Aerial Lift Safety Training Saskatoon

Aerial Lift Safety Training Saskatoon - There are approximately 26 to 30 construction deaths in North America attributed to the utilization of aerial lifts. Nearly all of the individuals killed are craftsmen such as electrical workers, laborers, painters, ironworkers or carpenters. Nearly all deaths are caused by electrocutions, falls and tip-overs. The greatest hazard is from boom-supported lifts, such as cherry pickers and bucket trucks. Most fatalities are connected to this particular kind 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 guardrail or lift bucket and an object, like a joist or steel beam.

The safe operation of an aerial lift requires an inspection on the following items before using the device: emergency and operating controls, personal fall protection gear, safety devices, and tires and wheels. Inspect for possible leaks in the air, fuel-system, hydraulic fluid. Inspect the device for missing or loose components.

The area where the device will be used should be carefully examined for possible dangers, such as bumps, holes, drop-offs and debris. Overhead power lines must be closely monitored or avoided. It is suggested that aerial lift devices be utilized on stable, level surfaces. Do not work on steep slopes that exceed slope limitations which the manufacturer specified. Even on a slope which is level, wheel chocks, outriggers and brakes should be set.

Employers are needed to provide maintenance mechanics and aerial lift operators with the correct instruction manuals. Operators and mechanics must be trained by a licensed person experienced with the applicable kind of aerial lift.

Aerial Lift Safety Tips:
o Before operating, close doors and lift platform chains.
o Climbing on and leaning over guardrails is prohibited. Stand on the floor of the bucket or platform.
o Stay within manufacturer's load-capacity restrictions.
o When working near traffic, utilize correct work-zone warnings, like for instance signs and cones.

If right procedures are followed, electrocutions are avoidable. Stay at least 10 feet away from whatever power lines and qualified electricians should insulate and/or de-energize power lines. People working must utilize personal protective tools and equipment, such as insulated bucket. However, a bucket which is insulated does not protect from electrocution if, for example, the individual working touches another wire providing a path to the ground.

Falls are avoidable if the individual working remains secure in guardrails or within the bucket by utilizing a positioning device or a full-body harness. If there is an anchorage in the bucket, a positioning belt with a short lanyard is acceptable.

Tip-overs are avoidable by following the manufacturer's directions. Unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer, never drive while the lift platform is elevated. Follow the horizontal and vertical reach limits of the device, and never go beyond the load-capacity that is specified.