

Aerial Lift Safety Training Oshawa

Aerial Lift Safety Training Oshawa - There are approximately 26 to 30 construction fatalities in North America due to the utilization of aerial lifts. Most of the people killed are craftsmen such as electrical workers, laborers, painters, ironworkers or carpenters. Most fatalities are caused by electrocutions, falls and tip-overs. The greatest hazard is from boom-supported lifts, like for example cherry pickers and bucket trucks. The majority of the fatalities are related to this kind of lift, with the rest involving scissor lifts. Other risks 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 steel beam or joist.

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

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

Companies should provide their aerial lift operators with the correct manuals. Operators and mechanics must be trained by a certified person experienced with the relevant type of aerial lift.

Aerial Lift Safety Guidelines:

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

If proper procedures are followed, electrocutions are preventable. Stay at least ten feet away from whichever power lines and certified electricians should de-energize and/or insulate power lines. Those working must utilize personal protective tools and equipment, like for instance a bucket which is insulated. Nevertheless, 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 in guardrails or inside the bucket by making use of a positioning device or a full-body harness. 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 can be avoided. Never drive the lift platform whilst it is elevated, unless the manufacturer specifies otherwise. Follow the device's horizontal and vertical reach limitations, and never go beyond the specified load-capacity.