

### TECHNICAL SERVICE

## **Bulletin**

**Date:** 11/28/17 **TSB #** 17-041

### **Preventing Air Bag Damage**

On Systems, LLC dock levelers equipped with inflatable air bags (AP, DA and MA models), it's possible to cause damage to the air bag due to basic setup and pit cleanliness issues. Air bag failures due to these issues are not covered under warranty! Systems, LLC air bags cannot be patched or repaired once they have been damaged and must be replaced. However, these replacements can often be avoided. For examples of common air bag damage causes and prevention steps, see the following examples.

### **Incorrect Air Bag Placement**

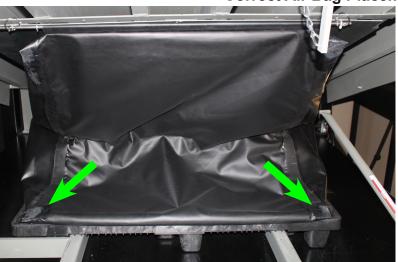


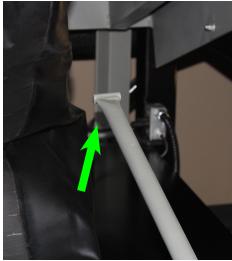


(Left - Bag is off-center and falling off of skid. Right - Maintenance prop is contacting air bag due to placement.)

If the air bag is not centered on its skid when the leveler is operated, the bag can create uneven loads and cause the skid to crack, damaging the bag. This can also cause the maintenance prop to wear a hole in the air bag when it is raised and stored due to interference. Always ensure the bag is centered, and pull the corners of the bag forward to evenly rest on the corners of the skid as shown below.

#### **Correct Air Bag Placement**





(Left - Bag is centered on skid with corners pulled out properly. Right - Maintenance prop has adequate clearance with no contact.)



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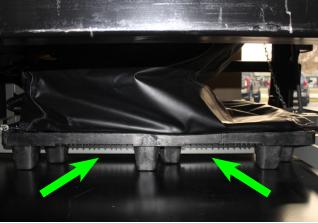
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### **Preventing Air Bag Damage (continued)**

#### **Incorrect Skid Placement**



#### **Correct Skid Placement**



(Left - Skid is improperly placed and not fully seated on frame. Right - Skid is properly placed and fully seated on frame.)

If the air bag skid is not fully seated on the leveler frame when the leveler is operated, the skid can slip, crack, or break and cause damage to the air bag. Always ensure the skid is fully seated on the leveler frame and resting evenly on the frame or the pit floor as shown above.

#### Debris & Garbage in Pit



(Debris is caught between bag and skid, and pit is full of garbage.)

Debris and garbage in the pit is a common cause of air bag damage. If pallet splinters or garbage accumulate in the pit, the sharp edges can wear or poke a hole through the air bag. Good cleaning procedures can prevent this; simply clean the pit of debris by sweeping or vacuuming the area on a regular basis. Do not use compressed air for cleaning purposes as this can lodge debris into or around the bag and increase the possibility of failure!