Regina Aerial Lift Safety Training

Regina Aerial Lift Safety Training - There are around 26 to 30 construction deaths within North America due to the use of aerial lifts. Nearly all of the individuals killed are craftsmen like for instance laborers, painters, electrical workers, carpenters or ironworkers. Nearly all deaths are caused by falls, tip-overs and electrocutions. The greatest risk is from boom-supported lifts, such as cherry pickers and bucket trucks. Nearly all fatalities are related to this kind of lift, with the rest involving scissor lifts. Other dangers include being thrown out of a bucket, being struck by falling objects, and being caught between the guardrail or lift bucket and an object, like a steel beam or joist.

To safely operate an aerial lift, carry out a check on the following items 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. Check for possible leaks in the air, fuel-system, hydraulic fluid. Check the device for missing or loose parts.

The location where the device will be used must be thoroughly checked for potential hazards, like for instance bumps, holes, drop-offs and debris. Overhead power lines should be avoided or closely monitored. It is recommended that aerial lift devices be utilized on surfaces which are level and stable. Do not work on steep slopes which exceed slope limitations that the manufacturer specified. Even on a slope that is level, outriggers, brakes and wheel chocks must be set.

Employers are needed to provide maintenance mechanics and aerial lift operators with the correct guidebooks. Operators and mechanics should be trained by a qualified person experienced with the applicable type of aerial lift.

Aerial Lift Safety Tips:
o Close lift platform chains or doors before operating.
o Do not lean over or climb on guardrails. Stand on the platform or floor of the bucket.
o Utilize the provided manufacturer's load-capacity limits.
o When working near traffic, use right work-zone warnings, like for example 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 must de-energize and/or insulate power lines. Workers must use personal protective tools and equipment, such as a bucket which 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.

When in 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 within the bucket, a positioning belt together with a short lanyard is adequate.

Tip-overs are preventable by following the manufacturer's instructions. Unless the manufacturer specifies otherwise, never drive when the lift platform is elevated. Follow the vertical and horizontal reach limits of the device, and never exceed the specified load-capacity.