

**March 2015**

- ACCT Board Meeting
- 2016 Conference
- Government Relations Update
- Notice Regarding 3-Strand Rope
- ACCT Facebook Competition
- New Advertising Opportunities

## ACCT Board Meeting

The ACCT Board of Directors will have their quarterly face-to-face meeting on April 22–23, 2015. Please feel free to contact your board representative to learn more about the meeting topics.

If you have questions regarding the Board, please contact Executive Director, James Borishade, at [james@acctinfo.org](mailto:james@acctinfo.org).

## 2016 Conference

**26<sup>th</sup> Annual International ACCT Conference & Expo** will be held at the Hyatt Lost Pines Resort & Spa in Austin, Texas, on January 28-31, 2016. Be sure to mark your calendars and reserve the date for this FUN event.

This location is quite unique in that it has a lot of outdoor space, livestock on the premises, the Colorado River running at the edge of the property, and the McKinney Roughs Challenge Course as their neighbor. The Conference Committee is hard at work making special plans for this event and unique space. Feel free to share any great ideas you may have with our Events Manager, Melissa Webb, by submitting them to [melissa@acctinfo.org](mailto:melissa@acctinfo.org).

**The 2016 Call for Presenters is available NOW!** The ACCT Conference Committee is currently accepting proposals for all workshops: Pre-Conference, Certification Courses, Post-Conference, and General Sessions. Go to <http://www.jotformpro.com/form/50213414280946> and

# We want YOU!!!

**Make a difference and volunteer for the ACCT!**  
If you are interested in finding out more about an ACCT Committee, Task Force, or Work Group, contact Membership Manager, Trudy Robbins, at [membership@acctinfo.org](mailto:membership@acctinfo.org).

submit your proposal TODAY! Proposals will be accepted until Friday, May 29, 2015.

**2015 Conference Survey:** If you have not yet had a chance to complete the 2015 Conference Survey, we ask that you do so now. Your feedback is important to us and provides valuable information to the Event Manager and Conference Committee.

To complete the survey, please go to:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ZDH2QFZ>

### Upcoming ACCT Conferences:

- The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual International ACCT Conference and Expo will be at The Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort and Spa in Savannah, GA, February 2–5, 2017.

For questions regarding workshops, exhibiting, or the conference in general, please contact the Events Manager, Melissa Webb, at [events@acctinfo.org](mailto:events@acctinfo.org).



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## Government Relations Update

### “The State of Tennessee Accepts ACCT’s Inspector Certification Program for Aerial Adventure/Trekking Parks, Team Challenge/Rope Courses, Canopy Tours, Climbing Structures and Zip Lines”

According to the Commissioner of the State of Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, ACCT “has provided sufficient proof to demonstrate it possesses the requisite training and experience to certify qualified inspectors for aerial adventure parks, trekking parks, team challenge courses, rope courses, canopy tours, climbing structures, and zip line inspections. Based on this proof, ACCT inspectors will be permitted to inspect the items listed above in Tennessee. However, ACCT inspectors will not be permitted to inspect other amusement devices (i.e. roller coasters, Ferris wheels, merry-go rounds, glass houses, walk through dark houses, etc.) listed in Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-121-101 (3) (A) and (B) in Tennessee.”

#### Inspection Report Preparation

ACCT Inspectors will be required to prepare inspection reports that either indicate the amusement device is safe and operable or is unsafe, indicate the type of devices inspected, and specify the number of devices located at the company and the total number of devices inspected. The Amusement Device Unit will review inspection reports and consider them when determining whether to issue annual permits or not. Inspection reports should be signed and dated by the qualified inspector and **accompanied by the inspector’s valid ACCT certification card**. Copies of all inspection reports should be forwarded to:

Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development  
Workplace Regulations and Compliance Division  
ATTN: Amusement Device Unit  
220 French Landing Drive, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Nashville, TN 37243

#### Qualified Inspectors

Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-121-101 (17), a “Qualified inspector” means any person who is:

- A. Found by the Commissioner to possess the requisite training and experience in respect amusement devices to perform competently the inspections required by this chapter;
- B. Certified by the National Association of Amusement Ride Safety Officials (NAARSO) to have and maintain at least a level one certification; or
- C. Is a member of, and certified, the Amusement Industry Manufacturing and Suppliers (AIMS) and meets the qualifications established by the board.

