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Safeco Frog ride arm valves fault

During the inspection of a Safeco Frog ride by a UK inspection body it was discovered that one of the ride arms was lifting when the lap bar was in the open position. The ride arm would lift very slowly taking approximately 10 minutes to reach around 1.5 meters in height. The electrical control supply to the arm raise valve was removed and the arm would still slowly lift when the ride was set to rise.

The raise valve was opened and it was discovered that the valve was passing air internally due to wear and this slow supply of air to the cylinder was causing the arm to lift (albeit very slowly).

After the initial discovery the ride was set to lift with the lap bars opened and left for 15 minutes. It was found that three additional arms were also slowly lifting due to the same internal passing of air in the valve, though these arms only lifted 10–30cm.

To check the valves it is necessary to open all the ride lap bars, set the arm pressure to a minimum of 4 bars and activate the raise arms switch. If the valves are passing air into the cylinders the arm will begin to slowly rise within 10 to 15 minutes. If this happens it is recommended that the operator contact their inspection body.

