Aerial Lift Safety Training Guelph

Aerial Lift Safety Training Guelph - There are roughly 26 to 30 construction fatalities in North America due to the use of aerial lifts. Nearly all of the individuals killed are craftsmen like for example electrical workers, laborers, painters, carpenters or ironworkers. Nearly all deaths are caused by tip-overs, electrocutions and falls. The greatest risk is from boom-supported lifts, such as bucket trucks and cherry pickers. Nearly all deaths are connected to this particular 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 a thing, like for example a joist or steel beam.

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

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

Businesses must provide their aerial lift operators with the right instruction manuals. Operators and mechanics must be trained by a certified individual experienced with the applicable type of aerial lift.

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

Electrocutions are preventable 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, like insulated bucket. Then again, a bucket that is insulated does not protect from electrocution if, for instance, the person working touches a different wire providing a path to the ground.

When inside the bucket, workers must prevent possible falls by securing themselves to the guardrails by using a positioning device or a full-body harness. 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 can be avoided. Never drive the lift platform when it is elevated, unless the manufacturer specifies otherwise. Adhere to the device's vertical and horizontal reach limits, and never go beyond the specified load-capacity.