

In the world of roller coasters, it's always the biggest, highest and fastest coasters that create a buzz throughout the industry. But, in reality, these white-knuckle thrills aren't for everyone, with many people opting instead for something less intimidating.

Vekoma recognized this market over 10 years ago and opened its first Junior Coaster in 1990. This all-audience ride is still popular today with seven openings this year alone, including Toverland, a new, indoor/ outdoor park in the Netherlands. Cliff Schaeckens,

Marketing Director for Toverland, said that the ride's popularity with all ages was one of the main reasons they decided to include it in the park. "We're a family park, and one of the JC's biggest advantages is that it is available for everyone to enjoy," Schaeckens said. "All our guests are very excited. The fathers are especially enthusiastic, and that's something we like a lot."

But, a new generation JC was always waiting in the wings with the possibility of combining the original JC technology with the "floorless" seating arrangement of the SLC. The wait is over, however, as both Paramount Canada's Wonderland and

"The Suspended Junior Coaster was a natural progression in terms of ride technology," says Roger Houben, Vekoma President. "We're always trying to create new coaster experiences, so it seemed only logical to pair the suspended seating of the SLC with the diverse appeal of the Junior Coaster."

The SJC features enough thrill to entertain guests of all ages and sizes and have them coming back for more with a 35-foot lift hill, a horizontal helix, a freeform figure 8 maneuver, modest speeds and lots of turns. All this, of course, is enjoyed with legs dangling below! "This is a ride for those who want to gradually move into the bigger coasters," said Kris Williams, Manager of Public Relations & Special Events at Canada's Wonderland. "It's basically a roller coaster with training wheels."

And, given the success of its predecessors, it's no surprise that the SJC has already become a hit with park guests. "It's an absolutely beautiful ride, and the response has been incredibly positive," said

## Junior Coaster

