

FEC OPERATORS SHARE 8 TIPS FOR MANAGING ARCADES P. 42

FUNWORLD

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A woman with shoulder-length brown hair, wearing a purple zip-up jacket, stands on a carousel horse. She is smiling and holding onto a golden pole. The carousel horse is white with a blue saddle and pink and blue accents. In the background, other carousel horses and the structure of the carousel are visible, illuminated with warm lights.

Fresh Start

DOROTHY LEWIS LEADS
THE IAAPA FEC COUNCIL
INTO A NEW ERA

ZOOM OUT

Polin Slides Across Russia

■ Since the breakup of the Soviet Union nearly two decades ago, Russia has experienced a continuous expansion of its waterpark industry. One of the major players in this growth has been Polin Waterparks & Pool Systems (www.polin.com.tr) in Gebze, Kocaeli, Turkey, which began working in Russia in 1994 and has completed 74 projects there.

Currently, Polin is working on expanding the 38-acre Golden Bay Waterpark in Gelindgik on the Black Sea, the largest waterpark in Russia. Golden Bay has undergone several expansions since it opened in 2002, and each time Polin was retained to add attractions. This time Polin will add four new waterslides to the 44 the company already installed at the park. Among these is one of Polin's newest slides, the Uphill Multisurf, a multi-laned water coaster-type ride designed for racing, with between two and six lanes that propel riders on jets of water. The other three slides are the Space Boat, a bowl slide; the Windigo, an enclosed racing slide; and the Dragero, a high-speed mat-racing slide.

The high number of slides at Golden Bay Waterpark is no accident, according to Sohret Pakis, marketing manager for Polin. "Russian people



really like action, and they always want more waterslides," she says. "The first thing I noticed when I visited some of the waterparks in Russia is that the people aren't in the restaurants and they don't lie down and sunbathe—they just try to ride the slides again and again!"

Polin has been in business since 1976 and manufacturing waterslides since 1989. The company produces other waterpark attractions, like lazy rivers and wave pools, but slides are its hallmark. Pakis says Polin recently put considerable efforts and investment into converting its waterslide produc-

tion to Resin Transfer Molding (RTM). "Since 2006, we've been producing our slides through the RTM process, and we brought an RTM ride component with us to last year's IAAPA [Attractions Expo]," she says. "Right now, 80 percent of our slides are RTM. It is a closed-mold technology with many advantages. The RTM waterslides are perfectly smooth on both sides, and they are stronger and lighter than other slides. But also, they're just beautiful—it's like beautiful furniture for the parks!"

Polin is also promoting its Natural Light System, which employs a special manufacturing process of fiberglass coloring that uses the sun to create natural lighting effects inside its slides. When the slides are viewed from the outside, colorful stripes are visible on the surface. "These are colorful translucent slides," explains Pakis. "There's no maintenance work because it's installed during the manufacturing process, and the system doesn't require post-drilling and post-cutting. It creates beautiful views inside the slide."

Polin's latest project in Russia is the Ryazan indoor waterpark, located in the town of the same name, scheduled to open in September.



Dragero, Polin's high-speed mat-racing slide