SAFETY ALERT

FOMS YOUR PARTNERS IN FORESTRY

Tower Failure

INCIDENT

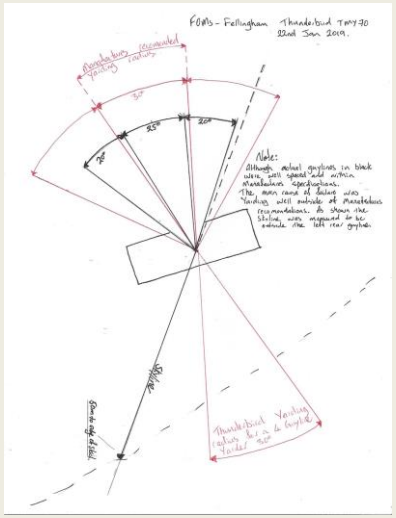
A Thunderbird TMY70 running an ACME carriage and set at 70ft was being operated in a steep hauler setting. The crew had carried out a number of line shifts throughout the day. On the last planned line of the setting a tower failure occurred and destroyed the bottom section of the pole at mid height.

CAUSE

Crew has operated machine outside of manufacturers specifications - this has placed all the weight on the outside guyline. When logs being hauled have hit stumps, the shock wave has gone through one guyline rather than all four, resulting in the shock wave hitting the tower unevenly, causing it to crumple sideways and snap off.

CORRECTIVE/PREVENTIVE ACTIONS

1) UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES should machinery be operated outside of manufacturers specifications and guidelines.
2) Position haulers to ensure they are operating within lead and at acceptable angles.
3) Before operation at the beginning of the day and after any line shift all guys/stumps and deadman should be checked and documented as ok including guy angles.



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