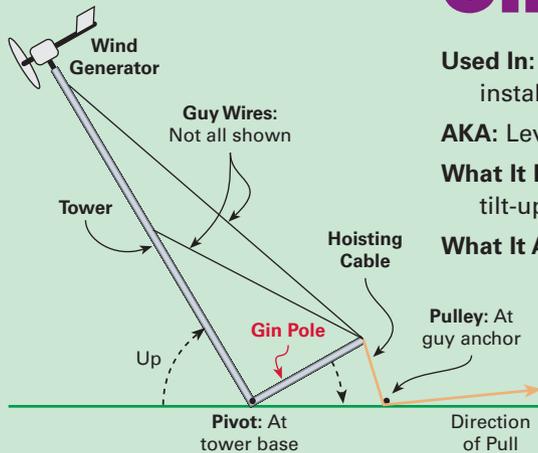


Gin Pole



Used In: All tilt-up and some guyed and freestanding wind generator installations

AKA: Lever arm, lifting pole, falling derrick, davit

What It Is: A lever to raise a tilt-up tower or a temporary crane for a non-tilt-up tower

What It Ain't: A liquor survey

The phrase "gin pole" is used to identify two very different structures associated with wind generator towers.

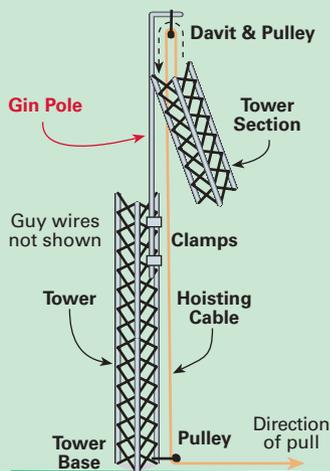
In reference to tilt-up towers, the phrase refers to the lever arm that is used to lift the tower off the ground. Usually it is a steel pipe of the same diameter as the tubular tower pipe, and can be as long as the guy wire radius.

A gin pole makes it easier to raise the tower. Try tilting up a pipe or pole by pulling along the length of it and you'll find that something may break before anything lifts. Adding a lever at 90 degrees makes it easy to lift the pipe.

In reference to non-tilt-up towers, a gin pole is a temporary "crane" that sticks up above the tower. It allows you to lift additional tower sections and the wind generator without hiring an expensive crane.

Generally, two brackets are clamped to a tower leg with bolts, and provide a sleeve for the gin pole, which is pulled up through the brackets. A davit or block is added on the top, and a lifting line is threaded through before the pole top is raised out of reach.

The gin pole is then bolted securely in place before any lifting is done. After each section is in place, the gin pole and brackets are moved up to the next section. Temporary guy ropes are necessary to keep the tower stable.



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