

Aerial Lift Safety Training Penticton

Aerial Lift Safety Training Penticton - There are roughly 26 to 30 construction deaths in North America attributed to the use of aerial lifts. Most of those killed are craftsmen such as electrical workers, laborers, painters, carpenters or ironworkers. Nearly all deaths are caused by tip-overs, electrocutions and falls. The greatest danger is from boom-supported lifts, like bucket trucks and cherry pickers. Most fatalities are connected to this particular kind of lift, with the rest involving scissor lifts. Other dangers include being struck by falling objects, being thrown out of a bucket, and being caught between the guardrail or lift bucket and an object, like for example a steel beam or joist.

The safe operation of an aerial lift requires a check on the following items prior to utilizing the device: operating and emergency controls, personal fall protection gear, safety devices, and wheels and tires. Look for possible leaks in the air, hydraulic fluid and fuel-system. Check the device for missing or loose parts.

The area where the device would be utilized must be carefully inspected for possible dangers, like for instance holes, bumps, drop-offs and debris. Overhead power lines should be closely monitored or avoided. It is recommended that aerial lift devices be utilized on surfaces that are level and stable. Don't work on steep slopes that go beyond slope limitations which the manufacturer specified. Even on a slope which is level, brakes, wheel chocks and outriggers should be set.

Companies must provide their aerial lift operators with the correct guidebooks. Mechanics and operators have to be trained by a certified individual experienced with the applicable type of aerial lift.

Aerial Lift Safety Tips:

- o Close lift platform chains or doors prior to operating.
- o Leaning over and climbing on guardrails is prohibited. Stand on the platform or floor of the bucket.
- o Stay within manufacturer's load-capacity restrictions.
- o When working near traffic, use right work-zone warnings, like signs and cones.

If right procedures are followed, electrocutions are preventable. Stay at least ten feet away from whatever power lines and qualified electricians should de-energize and/or insulate power lines. Workers need to make use of personal protective equipment and tools, like for example a bucket which is insulated. Then again, an insulated bucket does not protect from electrocution if, for instance, the person working touches another wire providing a path to the ground.

Falls are avoidable if the worker remains secure within guardrails or within the bucket by using a full-body harness or a positioning device. If there is an anchorage within the bucket, a positioning belt along with a short lanyard is acceptable.

By following the manufacturer's directions, tip-overs can be avoided. Never drive the lift platform while it is elevated, unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer. Follow the device's horizontal and vertical reach limitations, and never exceed the load-capacity which is specified.