IN THE MATTER OF:

THE TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND SAFETY ACT 2000,
S.O. 2000, c. 16
- and -
ONTARIO REGULATION 209/01 made under the
Technical Standards and Safety Act 2000
(Elevating Devices)

Subject: Chair Lifts with Counterweight Ropes – ‘Inspection / Verification and/or Replacement’

Sent to: ALL Ski Lift Industry Stakeholders - CONTRACTORS IN GROUP 8

1. INTRODUCTION

This Order is intended to alert and prevent the occurrence of a serious accident similar to the one that recently occurred on a chair lift in Ontario. In this accident the failure of the counterweight rope caused the catastrophic failure of the chair lift.

2. ORDER REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ACTION

2.1 Existing Counterweight Rope and Connections

2.1.1 All counterweight ropes including their connections on all chair lifts (used on circulating above-surface passenger ropeways) in Ontario shall be IMMEDIATELY inspected to verify their safety.

2.1.2 Qualified person(s) shall inspect the ENTIRE LENGTH of each counterweight rope and all its connections, and certify their safety.

2.1.3 Disassemble counterweight rope including its connections to inspect them entirely.

2.1.4 Acceptability or rejection of each counterweight rope and all its connection shall be based on the requirements of Clauses 11.27, 11.28, 11.29 and 11.30 of the CSA Z98-01 Standard on Passenger Ropeways.

2.1.5 Person(s) inspecting and certifying the safety of the counterweight rope shall complete the form entitled “Rope Nondestructive Test Report” contained in the Appendix E of the CSA Z98-01 Standard on Passenger Ropeways.

2.2 New Counterweight Rope and Connections

2.2.1 Where existing counterweight rope including all its connections is replaced, all of the new counterweight rope and all its connections must comply with the requirements of Clause 10 of the CSA Z98-01 Standard on Passenger Ropeways and Section 32(5) of Ontario Regulation 209/01 (Elevating Devices).
2.2.2 The new counterweight rope including all its connections shall be as specified by the manufacturer/designer of the chair lift.

2.2.3 A professional engineer shall perform the function of manufacturer/designer, where the manufacturer/designer is no longer in business.

3. INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 All documentation generated to prove compliance of this Order shall be included in the Maintenance Log as required by Ontario Regulation 209/01 (Elevating Devices).

3.2 The requirements under Section 2.1 do not apply if the existing counterweight rope and its connections are replaced with new ones, in accordance with Section 2.2 of this Order.

3.3 The requirements of this Order do not apply where a new counterweight rope and its connections were installed at the beginning of, or during, the year 2002 ski season. However, this must be reported in accordance with Section 3.4 of this Order.

3.4 The Director must be informed in writing by fax (# 416 325 4320) by March 21, 2003 confirming compliance with this Order. The confirmation must refer to the installation number of the chair lift and specify the action taken to implement this Order.

Ted Dance, Director, TSS Act 2000, (Elevating Devices)