Richmond Hill Aerial Lift Safety Training

Richmond Hill Aerial Lift Safety Training - Every year, there are roughly 26 construction deaths due to the utilization of aerial lifts. Most of the craftsmen killed are laborers, electrical workers, carpenters, painters or ironworkers. Most deaths are caused by tip-overs, electrocutions and falls. The greatest risk is from boom-supported lifts, like for instance cherry pickers and bucket trucks. Most deaths are related to this particular kind of lift, with the rest involving scissor lifts. Other hazards consist of being struck by falling objects, being thrown out of a bucket, and being caught between the lift bucket or guardrail and an object, such as a steel beam or joist.

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

The area where the device would be utilized should be thoroughly inspected for potential hazards, like holes, bumps, drop-offs and debris. Overhead power lines must be avoided or closely monitored. It is recommended that aerial lift devices be utilized on surfaces that are stable and level. Never work on steep slopes that go beyond slope limits which the manufacturer specified. Even on a slope which is level, brakes, wheel chocks and outriggers must be set.

Employers are needed to provide aerial lift operators and maintenance mechanics with the correct instruction manuals. Operators and mechanics should be trained by a licensed individual experienced with the relevant type of aerial lift.

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

Electrocutions are avoidable if safety procedures are followed. Stay as far away from power lines - at least 10 feet. Qualified electrical workers must insulate and/or de-energize power lines. People working should make use of personal protective tools and equipment, like for example a bucket which is insulated. Then again, an insulated bucket does not protect from electrocution if, for example, the worker touches another wire providing a path to the ground.

When in the bucket, workers need to prevent possible falls by securing themselves to the guardrails by making use of a full-body harness or a positioning device. If there is an anchorage in the bucket, a positioning belt along with a short lanyard is adequate.

Tip-overs are avoidable by following the manufacturer's instructions. Unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer, never drive when the lift platform is elevated. Adhere to the device's horizontal and vertical reach limitations, and never go beyond the specified load-capacity.