Barrie Aerial Lift Safety Training

Barrie Aerial Lift Safety Training - There are roughly 26 to 30 construction fatalities in North America due to the use of aerial lifts. Nearly all of those killed are craftsmen like electrical workers, laborers, painters, carpenters or ironworkers. Nearly all deaths are caused by electrocutions, falls and tip-overs. The greatest risk is from boom-supported lifts, like cherry pickers and bucket trucks. The majority of the deaths are related to this type 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 lift bucket or guardrail and an object, such as a steel beam or joist.

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

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

Businesses should provide their aerial lift operators with the right instruction manuals. Operators and mechanics should be trained by a licensed individual experienced with the relevant aerial lift model.

Aerial Lift Safety Tips:
o Close lift platform chains or doors prior to operating.
o Leaning over and climbing on guardrails is prohibited. Stand on the floor of the bucket or platform.
o Stay within manufacturer's load-capacity limits.
o When working near traffic, make use of proper work-zone warnings, like cones and signs.

If correct procedures are followed, electrocutions are avoidable. Stay at least ten feet away from any power lines and licensed electricians should de-energize and/or insulate power lines. Those working must make use of personal protective tools and equipment, such as insulated bucket. Nevertheless, an insulated bucket does not protect from electrocution if, for instance, the worker touches another wire providing a path to the ground.

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

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