

Grande Prairie Aerial Lift Safety Training

Grande Prairie Aerial Lift Safety Training - Each and every year, there are roughly 26 construction fatalities due to the utilization of aerial lifts. Most of the craftsmen killed are laborers, electrical workers, ironworkers, carpenters or painters. Most deaths are caused by electrocutions, falls and tip-overs. The greatest danger is from boom-supported lifts, like for example cherry pickers and bucket trucks. Nearly all deaths are connected to this kind of lift, with the rest involving scissor lifts. Other hazards comprise being struck by falling things, being thrown out of a bucket, and being caught between the lift bucket or guardrail and a thing, like a steel beam or joist.

In order to operate an aerial lift safely, carry out an inspection on the following items before using the device: emergency and operating controls, safety devices (like for example, guardrails and outriggers), personal fall protection gear, and tires and wheels. Inspect for possible leaks in the air, hydraulic fluid and fuel-system. Inspect the device for loose or missing components.

The places that worker will make use of the aerial device should be checked carefully for possible hazards, like for instance holes, bumps, drop-offs and debris. Overhead powerlines need to be monitored and avoided. It is suggested that aerial lift devices be utilized on stable, level surfaces. Never work on steep slopes that go beyond slope limits specified by the manufacturer. Even on a level slope, wheel chocks, outriggers and brakes must be set.

Employers are required to provide maintenance mechanics and aerial lift operators with the right instruction manuals. Mechanics and operators should be trained by a certified individual experienced with the applicable aerial lift model.

Aerial Lift Safety Tips:

- o Prior to operating, close doors and lift platform chains.
- o Climbing on and leaning over guardrails is prohibited. Stand on the floor of the bucket or platform.
- o Use the provided manufacturer's load-capacity limits.
- o When working near traffic, use correct work-zone warnings, like for instance signs and cones.

If correct procedures are followed, electrocutions are avoidable. Stay at least ten feet away from whatever power lines and licensed electricians should de-energize and/or insulate power lines. Those working need to utilize personal protective equipment and tools, such as a bucket which is insulated. Nevertheless, a bucket that is insulated does not protect from electrocution if, for instance, the individual working touches a different wire providing a path to the ground.

Falls are preventable if the person working remains secure in guardrails or in the bucket by using a full-body harness or a positioning device. If there is an anchorage within the bucket, a positioning belt together with a short lanyard is adequate.

By following the manufacturer's directions, tip-overs could be avoided. Never drive the lift platform while it is elevated, unless the manufacturer specifies otherwise. Adhere to the device's horizontal and vertical reach limits, and never go beyond the specified load-capacity.