



State of Utah

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Deputy Director of Planning and Investment

LISA J. WILSON, P.E.
Deputy Director of Engineering and Operations

February 24, 2026

TO: Owners, Area Operators, and other interested parties

FROM: Brian L. Allen

SUBJECT: 3/2/2026 Passenger Ropeway Safety Committee meeting at UDOT and Google meets

The next Utah Passenger Ropeway Safety Committee meeting will be at **1:00 p.m. on Monday, March 2, 2026**. You're welcome to attend either in the UDOT Lester Wire conference room or electronically through Google meets. The electronic appointment contains the links necessary to join the meeting and also includes a link to the agenda. You will be able to join by phone or computer. Video and non-video are both supported.

Contact Information:

Email: brianallen@utah.gov

Cell: 801-633-6408

AGENDA

- ITEM 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
January 5, 2026 Meeting
- ITEM 2. Qualified engineer application: Paul Carter
- ITEM 3. Modification: Powder Mountain Lightning Ridge lift
- ITEM 4. Updates: Forest Service, Areas, Manufacturers
- ITEM 5. Open Discussion

UTAH PASSENGER ROPEWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, March 2, 2026 - 1:00 p.m.
UDOT Lester Wire Conference Room
and
Electronic Meeting (Google Meets)

AGENDA

- ITEM 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
January 5, 2026 Meeting
- ITEM 2. Qualified engineer application: Paul Carter
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#

**Utah Passenger Ropeway Safety Committee Meeting
Agenda Fact Sheet**

Meeting Date: 3-2-26

Agenda Item: 1

Subject: Approval of Minutes – January 5, 2026

Background:

Exhibits:

Draft minutes

Committee Action Requested: Review and approve the meeting minutes with changes recommended by the Committee.

Pending approval

UTAH PASSENGER ROPEWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

January 5, 2026

UDOT Lester Wire conference room & Google Meets

Committee members at UDOT:	Rich Taxwood, Chairman, Ski Area Representative Russ Oberlander, Vice-chairman, Engineer Paul Johnston, Public Representative Patrick Cowley, UDOT ex-officio member
Committee members Google Meets:	Jeff West, Ski Area Representative Seth Wallace, U.S. Forest Service Representative
Committee members absent:	Steve Thygerson, Public Representative
Staff:	Brian Allen, UDOT Rhett Arnell, UDOT
Others (UDOT):	Robert Langlands, Skytrac Paul Carter, Skytrac Curt Panter, Tuv Sud
Others (Google Meets):	Danny McRae, Powder Mountain Steve Kirner, Alterra Nick Dana, Park City Resort Gustavo Gonzales, MCP Troy Matthews, Deer Valley Skyler Bair, Nordic Valley Brandon Nelson, Sundance Kiel Mapes, Doppelmayr Jeff Peterson, Iron Mountain Engineering Dave Justice, Buckskin Hills Recreation Brad Hansen, Utah Olympic Park Chris McCandless, Snowland

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm. There were some technical difficulties early in the meeting. Online participation and the recording was not available until the Deer Valley East Village air space exception request.

I. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the December 1, 2025 meeting were reviewed. Only the quorum of members present in the room were able to participate in the discussion, motion, and voting.

Following the review Russ Oberlander made a motion to approve the minutes and Paul Johnston seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Exception request: Deer Valley East Village; 4 lifts, air space

The lifts located in the Deer Valley East Village base area all have tower cranes that weathervane over the bottom terminals. There is fencing that separates the construction area from the ski area where the bottom lift terminals are located. The cranes are equipped to prevent loads from being lifted over the skiing area. During winter weather events resort maintenance staff will monitor the buildup of snow or ice on the cranes. If snow or ice builds up on the cranes lift operations will be suspended until it has been removed.

