

Vaughan Aerial Lift Safety Training

Vaughan Aerial Lift Safety Training - Each and every year, there are approximately 26 construction fatalities attributed to the use of aerial lifts. Nearly all of the craftsmen killed are electrical workers, laborers, carpenters, painters or ironworkers. Nearly all fatalities are caused by electrocutions, falls and tip-overs. The greatest hazard is from boom-supported lifts, such as cherry pickers and bucket trucks. Most deaths are connected to this particular type of lift, with the rest involving scissor lifts. Other hazards consist of being struck by falling objects, being thrown out of a bucket, and being caught between the guardrail or lift bucket and an object, like a joist or steel beam.

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

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

Employers are needed to provide aerial lift operators and maintenance mechanics with the right instruction manuals. Mechanics and operators must be trained by a licensed person experienced with the relevant aerial lift model.

Aerial Lift Safety Tips:

- o Prior to operating, close doors and lift platform chains.
- o Do not climb on or lean over guardrails. Stand on the floor of the bucket or platform.
- o Utilize the provided manufacturer's load-capacity limits.
- o Use work-zone warnings, such as signs and cones, when working near traffic.

If right procedures are followed, electrocutions are avoidable. Stay at least 10 feet away from whatever power lines and qualified electricians should de-energize and/or insulate power lines. Workers must make use of personal protective equipment and tools, like insulated bucket. Nonetheless, a bucket that is insulated does not protect from electrocution if, for example, the worker touches a different wire providing a path to the ground.

When inside the bucket, workers need to prevent possible falls by securing themselves to the guardrails 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 adequate.

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