

## Vernon Aerial Lift Safety Training

Vernon Aerial Lift Safety Training - Each and every year, there are about 26 construction deaths attributed to the utilization of aerial lifts. Nearly all of the craftsmen killed are electrical workers, laborers, painters, ironworkers or carpenters. Nearly all deaths are caused by electrocutions, falls and tip-overs. The greatest risk is from boom-supported lifts, such as bucket trucks and cherry pickers. Most deaths are connected to this type of lift, with the rest involving scissor lifts. Other hazards consist of being thrown out of a bucket, being struck by falling things, and being caught between the lift bucket or guardrail and a thing, like for example a joist or steel beam.

To be able to safely operate an aerial lift, perform an inspection on the following things before making use of the device: operating and emergency controls, safety devices (e.g., guardrails and outriggers), personal fall protection gear, and tires and wheels. Look for possible leaks in the air, fuel-system, hydraulic fluid. Check the device for loose or missing parts.

The places that worker will use the aerial device should be examined thoroughly for potential dangers, like for instance holes, bumps, debris and drop-offs. Overhead powerlines need to be monitored and avoided. It is suggested that aerial lift devices be used on stable, level surfaces. Never work on steep slopes which exceed slope limitations which the manufacturer specified. Even on a slope which is level, outriggers, brakes and wheel chocks must be set.

Businesses must provide their aerial lift operators with the right manuals. Operators and mechanics should be trained by a qualified person experienced with the applicable aerial lift model.

Aerial Lift Safety Guidelines:

- o Close doors or lift platform chains prior to operating.
- o Do not climb on or lean over guardrails. Stand on the floor of the bucket or platform.
- o Use the provided manufacturer's load-capacity limitations.
- o Utilize work-zone warnings, such as cones and signs, when working near traffic.

If proper procedures are followed, electrocutions are preventable. Stay at least 10 feet away from whatever power lines and licensed electricians should de-energize and/or insulate power lines. Individuals working must use personal protective tools and equipment, like a bucket which is insulated. Nonetheless, an insulated bucket does not protect from electrocution if, for instance, the worker touches a different wire providing a path to the ground.

When inside the bucket, workers need to prevent possible falls by securing themselves to the guardrails by making use of a full-body harness or a positioning device. If there is an anchorage inside the bucket, a positioning belt together with a short lanyard is acceptable.

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