TOOLBOX TALK EQUIPMENT



Aerial Lifts

Aerial lifts are vehicle-mounted devices that allow workers to perform work above the ground. Construction workers involved in aerial lift accidents could face falls, broken bones and death. Approximately <u>26 construction workers die each year from using aerial lifts</u>. More than half of the deaths involve boom-supported lifts, such as bucket trucks and cherry pickers. These require a body harness with an energy-absorbing lanyard connected to an anchor point provided by the manufacturer. Most of the remaining deaths are electrocutions, falls and tipovers involving scissor lifts. OSHA requires full guardrails on scissor lifts.

Before Operating an Aerial Lift:

- · Check operating and emergency controls
- · Check safety devices such as outriggers, guardrails, and personal fall protection equipment
- Look for leaks of air, hydraulic fluid and fuel
- Look for a level surface that won't shift. Never exceed the manufacturer's slope limits
- Look for hazards such as holes bumps, debris and overhead power lines
- Set outriggers, brakes and wheel chocks, even if on a level surface
- If working near traffic, set up work zone warnings using cones and signs

Safety Tips While Operating an Aerial Lift:

- Never walk under the boom to gain access to the platform
- · Only utilize the lift on level ground
- · Only stand on the platform floor. Never stand or sit on the railing
- Always look in the direction the machine is moving
- Do not rest the boom or basket on a steel structure of any kind
- Wear safety harnesses and tie-off to the manufacture provided anchorage point within the platform at all times when you're in the basket. This includes when you are lowered and moving the equipment to another location
- · Keep your hands the external portion of the basket when raising or lowering the basket
- Ensure that a fire extinguisher is mounted in the basket when performing activities that present a fire hazard such as welding or grinding. Ensure you have a fire watch person below
- Except in a case of an emergency, ground controls shall not be operated on an occupied lift (lift occupant shall be in full control of the lift at all times)



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Take Home Point:

Aerial lifts and scissor lifts are common and useful tools used everyday in construction. Ensure that you are <u>properly trained and authorized to operate the equipment</u>. Before operation ensure to do pre-operational inspections to ensure proper functioning of the equipment and of the ground conditions.

Date:			
Safety Leader:			
Crew Members:			

Looking for a way to track and maintain your employee records? Scan the QR code for more information