The Committee discussed the proposal and recognized that these air space exceptions for tower cranes addressed the same issues as the previous tower crane air space exceptions. The previous exceptions have not had any incidents associated with the operation of the lifts. Following the discussion Russ Oberlander made a motion to approve the air space exception requests for the lifts in the Deer Valley East Village base area, and Jeff West seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Exception request: Park City Resort; Cabriolet gondola replacement, air space

This request was discussed at the September 2025 meeting and the Committee asked for additional information about the location of dumpsters underneath the lift line and about the Rocky Mountain Power line crossing over the lift. There were several other air space issues associated with the proposed lift that the Committee was comfortable with how they had been addressed.

Park City Resort staff and consultants have worked with the condominium association that owns the dumpsters. A new location for the dumpsters outside of the air space has been agreed upon.

Coordination with Rocky Mountain Power has resulted in some changes to the lift profile. The revised profile meets the ANSI requirements and the Rocky Mountain Power clearance requirements. The Committee's questions have been answered.

Following the discussion of the dumpsters and power line crossing the other air space issues associated with the proposed lift were reviewed again. Again the Committee was comfortable with how those had been addressed. Following that review and brief discussion Paul Johnston made a motion to approve the air space exception request and Russ Oberlander seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Forest Service, area, and manufacturer updates

The areas and lift manufacturers present gave a brief update on the recent activities.

V. Open Discussion / Questions

The areas and lift manufacturers present gave a brief update on the recent activities. The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm.

**Utah Passenger Ropeway Safety Committee Meeting
Agenda Fact Sheet**

Meeting Date: 3-2-26

Agenda Item: 2

Subject: Qualified engineer application: Paul Carter

Background:

Paul Carter is the engineering manager for Skytrac and has extensive engineering experience that is applicable to ropeways.

Attachments:

Application and CV

Committee Action Requested:

Item	Action	Completed



Application for Approval Qualified Engineer and Ropeway Inspector

Utah Department of Transportation
Passenger Ropeway Safety Committee
4501 S Constitution Blvd.
Taylorsville, UT 84119

I. Discipline(s) for which applicant requests approval

- a. Qualified Engineer
- Construction Design
- b. Ropeway Inspector

II. General Information

Name: Paul Carter

Address: 11448 S. Stream Park Dr., South Jordan, UT 84009

Present Position: Engineering Manager - Skytrac Services, Inc.

Date of Application: 01/30/2026

III. Professional Engineer Licensing

Date of licensing: ~~01/30/2026~~ ^{PC} 9/13/2001 Utah license #: 4872977-2202

Licensed by examination? Yes

If no, how?

Is license current? Yes

Has license ever been revoked? No

If yes, why?

Other State(s) or Country(ies) you are licensed in: None

IV. Experience Record

- Attach an Experience Record for each discipline checked in section I above. Specify professional experience in accordance with the requirements stated in R920-50-12 of the Utah Ropeway Operations Safety Rules.

V. Certifying Statement

"I certify that the information supplied in this Application and the accompanying Experience Record is true and correct. I also certify that I have read and understand the Utah Ropeway Operations Safety Rules. I believe I am qualified to perform services in each discipline listed, in accordance with the ANSI B77.1 Standard, Utah Code, and the Utah Ropeway Operations Safety Rules."

Applicant Signature: 

Date: 01/30/2026

Chairperson UPRSC Signature:

Date Approved: 01/30/2026

Experience Record
Qualified Engineer and Ropeway Inspector
(Reference R920-50-12)

1.	Name and address of employer at time experience was obtained: Skytrac Services, Inc. 408 S. Tooele Blvd. Tooele, UT 84074
2.	Type of training and by whom trained in design, construction, manufacture or inspection: General engineering experience obtained over 35+ year career in various industries and roles. Specific training in Aerial Ropeway design requirements and techniques by Alan Hepner, PE, Ross Palmer, PE, Robert Langlands, PE, and Carl Skylling.
3.	Approximate dates when experience and training occurred: General engineering experience, 1989 through present. Aerial Ropeway training and experience, July 2025 through present.
4.	Types of tramways the experience and training reported above pertained to: Fixed Grip Chairlifts, Surface Lifts
5.	Name and current address of three references that are familiar with work completed by applicant as listed herein: a. Alan Hepner, PE, 10300 Pinkham Creek Rd., Rexford, MT 59930 b. Ross Palmer, PE, 756 E. 270 S., Kamas, UT 84036 c. Robert B. Langlands, III, PE, 6848 S. Greendale Rd., Cottonwood Heights, UT 84121

PAUL CARTER, P.E.

