

Aerial Lift Safety Training Avondale

Aerial Lift Safety Training Avondale - Every year, there are approximately 26 construction fatalities attributed to the utilization of aerial lifts. Nearly all of the craftsmen killed are electrical workers, laborers, ironworkers, carpenters or painters. The majority of the fatalities are caused by electrocutions, falls and tip-overs. The greatest danger is from boom-supported lifts, like for instance cherry pickers and bucket trucks. Nearly all fatalities are connected to this particular kind of lift, with the rest involving scissor lifts. Other dangers consist of being struck by falling things, being thrown out of a bucket, and being caught between the guardrail or lift bucket and a thing, such as a joist or steel beam.

In order to safely operate an aerial lift, carry out a check on the following things before making use of the device: emergency and operating controls, safety devices (such as, outriggers and guardrails), personal fall protection gear, and wheels and tires. Check for possible leaks in the air, hydraulic fluid and fuel-system. Check the device for missing or loose components.

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

Employers are needed to provide aerial lift operators and maintenance mechanics with the proper instruction manuals. Mechanics and operators should be trained by a qualified individual experienced with the relevant aerial lift model.

Aerial Lift Safety Guidelines:

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

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

Falls are preventable if the person working remains secure in guardrails or in the bucket by making use of 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 preventable by following the manufacturer's directions. Unless the manufacturer specifies otherwise, never drive whilst the lift platform is elevated. Follow the vertical and horizontal reach limits of the device, and never go beyond the specified load-capacity.