



**Technical Standards and Safety Authority**  
Minutes of the Amusement Devices Advisory  
Council  
Monday, November 11, 2024

Minutes of the Amusement Devices Advisory Council meeting for the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) held by teleconference at **1:00pm** on Monday, November 11, 2024

<b>Present</b>	
Chris Clarke	Keith Brown
Andrew Gidaro	Darryl Hore
Cindy Sypher (Chair)	Peter Switzer
Joe Tavares	Kathryn Woodcock
Brad Burkholder	Alon Shatil
<b>TSSA</b>	
Alexandra Campbell	Ajay Raval
AJ Kadirgamar	Sonny Silva
Joelle Feliz Javier	Kristian Kennedy
Iuliana Afanase	Olga Sousa-Dias
Frank Pallotta	Danielle Fernandes
<b>Guests</b>	
Sheila Johnston	
<b>Regrets</b>	
Vince Brennan	Michelle Playfair
Mike Cruz	Andreas Tanzer

## Action Items

There were no action items.

### 1. Constitution of Meeting

#### 1.1. Safety Moment

The Chair presented a Safety Moment on carbon monoxide safety.

### 2. Adoption of the November 11, 2024, Agenda

#### 2.1. The agenda was adopted as presented.

### 3. Approval of April 22, 2024, Minutes

#### 3.1. The council approved the minutes as presented.

### 4. Chair's Update

The Chair took a moment to congratulate Andreas Tanzer, the recipient of the TSSA Safety Awards 2024, Legacy Award. She continued with an industry



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update following the ASTM, in Anaheim, CA, for the F2783: Standard Practice for Design, Manufacture, Operation, Maintenance, and Inspection of Amusement Rides and Devices, in Canada. The Chair met with IAAPA (International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions) in Anaheim and informed the council of the upcoming CAFE (Canadian Association of Fairs & Exhibitions) convention in Richmond Hill as well as the IAAPA Expo in Florida.

Council members had no questions or comments for the Chair.

### **5. Council Administration**

#### **5.1. Introduction of New Members**

**5.1.1.** Alon Shatil – GO Karts

**5.1.2.** Brad Burkholder – Inflatables

**5.1.3.** Joe Tavares – Mechanics

#### **5.2. Open Vacancies**

**5.2.1.** Owners/Operations Category: Camps

**5.2.2.** Insurance Category: Insurance

### **6. Engineering Service Level Agreements**

A. Raval provided context for service level agreements (SLAs), noting that at the plenary session TSSA provided an overview of this fiscal year's engineering services customer journey-mapping initiative. The purpose of the presentation today is to provide a proposal for service levels.

F. Pallotta provided an overview of proposals:

- Standardized Work Status and Completion
- Pre-requisites for Applications
- On-Hold Standards
- Expedited Requests

P. Switzer asked if an engineering submission will be on-hold until missing information is provided or if it can continue without the missing information. F. Pallotta responded that if the missing information is a prerequisite, then the submission cannot proceed.

### **7. Issue Prioritization Update**

#### **7.1. Recap of Priorities**

AJ Kadirgamar provided a recap of existing priorities, noting work is underway for industry millwright changes for amusement device mechanic certificates. S. Silva added that these changes will be finalized



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today at a Training and Certification Advisory Board (TCAB) meeting. Communications on the changes have not gone out yet, but TSSA is treating submissions on a case-by-case basis as they come in as word gets out among industry members. P. Switzer asked for clarification that a new gap analysis will be undertaken by the TCAB. S. Silva confirmed that it will.

### **7.2. New Issues**

#### **7.2.1. Cindy Sypher: Proposal of the regulation of trampolines, climbing walls, etc.**

The Chair remarked that there is a perception that certain devices outside the regulatory regime for amusement devices in the province are regulated. K. Woodcock added that there are standards already in place for these devices. She added that businesses with these devices would be concerned about the viability of their businesses in the knowledge that they are not subject to safety regulations. The Chair noted that there has been a fatality in British Columbia related to trampoline parks.

S. Silva spoke to A. Shatil's question about how change to the regulation to incorporate these changes would happen. A. Shatil would not want to be lumped in with trampoline parks; they have different risks, and he would not want his climbing wall to be associated with trampoline parks. The Chair confirmed that they would not be categorized together in the code. He noted the changes would not be too substantial for climbing walls because his site follows the code. For sites not familiar with TSSA, things might be different.

K. Woodcock wondered if there is a way to gradually implement limited oversight, such as the recording of injuries for tracking purposes, notwithstanding the absence of regulations. S. Silva replied that other provinces collect incident data that TSSA can potentially use. A. Shatil noted that his facility keeps track of incidents on un-regulated devices and that climbing walls have far fewer incidents compared to other devices. The urgency might be less on fixed walls than it might be for trampoline parks, he advised.

K. Woodcock commented that she is concerned about inflatable climbing devices. They should not be exempted simply because a user climbs them as opposed to slides down them.



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**7.2.2. Cindy Sypher: Removal of Mechanic Attestation for Incident Reporting**

A. Gidaro remarked that several owners have concerns about the removal of mechanic attestation for incident reporting. Industry is asking why incident reporting is being proposed and the practicality of doing so. P. Switzer canvassed other fixed park operators in the province, and they commented that the removal of the attestation will place an additional burden on operators and may result in a decrease in reporting. The added burden does not seem to come with any benefit to operators or the regulator. The change appears to be without any policy rationale. Knowing if there was a rationale would at least make it more palatable. Waiting for TSSA before removing a device from service is impractical. He asked how TSSA intends to handle the volume of incidents that will be reported through the triaging of reported incidents. An individual TSSA response to all the incidents noted in the plenary session safety and compliance report update, for example, would be unworkable. It may be worthwhile to look at how the new framework would work using past incidents reported to TSSA. He offered to support that exercise.

AJ Kadirgamar replied that TSSA is still collecting feedback on this initiative. No major decisions have been made yet. TSSA will discuss internally and report back. S. Silva encouraged members to provide feedback on the website until November 30, 2024.

A Campbell explained that the rationale for the program was harmonize incident reporting advisories among the sectors TSSA regulates.

**7.2.3. Brad Burkholder: Proposal of continuing education as an annual requirement for AD Mechanics**

B. Burkholder spoke to the proposal for continuing education as an annual requirement for amusement device mechanics. Mechanics do not necessarily receive communications on new compliance requirements in the code. The Chair asked if other sectors regulated by TSSA have continuing education. S. Silva explained that some do, like elevator mechanics and ski lift mechanics. Currently there are no continuing education requirements for amusement device mechanics. A. Raval commented that while continuing education is a good idea, the advisory council and sector will need to turn its attention to an education framework. There is a lot more than the courses involved in establishing a framework. S. Silva stressed that training providers should be the ones to



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provide the training, not TSSA due to the potential conflict of interest. AJ Kadirgamar noted that the added training requirements associated with a training framework can become a burden, judging from the elevating device experience.

**8. Adjournment**

**8.1.** The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:55 pm after which council members held an industry-only in-camera session.

**9. In-Camera Session (Council Only)**