ENGINEERING MANAGER | PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL EXPERT

(801) 867-3404 | paul.carter@skytrac.us | South Jordan, UT | [linkedin.com/in/carterpault](https://www.linkedin.com/in/carterpault)

January 30, 2026

Utah Department of Transportation
Passenger Ropeway Safety Committee
4501 S Constitution Blvd.
Taylorsville, UT 84119
Attn: Brian Allen

Subject: Letter of Experience for Application for Approval Qualified Engineer

Dear Brian and UPRSC,

Please accept my application for Qualified Engineer of the Utah Passenger Ropeway Safety Committee. This letter, along with my attached resume, provides an explanation of my experience and skills.

Currently, I am the Engineering Manager at Skytrac Services, Inc., responsible for all Civil and Mechanical Engineering, pertaining to new Fixed Grip Chairlifts and Surface Lifts, as well as other Ski Lift retrofit and relocation projects. I have also been a Licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Utah since 2001.

I started at Skytrac in July 2025, and bring over 35 years of engineering and management experience to this role. I have a solid technical foundation acquired as a Product Development Engineer early in my career, complemented by subsequent roles as Project Engineer and Technical Product Manager. My skills in custom equipment design transfer well into the design of aerial ropeway systems, with expertise in the design of wire rope hoists, structural weldments, power transmission components and systems, hydraulics and pneumatics, and many other mechanical and machine design topics.

I have quickly learned the unique aspects of ropeway lifts, mentored by those at Skytrac with decades of experience in the industry, including Alan Hepner, Carl Skylling, Ross Palmer and Bobby Langlands, and other talented members of the engineering staff. I have also obtained a working knowledge of the requirements of ANSI B77.1, as well as specific requirements of other local and state jurisdictions, including the UPRSC.

I am excited to bring my background and skills into the Aerial Ropeway industry, and request approval as a Qualified Engineer with the UPRSC.

Sincerely,
Paul Carter

PAUL CARTER, P.E.

ENGINEERING MANAGER | PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL EXPERT

(801) 867-3404 | paul.carter@skytrac.us | South Jordan, UT | [linkedin.com/in/carterpault](https://www.linkedin.com/in/carterpault)

SUMMARY

As a Licensed Professional Engineer with over 35 years of experience in various industries and roles, I excel as a Leader and Technical Expert.

As the Engineering Manager at Skytrac, I have brought my expertise to implement effective solutions to the Aerial Ropeway Industry.

EDUCATION AND LICENSES

B.S. Mechanical Engineering, March, 1989
University of Utah - Salt Lake City, UT

Licensed Professional Engineer, State of Utah, September, 2001 - Present

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

07/2025 to Present **Engineering Manager – Mechanical & Civil**
Skytrac Services, Inc. – Tooele, Utah

- Lead Mechanical and Civil Engineering Teams in the design of Ski Lifts and other Aerial Ropeway Systems
- Coordinate and review the design of complex mechanical machinery systems
- Support multi-disciplined teams, including construction, manufacturing, installation and commissioning, and ensure documentation is updated to as-built conditions
- Perform engineering analysis and calculations as needed
- Assess potential risks and develop mitigation plans in response.
- Apply Professional Engineering Stamps to drawings and other documents and ensure compliance with regulatory standards (ANSI B77.1, CSA Z98)

