

SpaceX's recovered core booster damaged in rough seas

April 16 2019, by Marcia Dunn



This Thursday, April 11, 2019 image from video made available by SpaceX shows a Falcon rocket booster shortly after landing on a barge in the Atlantic Ocean off Florida. On Tuesday, April 16, the company confirmed that the unsecured core booster toppled onto the platform over the weekend, as waves reached 8 to 10 feet. SpaceX chief Elon Musk says custom devices to secure the booster weren't ready in time for this second flight of the Falcon Heavy. (SpaceX via AP)

A SpaceX rocket booster that landed on an ocean platform after last week's launch has been damaged in rough seas.

For the first time, all three first-stage boosters landed upright following Thursday's launch of the company's Falcon Heavy, the most powerful rocket in use. Both side boosters returned to Cape Canaveral, Florida, while the core [booster](#) landed on a platform hundreds of miles offshore.

The company confirmed Tuesday that the unsecured core booster toppled onto the [platform](#) over the weekend, as waves reached 8 to 10 feet.

SpaceX chief Elon Musk says the engines seem OK. There's no immediate word on how many of the booster pieces remain on board.

Musk says custom devices to secure the booster weren't ready in time for this second flight of the Falcon Heavy.

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