

Unsecured "A" Leg Upset

SAFETY ALERT

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Enform

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For more information on this event,
please contact: safety@enform.ca

Description of Incident:

During the rig-up process of a drilling rig, an "A" leg was being repositioned by the pole truck from the far side of the lease using a pick and carry process.

The "A" leg was positioned vertically near the picker to enable the lift to be balanced while pinning to the derrick.

The "A" leg was set down on the ground, but not on the planks that were in position to provide stability.

Rigging was in a slack position; the "A" leg was pushed and pulled while rigging was connected to ensure stability by the swamper who determined that it was stable.

Rigging was removed from the "A" leg, and as the pole truck pulled away, the "A" leg fell over towards the picker outrigger, away from the pole truck, striking the ground and sliding into the outrigger.

Damage to the "A" leg included bending and fracturing of the steel.

No injuries occurred during the incident, although there was high potential for body contact due to the proximity of the swamper while removing the rigging. There was no movement of the picker outrigger or any damage to it, as the "A" leg only made light contact.



By industry, for industry

Corrective/Preventive Actions:

Investigation provided the following recommendations:

When the “A” legs do not have a skidded specialized carrier to provide secure vertical stability, the “A” legs will ONLY be left unattended in the following circumstances:

1. The “A” legs are cross chained in the vertical position to provide stability and are on a mat placed for that purpose.
2. If there is no way to secure in the vertical position, the “A” leg will be laid down by the crane, pole truck, or picker truck and handled and rigged in a horizontal position.
3. If no “A” leg carrier is available, “A” legs will be placed in the horizontal position while unattended and rig racked or while being transported.