

Aerial Lifts

Aerial lift trucks might be utilized to accomplish a lot of unique tasks performed in hard to reach aerial spaces. Some of the duties associated with this style of lift include performing daily maintenance on buildings with elevated ceilings, repairing phone and power cables, lifting heavy shelving units, and trimming tree branches. A ladder could also be utilized for some of the aforementioned jobs, although aerial hoists provide more security and strength when correctly used.

There are several versions of aerial platform lifts available on the market depending on what the task required involves. Painters sometimes use scissor aerial jacks for instance, which are classified as mobile scaffolding, effective in painting trim and reaching the 2nd story and higher on buildings. The scissor aerial jacks use criss-cross braces to stretch and enlarge upwards. There is a platform attached to the top of the braces that rises simultaneously as the criss-cross braces lift.

Cherry pickers and bucket lift trucks are a further version of the aerial hoist. Typically, they contain a bucket at the end of an elongated arm and as the arm unfolds, the attached bucket platform rises. Platform lifts use a pronged arm that rises upwards as the handle is moved. Boom lifts have a hydraulic arm that extends outward and hoists the platform. All of these aerial platform lifts have need of special training to operate.

Through the Occupational Safety & Health Association, also called OSHA, education courses are offered to help ensure the workforce satisfy occupational principles for safety, system operation, inspection and repair and machine weight capacities. Employees receive qualifications upon completion of the classes and only OSHA certified workers should drive aerial platform lifts. The Occupational Safety & Health Organization has developed rules to maintain safety and prevent injury while utilizing aerial hoists. Common sense rules such as not utilizing this apparatus to give rides and making sure all tires on aerial hoists are braced so as to hinder machine tipping are observed within the rules.

Sadly, figures reveal that greater than 20 aerial hoist operators pass away each year when operating and almost ten percent of those are commercial painters. The majority of these accidents were brought on by inappropriate tie bracing, hence a few of these might have been prevented. Operators should ensure that all wheels are locked and braces as a critical security precaution to prevent the device from toppling over.

Additional suggestions include marking the encircling area of the machine in an obvious way to protect passers-by and to guarantee they do not come too close to the operating machine. It is crucial to ensure that there are also 10 feet of clearance amid any utility cables and the aerial hoist. Operators of this apparatus are also highly recommended to always have on the proper safety harness when up in the air.