

**Eli Bridge Company**

800 Case Avenue
Jacksonville, IL 62650
USA

Phone: 217-245-7145 FAX: 217-479-0103

Email: Elibridge@aol.com

Website: www.EliBridge.com

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NOTIFICATION

Ride Manufacturer: Eli Bridge Company

Ride Names: BIG ELI® HY-5 Cable Drive Wheel

Affected Production Dates: All

Affected Serial Nos: All

Abstract of Issue: It has come to our attention that some jurisdictions have begun requiring covers over the drive sheave on the HY-5 BIG ELI® Wheel. This came about as the result of an accident on a former Park Model Eli Wheel converted to a trailer-mount by a company other than Eli Bridge Company. As we understand the incident, an individual was injured when their foot came in contact with the moving parts of the drive sheave. In receiving information about the incident it appears that the distance between the drive unit and the seats was reduced during the unauthorized modification to make the ride trailer mounted.

Reason For Release: To the best of our knowledge, no such accident has ever happened on a Park model or a factory designed and manufactured Eli Trailer-mounted model Wheel. We have serious concerns about placing covers around the drive sheave as a "barrier" on Eli models. First, we believe that such a cover may change the point of contact to a position more readily accessible to the patrons' extremities, resulting in more accidents. Obviously, none of us wants that result.

The second problem with placing a cover close to the drive sheave is that it is also in close proximity to the moving drive cable. If the cable is constantly rubbing against an added cover, it could produce two new results, neither good. First, it adds a pinch point for fingers and toes and second, then the cable could more quickly wear and even snap while under tension. Eli Bridge stands behind our products and we are always concerned with rider safety first. We do not support any modification that would compromise the safety of the ride for the customers.

In summary, while we are not aware of incidents of the type described above on an Eli Wheel (not remanufactured by another company), we feel compelled to notify you of the accident that occurred and to recommend that Eli Wheel Owners take steps to prevent such incidents from happening.

Actions to be taken:

- 1 -- Owners/Operators display obvious warnings to patrons to "Keep hands and feet inside the seat at all times"
- 2 -- Train the operator to vigilantly practice proper care with respect to patron behavior as well as their own, to promote safety and enjoyable entertainment.

Note: As a matter of record, the only practical way to completely eliminate, mechanically, the opportunity for an incident as described above, is to upgrade from your HY - 5® Wheel to a rim-drive HY-5II BIG ELI® Wheel. Eli Bridge Company began building Rim Drive HY-5® II Wheels in 1984, so the technology is 22 years old and the durability and safety records of these Wheels are well documented and established. Most BIG ELI® Wheel purchasers since that time have chosen the rim-drive option. Eli Bridge Company no longer manufacturers cable drive Wheels because we feel strongly that the rim drive Wheel is a much safer product, and certainly easier to operate by today's ride operator.