

## Aerial Lift Safety Training Phoenix

Aerial Lift Safety Training Phoenix - There are approximately 26 to 30 construction deaths in North America attributed to the use of aerial lifts. Most of those killed are craftsmen like electrical workers, laborers, painters, ironworkers or carpenters. Nearly all fatalities are caused by electrocutions, falls and tip-overs. The greatest hazard is from boom-supported lifts, such as bucket trucks and cherry pickers. Most deaths are connected to this particular type of lift, with the rest involving scissor lifts. Other hazards include being thrown out of a bucket, being struck by falling objects, and being caught between the lift bucket or guardrail and an object, like a joist or steel beam.

To operate an aerial lift safely, perform a check on the following things before using the device: emergency and operating controls, safety devices (like for example, outriggers and guardrails), personal fall protection gear, and tires and wheels. Look for possible leaks in the air, hydraulic fluid and fuel-system. Inspect the device for missing or loose components.

The place where the device will be used must be thoroughly checked for potential dangers, like for instance bumps, holes, drop-offs and debris. Overhead power lines must be avoided or closely monitored. It is suggested that aerial lift devices be used on level, stable surfaces. Never work on steep slopes which go beyond slope limits which the manufacturer specified. Even on a level slope, wheel chocks, outriggers and brakes should be set.

Companies must provide their aerial lift operators with the right manuals. Operators and mechanics should be trained by a qualified individual experienced with the applicable kind of aerial lift.

Aerial Lift Safety Guidelines:

- o Before operating, close doors and lift platform chains.
- o Do not lean over or climb on guardrails. Stand on the floor of the bucket or platform.
- o Stay within manufacturer's load-capacity restrictions.
- o When working near traffic, utilize proper work-zone warnings, like for instance cones and signs.

Electrocutions are avoidable if safety procedures are followed. Stay as far away from power lines - at least 10 feet. Skilled electrical workers should de-energize and/or insulate power lines. Individuals working must use personal protective equipment and tools, like for instance insulated bucket. Then again, an insulated bucket does not protect from electrocution if, for example, the worker touches a different wire providing a path to the ground.

When in the bucket, workers have to prevent possible falls by securing themselves to the guardrails by utilizing a positioning device or a full-body harness. If there is an anchorage inside the bucket, a positioning belt with a short lanyard is adequate.

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