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SAFETY ALERT

Ride Manufacturer: Eli Bridge Company **Affected Production Dates:** All **Affected Serial Nos:** All
Ride Names: BIG ELI Scramblers®, especially those powered by Gasoline Engines

Abstract of Issue: Scramblers® were originally run with Allis Chalmers Gasoline Engines. At the point where Eli Bridge Company found out that many owners were disconnecting the governors and speeding the Scramblers® over the recommended maximum 11 rpms, all owners were notified that this was not to be done because of the danger involved. More recently, electric motors have been placed in service on Scramblers®. The maximum rpms on electric motor-powered Scramblers® is 11.4 rpms.

When the Scrambler's® speed is faster than the recommended maximum, the G-forces increase dramatically compared to the rpms. This not only puts the patrons' health in danger, but causes greater stresses to the aluminum seats which could cause a catastrophic failure during a ride. Aluminum, by its very nature has a fatigue life and once the fatigue starts, ultimate failure will be the result. Overspeeding exceeds the design parameters of the Scrambler® parts and structure, but the seats are the most vulnerable. (For more information refer to page J-1 of your Manual for *Erecting, Operating and Servicing the Big Eli Scrambler®*.)

Reason For Release: Many Scramblers® have been operating for up to 50 years or more. Even though owners with gasoline engines were warned years ago against over speeding, we have received information indicating that there are still some in operation doing this. Although we have not been made aware of any electric motors running Scrambler® over 11.4 rpms, this bulletin serves notice to all Scrambler owners that exceeding the recommended rpm's should not be tolerated. Because no two Scramblers® have had the same number of cycles at the same rpms or with the same loads, there is no way to accurately predict when the aluminum will fail as a general guideline. But seats on Scramblers®, which have consistently exceeded the recommended speed, are considered to be at greatest risk.

Actions to be taken:

- 1) Check the RPM level at which your Scrambler® is being run. If it is being run over 11 rpms for gasoline or 11.4 rpms for electric, it should immediately be shut down and modified to prevent this from happening.
- 2) If the Scrambler® has been run at speeds over the 11 rpms for gasoline or 11.4 rpms for electric, regularly, the seats should be replaced immediately.
- 3) All Scramblers®, especially those found to be exceeding the recommended rpm's, should be carefully checked for cracks and connection wear exceeding tolerances.