

Incident Summary #II-744946-2018 (#8566) (FINAL)

SUPPORTING INFORMATION	Incident Date	September 14, 2018	
	Location	Whistler	
	Regulated industry sector	Passenger ropeways - Above surface ropeway	
	Impact Injury	Qty injuries	1
		Injury description	Reported as impact injury to elbow and shoulder. Symptoms reported as discomfort of movement and diminished range of motion (x-rays ruled out fractures).
		Injury rating	Minor
	Damage	Damage description	NA
		Damage rating	None
Incident rating	Minor		
Incident overview	Employee (ropeway attendant) was assisting the loading of bikes at the bottom station. The bike rack caught the attendants jacket and pulled them forward and off of the loading deck. The attendant yelled for a bystander (not employee) to stop the lift. The ropeway was stopped. The jacket ripped releasing the employee and they fell to the ground approximately 2 meters.		
INVESTIGATION CONCLUSIONS	Site, system and components	<p>The detachable grip ropeway is utilized in a downhill mountain bike operation.</p> <p>Passengers and their bicycles are transported by the ropeway.</p> <p>Carriers are configured on the line alternating between passenger carriers which provide seats for 4 passengers and bike carriers which have been modified to carry 3 bicycles.</p> <p>At the loading deck, the modified carrier (bicycle carrier) allows the passenger to roll their bicycle forward onto a rack and then seat themselves onto the following carrier (with the 4 seats). When passengers have difficulty loading their bicycle the attendant, who is stationed at the bottom loading deck, steps in to assist in loading the bicycle.</p> <p>The bicycle rack is a configuration of a steel channels and guides which allows the bicycle to be rolled forward into the carrier and held in that position. A set of diagonal upward facing, narrow steel bars provide stabilization at the front wheel of the bicycle.</p>	
	Failure scenario(s)	A passenger was having difficulty loading their bicycle, the attendant went to assist the passenger loading their bicycle. After assisting in loading the bicycle, the attendant started moving away from the carrier as it left the bottom station. The attendant's jacket became entangled with the moving carrier and the attendant was dragged off the loading platform.	
	Facts and evidence	Based on reports, photos and statements provided by the operating contractor the following narrative has been established: The attendant went to assist a passenger that was having challenges loading their bicycle onto the bicycle carrier.	

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	<p>As the attendant moved out of the path of the moving bicycle carrier their jacket became entangled with a pair of narrow steel bars which extend diagonally forward and up (utilized in stabilizing the front wheel of the bicycle) from the front of the carrier.</p> <p>The attendant was dragged forward and off of the front of the loading deck.</p> <p>The attendant yelled for the ropeway to be stopped. A member of the public (not related to the operation of the ropeway) pushed a nearby stop button. The ropeway stopped, The attendant's jacket tore and the attendant fell approximately 2m, landing on their back and right arm.</p>
<p>Causes and contributing factors</p>	<p>It is certain that the attendant was dragged off the loading deck because their jacket became entangled with the diagonal forward facing dowels of the bicycle carrier.</p> <p>It is possible that the attendant was not paying attention to their proximity to the carrier.</p>



BICYCLE CARRIER

Steel Bars that hold the bike in place during transport.