



ORGANIZZAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE TRASPORTI A FUNE
INTERNATIONALE ORGANISATION FÜR DAS SEILBAHNWESEN
ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DES TRANSPORTS A CABLES
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR TRANSPORTATION BY ROPE
ORGANISACION INTERNACIONAL DES TRANSPORTES POR CABLE

Technical recommendations in effect

BOOK N. 9

TRANSPORT CONDITIONS ON ROPEWAYS

This Recommendation is not mandatory but provides guidance to the profession. Its application would be desirable in all countries, however, without prejudice to national standards as well as requirements specified by public authorities.



ROMA 1957
PARIS 1963
LUZERN 1969
WIEN 1975
MÜNCHEN 1981
GRENOBLE 1987
BARCELONA 1993
SAN FRANCISCO 1999
INNSBRUCK 2005

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O. I. T. A. F.

RECOMMENDATIONS O.I.T.A.F.

BOOK N° 9

TRANSPORT CONDITIONS ON ROPEWAYS

Preface to a draft international law on ropeway transport conditions

Correct behaviour by passengers during transport on ropeways is very important, in fact of much greater importance than is the case with other modes of transport. This is true in terms of enabling operation of the ropeway to proceed regularly and, above all, in order to guarantee transport safety.

Naturally, this presupposes that people who use ropeways are informed of their obligations and duties under the transport contract before the trip starts and that this information is displayed in a highly visible manner. Normally a list of these so-called “transport conditions” is displayed at the stations.

In view of the continuous growth of international tourism and increasing harmonisation (for example, the process of integration in the Common Market), after years of intense work Work Committee n° IV of O.I.T.A.F. (International Organisation for Transportation by Rope) has prepared an outline of a draft law on transport conditions. In accordance with the resolution passed by the Management Committee on 14.6.1989, this document is being proposed to the various countries with an invitation to incorporate its provisions in the laws of their respective countries.

The primary objective was to take into account the most important aspects involved in the transport stage and to prepare the consequent standard criteria which could be accepted in principle by all those countries in which ropeway systems exist. Given the diversity in the laws of the various countries, in a few of these dispositions reference has been made to individual national situations, for example, questions of liability. In this regard, the definition of standard criteria for the transport of children was particularly difficult. However, the present formulation constitutes a solution based on generally recognised indispensable safety guarantees while still permitting these to be applied in practice with the necessary prudence.

It is to be hoped that these directives will constitute an important step towards the harmonisation of regulations in the ropeway sector.

Our efforts to promote the process of harmonisation and the creation of the premises required to achieve this aim will continue in the future since they constitute one of the principle objectives of the International Organisation for Transportation by Rope.

Draft for an international law

§ 1

- (1) The transport regulations (transport conditions) constitute an integral part of the transport contract. They apply in the case of transport of persons and objects as well as to behaviour within the ambit of the installation.
- (2) These regulations come into effect when the passengers enters the departure area of the ropeway installation and apply up to the point at which the passenger quits the ropeway installation.
- (3) Purchase of a ticket commits the passenger to reading the regulations listed below and, consequently, to respect them.
- (4) A passenger who disobeys the regulations may incur liability to third parties.

§ 2

- (1) Operators are not obliged to provide a transport service if unforeseeable circumstances arise which constitute an impediment and the operator is not able to obviate them.
- (2) Operators are entitled to refuse transport to :
 - a) persons who do not respect dispositions laid down by law or the transportation regulations;
 - b) persons who refuse to obey the instructions of the operator or the service staff imparted for reasons of safety or public order;
 - c) persons who, because of their condition or behaviour, could endanger transport safety or disturb the public peace.

§ 3

- (1) The Regulations must list any obligations or constraints imposed on the installation, e.g. skis must be worn; the plant must not be used to go down; down trip reserved for pedestrians, etc.

- (2) The Regulations must indicate whether passengers with special winter sports' equipment like ski-bob, monoski, snow-board, swing-bo are permitted to use the installation and, if so, under what conditions.

§ 4

Any complaints must be made to the Management of the installation, either verbally or in writing.

§ 5

Passengers must have a valid ticket (ticket, season ticket, etc.). In principle, this document is not transferable except for those cases clearly established in the tariff. The duration of the validity of the ticket must be stated on the document itself or established in the tariff.

§ 6

- (1) If the trip is not made for reasons which can be attributed to the operator or on the basis of art. 2 paragraph 1, the price of the single ticket must be fully or partially refunded, unless the ticket is also valid for other installations run by the same operator or forming part of the same tariff consortium. The amount of the refund is fixed in the tariff.
- (2) If the trip is not made for reasons which can be attributed to the behaviour of the passenger, the passenger is not entitled to any form of refund.

§ 7

- (1) If the passenger cannot produce a valid ticket or if the document is so dilapidated that it is impossible to see whether it is valid, the passenger must buy another ticket.
- (2) In the case of attempted or effective illicit use of a travel document, the said document will be withdrawn without compensation and a fine will be charged. Depending on the local laws, this will not preclude the right to report the matter to the legal authorities.

§ 8

The following regulations apply to the behaviour of passengers waiting for transport, during the trip and at the conclusion of the trip :

- Passengers must not behave in ways which can endanger the safety of the in the installation or other passengers and must not interfere in any way with the running of the installation or the provision of the service.
- Passengers are permitted to have access only to the installations and station areas specifically designated for use by the public.
- Passengers must board and alight from the vehicles only at designated points.
- If the vehicle comes to a halt during the trip, passengers must keep calm and wait for instructions from the service staff.
- Passengers must not lean out of the windows or throw things out of the windows when the vehicle is moving.
- At the end of the trip, the area reserved for the down trip must be vacated as quickly as possible, following the directions provided on the public indication boards.
- Passengers must comply with all the instructions, rules and information specifically provided for them, generally in the form of boards bearing symbols (pictographs).

§ 9

To complete the preceding general rules, we now list the specific rules for given types of ropeways, such as :

Rack Railways and bi-cable ropeways :

- Doors must be opened and closed only by service staff. Passengers must never attempt to do this.
- No smoking in the cabins.

Ski-lifts :

- Passengers must only take their seats when service staff are present. Persons needing help to get on or off must request this explicitly from the station manager.
- The closing device must be opened and closed in compliance with the respective signals, respecting the requirements of the other occupants of the vehicle.
- During the journey passengers must not jump off the vehicle, rock the vehicle, hoist themselves up or smoke.
- Passengers wearing skis must keep them parallel in the direction in which the vehicle is running and with the points raised. They must rest them on the footrest if one is provided.

- Children shorter than 1,25 m must always be accompanied by someone who can give the children the necessary help. Special rules must be laid down for groups of children.

§ 10

If there is space available, passengers may carry hand luggage with them weighing up to 10 kilos as long as the luggage is easy to transport and not too bulky. Passengers may also carry winter sports' equipment, including ski-sticks.

§ 11

Subsequent transport of luggage and goods can be provided on a case-by-case basis, depending on the characteristics of the ropeway.

§ 12

Persons who dirty or damage the equipment, the vehicles or the fittings of the ski installation will be made to pay the cost of cleaning or, when necessary, repairs.

§ 13

Animals can be carried if this does not affect the safety of the installation, if their owners guarantee to keep them in charge during the trip and, finally, as long as there are no objections from the other passengers.