executive Assistant

## **1. Welcome and Constitution of Meeting**

The Chair, C. Sypher, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

### **a) Safety Moment**

For the safety moment, Council was shown a short video on the importance of a good night's sleep.

## **2. Adoption of the April 17, 2023 Agenda**

The agenda was adopted as presented.

## **3. Adoption of Minutes of November 22, 2022 Meeting**

The minutes were adopted as presented.

## **4. Review Action Items from Last Meeting**

R. Neate spoke to the pending action items. There were two actions pending from the last meeting and both are on the agenda today, Items 8 and 9.

There were no questions from Council.



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## 5. Chair's Update

The Chair said she attended two ASTM meetings for the F24 Committee, one in Jacksonville and one in Niagara Falls. She thanked the TSSA for hosting the Niagara Falls meeting at its annual safety seminar. With 150 attendees, it may have set a record. Also, there was an IAFA meeting in Niagara Falls and a Canadian IAAPA meeting through SafeConnect B.C. at the PNE in Vancouver.

The Chair received an email from Brad Burkholder, Ontario Inflatables and Event Rentals, requesting to join the Council. Whether or not there is a spot available on Council, industry members are encouraged to bring issues forward to the Council. A. Campbell said the request will be taken off line.

## 6. Council Administration

Chris Clarke is up for membership renewal.

### Action: Follow up.

A. Campbell announced that Ajay Ravel, Regional Supervisor, ED Program will take over VP, Operations in July. R. Neate will take over TSSA's customer service team. AJ Kadirgamar, Director, Shared Services will take over as Director of the ED/AD/SKI Program. Frank \_\_\_\_\_, a director on the Oasis project, will take over workforce planning at TSSA.

AJ Kadirgamar said he has been with TSSA for nearly four years. Prior to coming to TSSA he was with Kone Corporation for five years, managing global installations worldwide. Prior to Kone he worked with Otis Elevator Co. for 15 years. Most of his elevator experience has been outside of Canada. He said he looks forward to moving from the field side to the business side with TSSA.

## 7. New App for Inflatables

S. Silva provided a brief inventory update. A total of 2618 devices are licensed, and most of these (1433) are inflatables for amusement devices. During the Covid years the numbers dropped, but new rides are coming in 2023 and the numbers are increasing.



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Although they represent the majority of devices, inflatables have a significantly low number of noncompliances. The TSSA has been pushing to perform the inspections while in operation.

It is important that all device owners have a current ADL licence. Licenses expire on December 31.

An advisory is coming out for the Watchdog devices, which are not currently licensed in Ontario. The flame test requirement will be performed on every initial inspection by a mechanic and witnessed by an inspector.

TSSA is changing its periodic inspection model for licensed devices. Attestations of Compliance will be done annually. Owners of inflatables have received an onboarding email for the new process, which involves downloading an app from ProntoForms. When an owner-operator submits their attestation, they will do the checks and submit an updated operating schedule. From there, TSSA will schedule inspectors.

Council was shown a short video to demonstrate how the app works. Photos of up to 12 devices can be uploaded and submitted online.

TSSA is arming inspectors with information and onboarding people as the rollout progresses through the first year.

J. Javier commented that industry is requesting the process be done in real time. S. Silva agreed that AI would be helpful. For now the goal is to review and attach files, and generate permits within 24-to-48 hours after attestations are sent in.

## 8. ASTM Update

S. Silva said ASTM Regulators Meetings are held in February and October in alignment with the ASTM industry meetings. Additional are added as needed where regulators can share information. Currently there is a monthly Canadian Regulators meeting hosted by SafeConnect BC, and one was recently held during the TSSA-NAARO event. One of the topics there was helping other provinces adopt the ASTM standard. Some provinces are still on the CSA 267 Code. B.C. will be next to come on line with ASTM. Trampolines will be in their mix.



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TSSA is looking at an avenue to share information between provinces, especially for rides that travel between provinces. Information will include such things as lessons learned, orders issued, and welding procedures.

J. Javier said some U.S. regulators were requesting updates to operation standard F770 to have better evacuation requirements. Things they wanted to add to their standard were already in the Canadian standard, so TSSA is helping them with that. This will include recording of evacuations and practising it once per year which are currently Canada-specific requirements. The Canadian procedures will be proposed to the main group to apply to other jurisdictions.

There were some high-profile incidents with fatalities in the past few years: Colorado Drop tower fatality, 2021; Vermont zipline fatality, 2022; Orlando Drop tower fatality, 2022; Orlando Ferris wheel incident (minor), 2023. Each time an incident occurs the standard body does an update to see where things can improve. Years ago there was an incident with the Ring of Fire where a group convened to look at corrosion requirements for the standards. TSSA was recognized at the last ASTM meeting for its help. S. Silva interjected that J. Javier personally received an award for the work.

J. Javier said TSSA plans to continue helping ASTM with the new requirements coming up, specifically for the minimum closed position within the restraint requirements. Ontario is fortunate to have an engineering review process where the design of the rides can be checked. Other jurisdictions may not have his, so TSSA is looking to write standards for their manuals.

A. Campbell noted that J. Javier and A. Tanzer both received service awards.

## **9. Mechanic Accreditation**

R. Neate said P. Switzer submitted a proposal to TSSA regarding the number of hours for an AR mechanic to be reduced if a person is an industrial millwright. He thanked P. Switzer for the extensive work he did on this with respect to educational requirements.

An AR mechanic requires 8,000 hours of training. Years ago, TSSA reduced this by 3,500 hours for a millwright. R. Neate said 4,500 hours is still too high for a highly trained millwright. In his proposal P. Switzer noted there is still some TSSA standards training that the millwright would need to get, along with some practical hands-on experience. TSSA will plan a T CAB soon to pull the industry together and decide how many hours it will take to obtain the regulatory and code



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knowledge, along with specific ride experience, and put something into the policy document. This will keep everyone on an even playing field.

There were no questions from Council.

### **10. New Business**

S. Silva said TSSA is working with the legal department to refine exemption criteria on various things, and to get definitions on certain devices.

### **11. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.