01/2022 to 04/2025 **Senior Technical Product Manager**
Dematic Corp. – Salt Lake City, Utah

- Go-to leader and expert on Global Pallet Storage Solutions
- Defined product requirements based on market needs
- Directed Engineering Development efforts to ensure compliance with stringent technical specifications
- Guided sales teams to select optimal products and perform feasibility studies
- Developed data-driven business cases to ensure viability of proposed products
- Conducted market and competitive research
- Led collaboration of cross-functional teams with all internal stakeholders to effectively launch products
- Directed all aspects of product lifecycle management, from initial concept through development, implementation, product launch, and product support

06/2013 to 01/2022 **Senior Product Development Engineer**
Dematic Corp. – Salt Lake City, Utah

- Expert in design of customized automated material handling equipment
- Created new concepts, performed feasibility studies, finalized designs
- Led engineering design teams, mentored engineers and designers in the development of new products and equipment
- Performed stress analysis and machine design calculations
- Created 3D models, fabrication drawings and technical specifications
- Provided expertise to guide fabrication, installation, and commissioning

06/2004 to 06/2013 **Senior Project Engineer**
URS Corporation – Stockton, Utah

- Lead Engineer over automated machines used to disassemble and destroy chemical weapons
- Designed equipment and accessories for facility upgrade projects
- Provided oversight of vendors, from bid evaluation through startup
- Performed analysis, calculations and documentation required to ensure compliance with stringent technical specifications
- Managed projects including maintenance and plant upgrades projects from engineering through fabrication, installation and systemization

11/2001 to 02/2003 **Senior Mechanical Engineer**
Bechtel National, Inc. – Richland, Washington

- Expert in design and development of automated equipment for transporting radioactive material
- Evaluated and approved multi-million-dollar proposals for vendor supplied equipment
- Defined requirements and procedures for equipment installation and operations of the nuclear waste treatment facility

06/1988 to 09/2001 **Senior Product Development Engineer**
Eaton-Kenway / HK Systems – Bountiful, Utah

- Designed customized mechatronic products and systems
- Created new concepts, performed feasibility studies, finalized designs
- Lead Engineer on multiple development projects, mentored engineers and designers, and ensured compliance with project requirements
- Performed stress analysis and machine design calculations
- Created fabrication drawings and technical specifications
- Provided expertise to guide fabrication, installation, and commissioning

**Utah Passenger Ropeway Safety Committee Meeting
Agenda Fact Sheet**

Meeting Date: 3-2-26

Agenda Item: 3

Subject: Modification: Powder Mountain Lightning Ridge lift

Background:

Powder Mountain is proposing to replace one carrier of the Lightning Ridge lift with a decorative carousel horse. The carousel horse is designed to prevent passenger use. The proposed details are attached. The Lightning Ridge lift is a Skytrac fixed grip quad. Powder Mountain is working with Skytrac on the proposal.

My opinion is that the change is a lift modification. Lift modifications require a certification of design by a qualified engineer. The change would be allowed with the certification of a qualified engineer.

Attachments:

Carousel Horse operation guide proposal

Committee Action Requested:

Provide direction on my opinion.

Powder Art Foundation

EJ Hill Carousel Horse Operational Guide

Artwork Overview:

- Powder Art Foundation (PAF) is requesting the approval of an art installation on the Lightning Ridge Lift at Powder Mountain
- The Installation is a Carousel Horse that is mounted to the lift line using Skytrac manufactured components
- PAF will work directly with Powder Mountain, Powder Mountain's Insurance Provider, Skytrac and the Utah Passenger Ropeway Safety Committee to ensure a safe and compliant installation
- The Carousel Horse will **NEVER** be used to transport people or cargo under **ANY CONDITIONS**
- The Carousel Horse would be mounted in position of Carrier #77 out of 78 total Carriers on the lift. The lift will operate its regular schedule and speed during the ski season



Powder Art Foundation

Operational Items:

