Subject: HOLD-DOWN AND COMBINATION HOLD-DOWN/SUPPORT SHEAVES AND SHEAVE ASSEMBLIES ON THE ABOVE-SURFACE CHAIR LIFTS

Send to: ALL CONTRACTORS IN GROUP 8, SUBMITTING ENGINEERS, MANUFACTURERS AND OTHER JURISDICTIONS

THIS RULING IS AN EMERGENCY SAFETY ALERT

1. DESIGN AND PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR HOLD-DOWN AND COMBINATION HOLD-DOWN/SUPPORT SHEAVES AND SHEAVE ASSEMBLIES

Hold-down and combination hold-down/support sheaves and sheave assemblies on all chair lifts operating in Ontario shall meet the following requirements:

a. Means shall be provided to restrict the movement of the haul rope to the inside of each sheave and sheave assembly should the rope leave the groove. (Reference Clause 3.19.10.2 of CAN/CSA-Z98-96 Standard)

b. Means, hence forth referred to as rope catchers, shall be provided to retain the haul rope, in the event that the rope leaves its normal running position, to the outside of each sheave and sheave assembly. (Reference Clause 3.19.10.3 of CAN/CSA-Z98-96 Standard)

c. Rope catchers shall be located not more than ½ sheave diameter vertically from the normal position of the rope. (Reference Clause 3.19.10.3 of CAN/CSA-Z98-96 Standard)

d. Rope catchers shall be sized and configured to the shape of hauling rope and the hauling rope grip to allow free passage of the haul rope and carriers while the rope is in or out of the normal position. (Reference Clause 3.19.10.4 of CAN/CSA-Z98-96 Standard)

e. The stability of the sheaves and sheave assemblies profile and configuration shall be maintained while the hauling rope is retained by the rope catchers on the sheaves and sheave assemblies.

f. The rope catchers shall be designed to contain the deropement of the hauling rope from sheaves and sheave assemblies.

2. ORDER

All chair lifts shall comply with Section 1 of this Ruling forthwith. Any chair lift not in compliance with Ruling Section 1 shall not be operated for use by the public, until such time as the corrective actions to meet the requirements of this ruling have been completed.

The owner of the chair lift shall obtain services of either a qualified professional engineer registered in Ontario or a qualified representative of the designer/manufacturer of the chair lift to determine compliance of this Ruling. In addition, the owner shall submit to this office within 65 days of the date on which this
Ruling is sent, pertinent documentation approved by the qualified professional engineer registered in Ontario or the qualified representative of the designer/manufacturer of the chair lift in accordance with the Elevating Devices Act and Section 7 of the Ontario Regulation demonstrating compliance of this Ruling. The fee for this type of design submission shall be based on a minor alteration Type ‘A’.

3. **CLARIFICATION**

The requirements in Section 1 of this Ruling apply to the specific application described, and do not remove the requirements to comply with the Elevating Devices Act and Regulation including all the adopted Standards in the Regulation.

4. **BACKGROUND**

As the result of a fatal accident that occurred at Snow Valley Ski Resort on Friday December 6, 1996 a potential hazard has been discovered that requires this immediate action.

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Director