



Riding high!

First Polercoasters confirmed for Georgia and Florida



One of the industry's most unique new amusement rides is coming to Georgia, USA, courtesy of US Thrill Rides, with a second unit now confirmed for Florida.

The first Polercoaster, designed by SkyCoaster inventor Bill Kitchen, will stand over 325ft tall at LakePoint Sporting Community in Emerson, north of Atlanta. A second sale has been revealed for a prominent site in Central Florida. At 525ft (160m), this particular installation will be the tallest.

According to US Thrill Rides president Michael Kitchen, the Florida sale has, "been contracted, the deposit has been received, and we are in the midst of track layout as we speak. We will have a full public disclosure soon."

Two attractions in one, Polercoaster will provide

a full coaster experience including multiple loops, barrel rolls and high G manoeuvres, coupled with an observation tower and restaurant/retail space. US Thrill Rides has assembled an accomplished team to design and build the attractions, including Alan Schilke, S&S-Sansei, Setpoint Engineering, Celtic Engineering and Haskell Steel. The coasters will use S&S' eight-seater El Loco trains.

Still under construction, LakePoint Sporting Community will feature state-of-the-art venues for 29 of America's favourite youth sports, together with approximately 30 on-site hotels, restaurants, shops, office facilities and entertainment venues. The first phase is expected to debut in 2014, with the Polercoaster opening in 2015.

Michelin star food ...in an amusement park?

"A gourmet restaurant in an amusement park – that certainly isn't something I bargained with," remarked critic Wolfram Siebeck on a recent visit to Europa-Park, Rust, Germany.

The Black Forest resort's new Ammolite restaurant opened last summer as part of its 4-Star Superior-rated Hotel Bell Rock and has just picked up a Michelin star, the first to be awarded to an amusement park restaurant.



Housed on the ground floor of Bell Rock's lighthouse, Ammolite offers exclusive dining amid elegant surroundings designed by renowned hotel interior specialist Claudio Carbone. At the heart of the 36

cover restaurant is an open kitchen, where diners can watch chef Peter Hagen and his team at work in an almost theatre-like setting.

The 36-year-old chef cites his style as being shaped by classical French cuisine with a Mediterranean influence. A fan of Europa-Park's Baden Württemberg region, Hagen enjoys preparing dishes such as locally-caught char fish with cucumber salad and sour cream or trout from Rust with red beetroot and horseradish. He's also big on sauces.

If you want burgers, fries and bratwurst, Europa-Park has those too, but for Michelin award-winning cuisine it has to be Ammolite – the Lighthouse Restaurant.

ammolite-restaurant.de

Sochi Park takes shape

It's one of the most anticipated new theme park openings of the next 12 months, and thanks to Theming & Animatronic Industries (TAA) we have a sneak preview of construction.

Located next to the site of the 2014 Winter Olympics, Sochi Park Adventureland unfortunately won't be open in time for the games next month (February) – as was originally planned – but it nevertheless should be taking shape when you see the pictures of the sport on TV.

TAA has been appointed as the main theming contractor and its pictures show the status in early December of the giant dragon that will form the entrance to the Enchanted Forrest Gate children's area of the park. The German-based firm, which carries out much of its production work in Romania, recently shipped 370 palletes of cement via the Black Sea to Sochi. Ride suppliers at the park include Mack, Vekoma and S&S Worldwide.



A bit of recognition for Dynamic Attractions

"Anything you can dream, we can build." That's the bold claim of Dynamic Attractions, the Canadian supplier of high end flying theatres, rollercoasters, immersive trams and dark rides. Working with major park



operators, the company's efforts often go unrecognised due to the requests of these clients. But you know who they are.

"We focus on the entire ride experience," explains CEO Guy Nelson, "including AV, CGI and ride systems. Currently we are completing work at Wanda Wuhan in China, where we are providing a double Flying Theatre, a similar ride experience to Soarin' Over California. It will be the second generation version of this Flying Theatre, lighter weight and lower cost."

In addition to Nelson, the Dynamic Attractions team includes industry veterans Peter Schnabel, president, and Harold Hudson, senior vice-president of technologies. In 2014, the company is delivering a Motion Theatre to IMG Worlds of Adventure in Dubai and a Flying Theatre to City of Dreams, Macau, China.

Since 1926, sister company Dynamic Structures has forged a notable list of "world's firsts" in the design and construction of complex telescopes and bridges. It can now count over 50 successful amusement industry projects to its portfolio.