

Incident Summary (Reference #5617901) (Final)

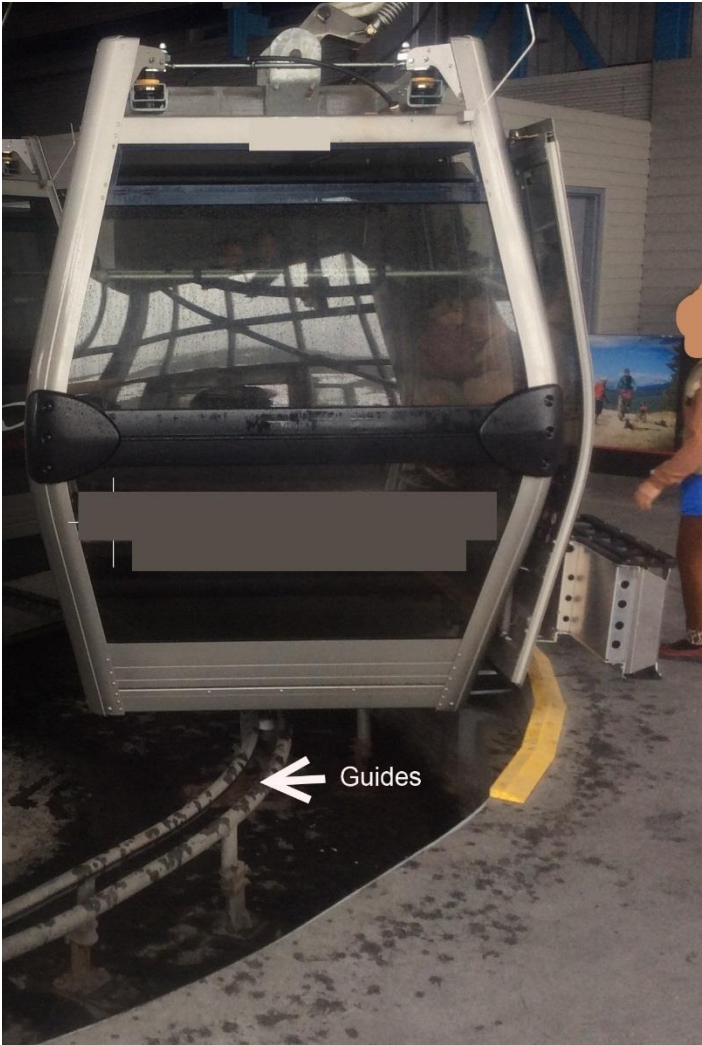
SUPPORTING INFORMATION	Incident Date		July 1, 2017	
	Location		Whistler	
	Regulated industry sector		Passenger Ropeway, Above-Surface Ropeway	
	Impact	Injury	Qty injuries	1
			Injury description	Reported as pain to lower, left side, back
			Injury rating	Insignificant
	Damage		Damage description	Impact damage to the doors of the carrier cabin. Doors were considered not repairable and required replacement.
			Damage rating	Minor
	Incident rating		Minor	
	Incident overview		At the loading area a passenger riding a motorized mobility scooter attempted to load onto a moving gondola cabin. The scooter became lodged between the loading load platform and the moving cabin and the scooter and passenger fell (approximately .8 m) into the recessed cabin pathway.	
INVESTIGATION CONCLUSIONS	Site, system and components		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detachable gondola, operating at 3.5 m/s rope speed at the time of incident. Full speed is 5.5 m/s Estimate carrier speed at load area at the time of the incident estimated to be approximately .6 m/s at the time of incident. At full speed estimated to be approximately .9 m/s. 9 passenger cabins with doors that open and close automatically as they enter and leave the station. Stations are configured for level walk in cabin loading Cabins are guided through the station in a recess approximately .8 m below the floor height of the level at which passenger load from. Within the recessed level, carriers are guided by a set of parallel guides that engage a guide roller mounted to the underside of the cabin floor. 	
	Failure scenario(s)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A passenger riding a motorized mobility scooter proceeding into the load area. When asked by the attendant on duty if they required the ropeway to be slowed prior to attempting to board the cabin, the passenger indicated a slow would not be required. No slow was initiated while the passenger attempted to board the cabin. Upon the passenger attempting to board the cabin riding the scooter, the scooter became partially lodged within the cabin entrance causing the carrier to swing back and lift out of the lower guides and then swing inward. This caused a gap between the cabin and the loading platform and in turn it is where the passenger and scooter to fell into the recessed area. 	

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<p>Facts and evidence</p>	<p>Interview with staff and review of CCTV video provides evidence of the sequence of events that occurred.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A passenger riding a motorized mobility scooter approached the loading area and was asked by the attendant if they would like the lift slowed for boarding the gondola cabin. The passenger indicated they did not require a slow. The attendant attempts to assist the passenger by holding the doors of the cabin open and steady (after doors are automatically opened in the station, cabin doors can be moved into the closed or open position with minimal effort) as the passenger attempted to board the cabin. • As the scooter is approximately 1/3 of the way through the cabin doorway the cabin begins to swing back causing the bottom guide roller of the cabin to lift out of the guides. The cabin continues to swing back and then inward. At this point the attendant runs (approximately 2m) back to a remote control panel and initiates a stop. • The ropeway begins to decelerate to a stop as the scooter and passenger fall (approximately .8 m) between and forward of the cabin in to the recessed pathway. <p>Lift operation training manual did not provide specific instruction that indicate procedures to be utilized in assisting passenger using mobility assisting devices.</p> <p>Since this incident has occurred the operator has implemented a policy the requires that the ropeway is to be stopped prior to allowing persons with motorized mobility scooter to board a gondola cabin.</p>
<p>Causes and contributing factors</p>	<p>The very likely cause is misjudgment in the required alignment and distance in boarding a moving gondola cabin with a motorized mobility scooter.</p> <p>A likely contributing factor is that at the time of the incident the operating contractor did not have procedures that directly related to managing passenger using mobility assisting devices.</p>



Motorized Mobility Scooter



Example of a Cabin in the Station



Example of Cabin Entrance