

CATEGORY: Safety

Business unit:	Fort Nelson	Incident date:	February 21, 2011
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Location:	Horn River	IMS Incident Number:	I2011-00373
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Description:

On February 12, 2011, a worker was utilizing a Skyjack Model SJ 46AJ, 45 foot diesel articulate boom lift. While at height, he noticed that the boom was exhibiting more lateral movement than was normal. Additionally, he noticed that one of the hydraulic rams was also starting to move. A second boom lift was then utilized to lower the worker to the ground. Upon examination, it was found that the welds holding one of the hydraulic cylinders in place appeared to have failed. The machine was immediately removed from service.

The boom lift and two other identical ones had been rented by Encana from the local office of a widely distributed rental company. Discussions were held with the management of the rental company about the nature of the weld failure. The rental company agreed to carry out non-destructive testing of the other units currently in use on Encana Corporation sites in Fort Nelson.

On March 17, 2011, a detailed examination was undertaken on the remaining two boom lifts by a non-destructive testing company. Both lifts were found to have weld cracking in all four corners of the main lift cylinder attachment. These two machines were immediately taken out of service.

The boom lifts in question were purchased new on August 19, 2010 by the rental company. These were the first boom lifts that had been purchased by the rental company from this particular manufacturer.

Contributing factors:

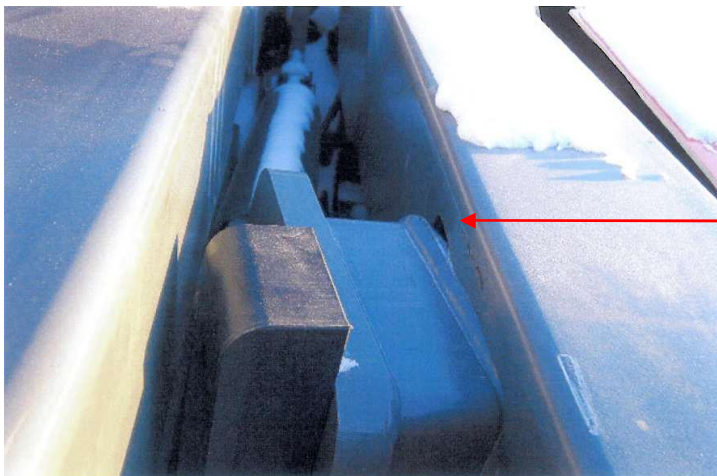
At this point the reason for the weld failures is unknown. The rental company has shipped all three boom lifts to Edmonton for follow up investigation. They will be involving the manufacturer in the investigation and follow up.

Immediate corrective action:

Immediately cease use of all Skyjack Model SJ 46AJ 45 foot diesel articulate boom lifts. They must be tagged and locked out of service.

Prior to putting the boom lifts back in use, retain the services of a non-destructive testing company to carry out a detailed examination of the boom, cylinder and associated welds.

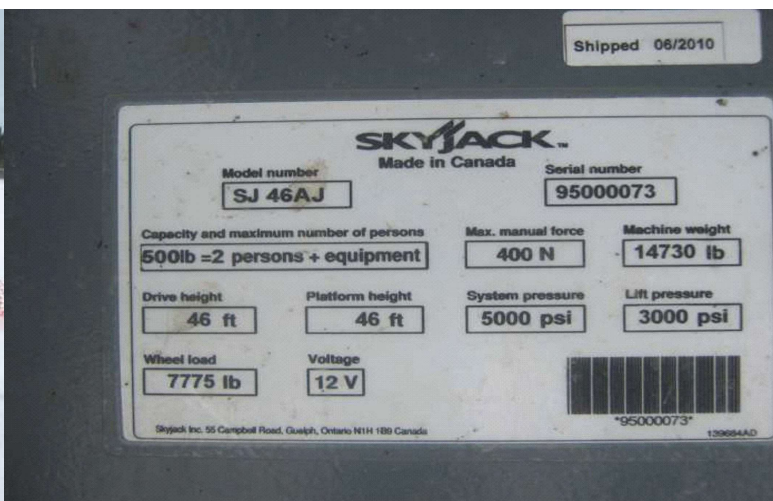
Failure to follow these corrective actions may lead to catastrophic injury or significant property damage.



Failure point on unit in operation



Results of NDT on another unit showing failure point in same location



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