Saskatchewan Aerial Lift Safety Training

Saskatchewan Aerial Lift Safety Training - There are roughly 26 to 30 construction deaths within North America due to the use of aerial lifts. Most of those killed are craftsmen like for instance painters, electrical workers, laborers, ironworkers or carpenters. Most fatalities are caused by falls, tip-overs and electrocutions. The greatest danger is from boom-supported lifts, such as cherry pickers and bucket trucks. The majority of the fatalities are related to this particular kind of lift, with the rest involving scissor lifts. Other hazards comprise being thrown out of a bucket, being struck by falling objects, and being caught between the guardrail or lift bucket and a thing, like a steel beam or joist.

The safe operation of an aerial lift needs an inspection on the following items prior to making use of the device: emergency and operating controls, personal fall protection gear, safety devices, and wheels and tires. Look for possible leaks in the air, hydraulic fluid and fuel-system. Inspect the device for loose or missing parts.

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

Employers are required to provide maintenance mechanics and aerial lift operators with the right guidebooks. Operators and mechanics must be trained by a qualified individual experienced with the applicable kind of aerial lift.

Aerial Lift Safety Guidelines:
o Close lift platform chains or doors before operating.
o Do not lean over or climb on guardrails. Stand on the floor of the bucket or platform.
o Make use of the provided manufacturer's load-capacity limitations.
o Make use of work-zone warnings, such as signs and cones, when working near traffic.

If right procedures are followed, electrocutions are avoidable. Stay at least ten feet away from any power lines and qualified electricians must insulate and/or de-energize power lines. People working need to use personal protective tools and equipment, like insulated bucket. Nevertheless, a bucket that is insulated does not protect from electrocution if, for instance, the individual working touches a different wire providing a path to the ground.

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

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