



BSI Standards Publication

Biomechanical effects on amusement ride passengers

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National foreword

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TECHNICAL
SPECIFICATION

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**Biomechanical effects on amusement
ride passengers**

Effets biomécaniques sur les passagers des manèges



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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#)

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 254, *Safety of amusement rides and amusement devices*.

Introduction

Most passenger-carrying devices, e.g. vehicles, transport systems, elevators, cableways, and other similar structures, are deliberately designed to minimize biomechanical effects on passengers. Amusement rides are different in that the biomechanical effects are deliberately introduced in order to amuse people through stimulation of their sensory system.

Thus, in addition to mechanical, electrical and other hazards, amusement rides could feature significant biomechanical hazards for passengers. Passengers being moved by amusement rides are subject to inertia forces. The magnitude, direction, duration of exposure to, and rate of change of, these forces could create risks that need to be minimized. The risks may be increased by the use of entertaining effects.

Design of the amusement ride in accordance with this Technical Specification, together with ISO 17842, minimizes any risks from these biomechanical effects.

When it is important for safety reasons, passenger weight, height, and age also need to be considered.

Moreover, amusement ride passengers can have different states of health or well-being during a ride cycle and there is a probability of injury not due to any amusement ride defect but owing to the individual health state of a passenger. When a designer, manufacturer or operator provides a warning before the ride entrance for guests, making them aware of ride use restrictions, considering their state of health (see [Annex D](#)), this can limit legal liability for possible harm to passengers in poor health.

Biomechanical effects on amusement ride passengers

1 Scope

This Technical Specification has been drawn up with the objective of ensuring the safety of amusement ride passengers, based on the international experience of manufacture and operation of such structures throughout the world gained over decades prior to its publication.

It enables the identification of potential hazards and classification of biomechanical effects, including information on recommended acceleration limits, rate of their onset and their duration, to ensure acceptable degrees of biomechanical risks at the stage of amusement ride design, as well as to take such risks into account during development of operational procedures and information on use limitations for amusement ride guests.

It gives recommendations regarding use limitations for amusement rides in accordance with the health condition and the well-being of passengers. It also specifies body dimensions of passengers 1,20 m to 2,0 m in height for motion risk analysis on amusement rides. These body dimensions can be taken into account when designing passenger containments and restraints.

It does not cover devices used in the circus, theatre or sports or other devices intended for use only by specially trained people. Nevertheless, it can be used in the design of any similar structural or passenger-carrying device even if it does not explicitly mention the device.

This Technical Specification is not applicable to amusement rides put into operation before the date of its publication.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 17842 (all parts)—¹⁾, *Safety of amusement rides and amusement devices*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

amusement ride

equipment that is designed to entertain the passengers during motion, including biomechanical effects

3.2

biomechanical effects

effects of forces on passengers of amusement rides associated with their motion

3.3

degree of potential biomechanical risk

likelihood of causing harm as a result of biomechanical effects of different values considering the possible severity of consequences

1) To be published.