

Aerial Lift Safety Training Mesa

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

The safe operation of an aerial lift needs an inspection on the following items prior to making use of the device: operating and emergency controls, safety devices, personal fall protection gear, and wheels and tires. Check for possible leaks in the air, hydraulic fluid and fuel-system. Check the device for loose or missing components.

The place where the device will be utilized must be carefully examined for potential dangers, such as holes, bumps, drop-offs and debris. Overhead power lines should be closely monitored or avoided. It is suggested that aerial lift devices be used on surfaces which are stable and level. Never work on steep slopes which exceed slope limits which the manufacturer specified. Even on a slope that is level, wheel chocks, outriggers and brakes must be set.

Businesses should provide their aerial lift operators with the right instruction manuals. Mechanics and operators should be trained by a licensed person experienced with the applicable kind of aerial lift.

Aerial Lift Safety Tips:

- o Close doors or lift platform chains before operating.
- o Climbing on and leaning over guardrails is prohibited. Stand on the floor of the bucket or platform.
- o Make use of the provided manufacturer's load-capacity limits.
- o Use work-zone warnings, such as cones and signs, when working near traffic.

Electrocutions are preventable if safety procedures are followed. Stay well away from power lines - at least 10 feet. Qualified electrical workers should insulate and/or de-energize power lines. Those working have to use personal protective equipment and tools, such as a bucket that is insulated. Nonetheless, an insulated bucket does not protect from electrocution if, for instance, the person working touches another wire providing a path to the ground.

When within the bucket, workers should prevent possible falls by securing themselves to the guardrails by utilizing a positioning device or a full-body harness. If there is an anchorage inside the bucket, a positioning belt together with a short lanyard is adequate.

Tip-overs are avoidable by following the manufacturer's directions. Unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer, never drive when the lift platform is elevated. Adhere to the device's horizontal and vertical reach restrictions, and never exceed the specified load-capacity.