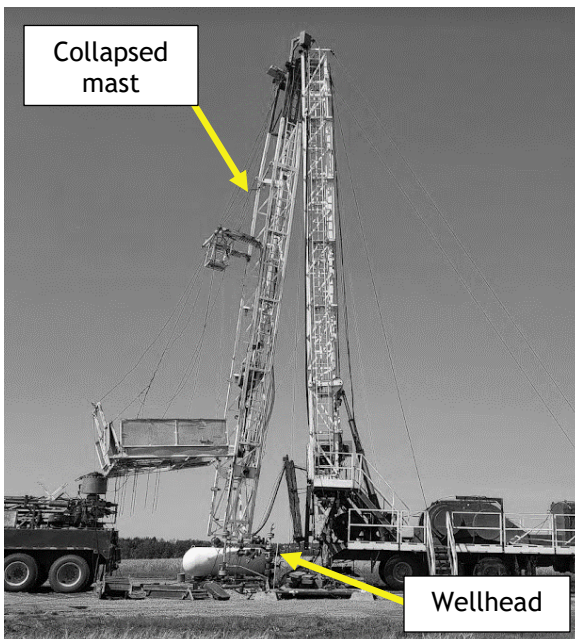


Raising Ram Failure on Telescopic Rig

Description:

During the setup of a telescopic service rig, the raising ram buckled. This caused the top section of the mast, which was almost fully extended, to drop out of the bottom section and fall. Damage to the rig was extensive. While no injuries occurred in this serious incident, it could have easily resulted in serious injury or loss of life.



View of collapsed mast near wellhead

What Went Wrong:

- A worker removed a rope that was caught in the spring-loaded stabilizers and inadvertently moved the stabilizers (human error) just before the mast raising. The stabilizers ensure lateral movement of the ram is kept to a minimum.
- If the raising ram is not held in position by the stabilizers, its lifting capacity is reduced by up to 75% and, therefore, does not have the power to hold the mast section.

- NOTE: Something that went right was that during the mast raising, the workers remained out of the exclusion zone under and in front of the derrick.

Life Saving Rule | Safe Mechanical Lifting

This alert relates to the following excerpts from the rule:



- I confirm that the equipment and load have been inspected and are fit for purpose
- I establish and obey barriers and exclusion zones



[Watch the video.](#)

Actions Taken/Recommendations:

- Ensure telescopic rigs are equipped with a mechanism to raise the mast that has capacity to fail safely if a human error or mistake is made.
- Review the safety-critical procedure with the entire crew before raising the mast.
- Clean, inspect and lubricate the raising ram stabilizers. **Stabilizers must be 100% perpendicular.** If they are not, stop work and notify your supervisor immediately.
- Ensure a supervisor is present and observing safety-critical tasks.

Energy Safety Canada Resources:

- [Life Saving Rules](#)
- [Building Capacity to Manage Pressure Program and Online Course](#) (free)
- [Process Safety Management Awareness Course](#)
- [A Barrier Focused Approach: How to Get Started with Process Safety, Volume 2](#)

Help industry by sharing lessons learned from an incident. [Submit your Safety Alert.](#)

SHARE AND COLLABORATE

Energy Safety Canada (ESC) works collaboratively with industry to share information aimed at helping companies of all sizes improve safe work performance.

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