- LCC0289-C04 Assembly Lamothermics Grip Assembly-With Bellville Springs-1.50 Rope
 - Skytrac to provide
- LCC0167-C00 Assembly -OR- Similar - Custom Engineering and Fabrication Required - Hanger Arm Weldment
 - With incorporated physical barrier to prevent person from getting onto saddle of Carousel Horse
 - Skytrac to Engineer and Provide
- Carousel Horse - Custom Modifications to adapt to LCC0167-C00 Assembly -OR- Similar Hanger Arm Weldment from Skytrac-
 - PAF (Powder Art Foundation) to provide
 - Carousel Horse Manufacturer: Barrango
 - Model Number: CB-505
 - Fiberglass w/steel reinforcement (min .25" wall thickness)
 - Paint Color Palette per Catalog Image of CB-503
 - www.barrango.com
- Automated locking loading gate - to be spec'd by Skytrac - Installed at Terminal Base
 - Leitner-Poma Manufacturer
- Warning/Safety Signage
- Weatherproof Cover for Carousel Horse - Custom Fabricated

Location:

- Lighting Ridge Lift, Powder Mountain, Eden, UT

Winter (Ski Season) Operations Overview:

- Carousel Horse (mounted in position of Carrier #77 out of 78) and loading gate are permanently installed and operational during the winter ski season. Carousel Horse Art Installation is part of the daily lift operation
- When Carousel Horse (Carrier #77) approaches the loading zone (at the drive terminal), the automated loading gate will close and not open until the Carousel Horse has cleared the loading area, preventing passengers from entering the loading area when the Carousel Horse is in the loading zone
- Signage installed at the loading zone with warning that the Carousel Horse (Carrier #77) is an "Artwork Installation - NO RIDING"
- Signage on Carousel Horse stating "NO RIDING"
- Industry Standard loading gate signage
- For any potential downloading, the lift will stop before passengers are allowed to load chairs

Powder Art Foundation

- Carousel Horse to be “parked” at Drive Terminal when lift is shut down for the day and covered with weatherproof cover to prevent snow/ice build up
- Carousel Horse to have tight fitting and secure weatherproof cover installed on days where snow and ice build up on carriers is excessive

Spring/Summer/Fall Non-Ski Season Operations Overview:

- Carousel Horse will be parked between lift towers 7 and 8
- For display only - Lift does not operate in the non-ski season months
- Will be inspected and maintained in conjunction with other carriers on lift

Winter (Ski Season) Operational Schedule:

Schedule:

- Open during winter ski season, 7 days/week 9:00 am. - 4:00 pm.
 - Please refer to lift, weather and mountain closures

Operational Staff:

- Lift operator personnel trained and competent on proper use and inspections of new operational items (Loading gates, Carousel Horse Carrier #77, Cover and Signage)
- Lift maintenance personnel trained and competent on proper use and inspections of new operational items (Loading gates, Carousel Horse Carrier #77, Cover and Signage)

Daily:

- Verify loading gate is functioning properly before lift is open to the public
- Verify Carousel Horse’s (Carrier #77) physical barrier is installed, intact, and functioning properly
- Verify all warning and safety signage is visible and functioning correctly:
 - Clean and Legible
- Monitor and clear any snow/ice build up before start of the day and during operational hours on both Carousel Horse and Warning Signage
- Outlined in Limble App and lift SOP Guide

Weekly Cleaning & Maintenance:

- Perform all daily checks - and -
- Visually inspect weld integrity of hanger arm
- Verify all hardware integrity
- Clean off any dirt or other foreign substances
- Outlined in Limble App and lift SOP Guide

Powder Art Foundation

Winter Monthly Cleaning & Maintenance:

- Perform all weekly checks - and -
- Perform migration check
- Outlined in Limble App and lift SOP Guide

Spring/Summer/Fall (Non-Ski Season) Operational Schedule:

Schedule:

- Lift does not operate to transport the public during Spring/Summer/Fall (Non-Ski Season)
- Lift will run only for maintenance and inspections
- Carousel Horse (Carrier #77) to be parked between towers #7 and #8

Operational Staff:

- Lift maintenance personnel trained and competent on proper use, inspections and maintenance of operational items (Loading gates, Carousel Horse Carrier #77, Cover and Signage).