Qualified inspectors certified by the National Association of Amusement Ride Safety Officials (NAARSO) or Amusement industry Manufacturing and Suppliers (AIMS) with a Level 1 or higher certification who possess proper qualifications and understanding of challenge course and zip lines are permitted to inspect aerial adventure parks, trekking parks, team challenge courses, rope courses, canopy tours, climbing structures and zip lines in Tennessee, if they choose to do so. They are also permitted to inspect other amusement devices (i.e. roller coasters, Ferris wheels, merry-go-rounds, glass houses, walk through dark houses, etc.) listed in Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-121-101 (3) (A) and (B) in Tennessee.

### Important Operation Requirements

A person shall not operate an amusement device unless the owner has (1) the amusement device inspected at least once annually by a qualified inspector whom the owner or insurer has provided to perform the inspection, and obtains from the qualified inspector written documentation that the inspection has been made and the amusement device meets American Society of Testing Materials (ASTM) standards (2) obtain adequate general liability insurance coverage (3) complete permit application package and (4) obtain an annual permit. Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-121-117 and § 68-121-120

### Important Reporting Requirements

- The operator of an amusement device shall immediately cease to operate any amusement device upon which a fatality, serious physical injury, or serious incident has occurred.

- An owner shall report any accident involving serious physical injury or fatality resulting from the operation of an amusement device to the Tennessee Department of Labor (Amusement Device Unit) either orally or in writing, within 24 hours and contact a qualified inspector.
- The cessation shall remain in force until an inspection has been performed by a qualified inspector and the inspector has determined that the amusement device or related equipment is safe for public use.
- The inspection shall be performed within 24 hours of the receipt of an accident report by the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development. Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-121-118.
- In the event of a serious physical injury or fatality, an owner/operator is required to have an inspection performed within 24 hours of the receipt of an accident report by the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development. Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-121-118.

### Where Do I Find a Qualified Inspector?

A link to qualified inspectors certified by NAARSO, AIMS and ACCT will be posted on the Division's website so that the general public may access qualified inspectors certified by each organization. Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-121-119.

### Notice Regarding 3-Strand Rope

*by the DPIS Committee*

Three-strand rope has traditionally been used in a number of challenge course applications, which includes its use in life safety equipment. Recently questions have been raised about whether this type of rope is suitable for use in lanyards.

ACCT DPI standard I.3.12.1 states: "Rope and webbing used as part of a life safety system shall be of a type specifically designed for life safety use". It has proven difficult in some situations to obtain written evidence



that the manufacturer approves of its use for life safety purposes or that the rope is compliant with Cordage Institute standard CI-1805 for Three-Strand Life Safety Rope.

Spliced three-strand lanyards meet the current 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the ACCT standards if they:

- Are shown to comply with DPI standard I.3.12.1.
- Are properly spliced according to rope manufacturer guidelines.
- Meet the compatibility requirement of standard I.3.3.3 and I.3.4.3.
- Meet the strength requirement of standard I.3.7.1.

Readers are reminded that the ACCT DPI standards are not intended to apply to workers. For this information, refer to the fall protection code for the jurisdiction having authority. Additionally, some jurisdictions have regulations that forbid the use of spliced lanyards in Personal Safety Systems.

A future edition of the DPI standard will address the issue of lanyards spliced from three-strand rope in greater detail including, but not limited to:

- The material standard that three-strand rope used in life safety systems will be required to meet.
- The quality assurance (QA) process required when manufacturing (a.k.a. splicing) lanyards from three-strand rope.
- Testing and labeling requirements for lanyards.

In addition to spliced three-strand lanyards, some manufacturers currently produce sewn lanyards for the challenge course industry that meet the 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the ACCT DPI standards. Every manufacturer or seller of lanyards has a choice of materials and a responsibility to ensure that the lanyard material is approved for life safety use by the rope manufacturer, in accordance with the 8th edition ACCT DPI standards. Likewise, every purchaser of lanyards has the responsibility to select a suitable product for their specific application and jurisdiction.

## ACCT Facebook Competition

**Where are you Wednesdays!** Check out this fun contest now being held on the ACCT Facebook page. Submit a picture of where you are that Wednesday and if your picture is selected you will WIN some ACCT swag! Just ask Nick Redinger, who was our very first winner and won a cool ACCT beanie!

Go to <https://www.facebook.com/acctinfo> and participate!

## New Advertising Opportunities

As of April 2015, ACCT will be providing new advertising opportunities in our monthly ACCT Clipboard. Please see the attached Media Kit for more information.