

## Aerial Lift Safety Training Prince Albert

Aerial Lift Safety Training Prince Albert - There are approximately 26 to 30 construction fatalities within North America due to the utilization of aerial lifts. Nearly all of those killed are craftsmen like for example electrical workers, laborers, painters, carpenters or ironworkers. Most deaths are caused by tip-overs, electrocutions and falls. The greatest hazard is from boom-supported lifts, such as cherry pickers and bucket trucks. Most fatalities are related to this particular kind of lift, with the rest involving scissor lifts. Other dangers consist of being thrown out of a bucket, being struck by falling things, 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 a check on the following things before making use of the device: operating and emergency controls, personal fall protection gear, safety devices, and tires and wheels. Inspect for possible leaks in the air, hydraulic fluid and fuel-system. Inspect the device for missing or loose parts.

The location where the device will be utilized must be thoroughly inspected for potential hazards, like for example bumps, holes, debris and drop-offs. Overhead power lines must be avoided or closely monitored. It is suggested that aerial lift devices be utilized on level, stable surfaces. Do not work on steep slopes that go beyond slope limitations specified by the manufacturer. Even on a level slope, wheel chocks, outriggers and brakes must be set.

Employers are required to provide maintenance mechanics and aerial lift operators with the correct guidebooks. Mechanics and operators must be trained by a licensed person experienced with the relevant type of aerial lift.

### Aerial Lift Safety Tips:

- o Close doors or lift platform chains before operating.
- o Do not climb on or lean over guardrails. 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, make use of correct work-zone warnings, like cones and signs.

If proper procedures are followed, electrocutions are avoidable. Stay at least ten feet away from any power lines and certified electricians should insulate and/or de-energize power lines. Workers have to use personal protective equipment and tools, like for instance insulated bucket. Nonetheless, an insulated bucket does not protect from electrocution if, for instance, the person working touches a different wire providing a path to the ground.

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

By following the manufacturer's instructions, tip-overs could be avoided. Never drive the lift platform when it is elevated, unless the manufacturer specifies otherwise. Adhere to the vertical and horizontal reach limitations of the device, and never go beyond the specified load-capacity.