



KCA TOOL BOX TALK: Aerial Lift Safety

Aerial lifts include scissor lifts, bucket trucks and cherry pickers. Each year, construction workers are killed or injured while using this equipment because they were not wearing a harness and fell off the equipment, fell with the equipment when it tipped over, or were electrocuted when the equipment touched a power line or electrical wires.

Signatures

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Remember before operating an aerial lift:

- Check operating and emergency controls
- Follow manufacturer's instructions and set outriggers, brakes, and wheel chocks; even if on a level surface. Look for a level surface that won't shift. Never exceed the manufacturer's slope limits.
- Look for potential hazards such as potholes, bumps, debris that could cause the lift to tip over.
- Avoid contact with overhead hazards such as electrical wires or power lines.
- Ask your supervisor if the electrical wires or power lines near the work have been deenergized.
- Close lift-platform chains or doors and check guardrails – OSHA requires guardrails on scissor lifts.
- Check personal fall protection equipment, if there are signs of damage your employer should give you a new one.
- Look for leaks of air, hydraulic fluid, and fuel.
- Always follow the procedures in the user manual.
- If working near traffic, set up cones and signs as work zone warnings.

While operating an aerial lift:

- Always close lift-platform chains or doors.
- Always wear fall arrest equipment with lanyard attached to a designated anchor point.
- Always stand on the floor of the bucket. Do not climb on or lean over the guardrails.
- Do not exceed the load limits. Do not drive an aerial lift with the lift extended, unless designed for that purpose.

For more information visit OSHA REGULATION: 1926.453
(OSHA considers aerial lifts to be supported scaffolds)

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Teamwork Improves Safety!