Post Season Cleaning & Maintenance (Post-Season):

- Clean and inspect Carousel Horse (Carrier #77)
- Complete Annual Condition Report:
 - Lift Maintenance (Mechanical/Structural Inspection) Outlined in Limble App
 - PAF (Aesthetic Inspections) Outlined in Google Forms

Annual Inspections and Maintenance (Pre-Winter Ski Season):

- Annual carrier inspection and maintenance to be tracked via Limble App (before winter operations)
- Remove Carrier #77 from lift
- Remove and service grip per Skytrac standards
- Perform structural integrity inspections of hanger arm and grip:
 - Non destructive testing (magnaflux) of carrier assembly
 - Performed Annually by a certified 3rd party
 - Inspect hanger arm/grip bushing - replace if needed
 - Horse barrier structural integrity Inspection
- Perform Structural Integrity Inspections of Carousel Horse (Carrier #77):
 - Inspect for any cracks in fiberglass body of Carousel Horse
 - Hardware integrity inspections
 - Finish inspections (paint/galvanization etc.)
 - Carousel Horse support pole (pole mounted to horse that slides into Hanger Arm) structural integrity inspections
- Re-install grip to hanger arm

Powder Art Foundation

- Re-install Carousel Horse (Carrier #77) to hanger arm, grip and lift
- Perform annual slip test on the Carousel Horse (Carrier #77):
 - Slip test per standard defined by Skytrac
 - Perform migration of carrier per standard defined by Skytrac
- Annual certification sign-off by insurance inspector

Required Initial Approvals:

- Utah Passenger Ropeway Safety Committee to approve
- Powder Mountain Insurance Provider to approve
- Powder Mountain Stakeholders to approve

Weather & Closures:

- This installation's schedule of operation will default to the regular operating schedule of the "Lightning Ridge Lift" defined by the Powder Mountain Operation teams. Weather events, lift and/or run closures will dictate operation of this installation.

Emergency Response Protocol:

- In the unlikely event of a safety concern or other malfunction Lift Operations and Lift Maintenance teams shall follow the following escalation protocol:
 - Lift Operator to notify Lift Maintenance Technician of potential safety concern
 - If concern cannot be safely resolved:
 - Lift Maintenance technician to notify Lift Maintenance Supervisor
 - If concern cannot be safely resolved:
 - If the Lift Maintenance Supervisor determines a closure is required to resolve the concern, they are to notify Mountain Dispatch.
 - Mountain Dispatch to notify all on mountain department radios of closures.
 - On mountain departments to follow established closure procedures.
 - Lift Maintenance is responsible for creating a plan to resolve the safety concern.
 - Lift Maintenance to work directly with PAF to ensure safe handling of artwork.

Operational Reference Materials Being Developed:

1. **Lift Operations Training Guide**
2. **Lift Maintenance Training Guide**
3. **Signage Outlines and Locations**
4. **Maintenance Guides/Schedules**
5. **Inspection Guides/Schedules**
6. **Annual Condition Report**
7. **Certifications and 3rd Party Inspections Reports**

**Utah Passenger Ropeway Safety Committee Meeting
Agenda Fact Sheet**

Meeting Date: 3-2-26

Agenda Item: 4

Subject: Forest Service / Area & Manufacturer Updates

Background:

Exhibits:

Committee Action Requested:

**Utah Passenger Ropeway Safety Committee Meeting
Agenda Fact Sheet**

Meeting Date: 3-2-26

Agenda Item: 5

Subject: Safety Topic / Open Discussion / Questions

Background:

Exhibits:

Committee Action Requested: