



COMMUNICATIONS

1/13/2012

Aerial Lift Safety

Weekly ES&H Toolbox Talk

Following safety rules and using safety equipment may not only eliminate many accidents but can make any accidents that do occur, despite all precautions, less severe. If you make safety part of your daily routine, you will protect not only yourself, but also those around you.



All employees that operate aerial lifts (JLG, scissor lifts, articulating boom platforms, etc.) shall be trained and authorized by their employer prior to operating the equipment. The training shall include demonstrated proficiency in operating the equipment. Training documentation shall be maintained by the employer and made available to Bechtel upon request. The employer shall utilize the "Aerial Lift Equipment Checklist" found in the Bechtel Subcontractor Safety and Health Program, upon delivery prior to accepting any rented/leased piece of equipment and each day prior to use. **Remember lifts are designed for lifting personnel and small hand tools. Lifts are not to be used in lieu of a crane. Personnel operating a lift shall:**

- *Not walk under the boom to gain access to the platform.*
- *Always look in the direction the machine is moving, and keep all hands/fingers inside on basket grab rail or controls.*
- *Wear safety harnesses and tie-off to the manufacture provided anchorage point within the platform.*
- *Erect barricading and use a flag person in high traffic areas.*
- *Ensure that a fire extinguisher is mounted in the basket when performing activities that present a fire hazard.*
- *Utilize 100% fall protection methods should it become necessary to exit the basket at elevated heights. On approved anchorage points shall be utilized. (MOP/Bechtel Approval Required)*

*** Field Compliance with these and other Safety Absolutes can be found on element 16 of the "Field Compliance Assessment Form."**

Primary Hazards of Working with an Aerial Lift

Falling/Being thrown from the lift basket - If you work in a lift, you must be sure fall protection devices such as personal fall arrest systems are used and guardrails are maintained in good working order. Lanyards should be adjusted with a minimum slack to restrict excessive movement.

Tipping over the vehicle - Tipping can occur if the lift is overloaded or if the vehicle is not properly stabilized before use. You need to know about load limits and how to maintain stability of the vehicle to prevent unstable conditions. Brakes must be set; outriggers used, if so equipped; wheels chocked, as applicable; and used on level ground.

Overhead power lines - Contact with power lines could result in electrocution. Unless you are trained to work on high voltage electrical equipment, always stay well clear of power lines.

Falling objects Tools, materials, or other heavy objects - could fall on workers on the ground near personnel lift baskets or work platforms and cause injuries particularly head injuries, which is why workers on the ground should always wear head protection and a "drop-zone" shall be indicated with appropriate barricades.

