St Catharines Aerial Lift Safety Training

St Catharines Aerial Lift Safety Training - Each year, there are roughly 26 construction fatalities due to the use of aerial lifts. Most of the craftsmen killed are electrical workers, laborers, painters, ironworkers or carpenters. Nearly all deaths are caused by electrocutions, falls and tip-overs. The greatest risk is from boom-supported lifts, like for instance cherry pickers and bucket trucks. Most deaths are connected to this type of lift, with the rest involving scissor lifts. Other hazards include being struck by falling things, being thrown out of a bucket, and being caught between the guardrail or lift bucket and a thing, like a joist or steel beam.

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

The areas that worker would utilize the aerial device must be inspected thoroughly for potential dangers, like for instance holes, bumps, debris and drop-offs. Overhead powerlines need to be monitored and avoided. It is suggested that aerial lift devices be used on surfaces that are level and stable. Never work on steep slopes which go beyond slope restrictions specified by the manufacturer. Even on a slope which is level, wheel chocks, outriggers and brakes should be set.

Companies must provide their aerial lift operators with the right guidebooks. Operators and mechanics should be trained by a certified individual experienced with the applicable aerial lift model.

Aerial Lift Safety Guidelines:
o Before operating, close doors and lift platform chains.
o Do not climb on or lean over guardrails. Stand on the floor of the bucket or platform.
o Stay within manufacturer's load-capacity limits.
o Use work-zone warnings, like signs and cones, when working near traffic.

If correct procedures are followed, electrocutions are preventable. Stay at least 10 feet away from whatever power lines and licensed electricians must de-energize and/or insulate power lines. People working need to make use of personal protective equipment and tools, like for instance insulated bucket. Nonetheless, a bucket that is insulated does not protect from electrocution if, for example, the worker touches another wire providing a path to the ground.

When within the bucket, workers have to prevent possible falls by securing themselves to the guardrails by utilizing a full-body harness or a positioning device. If there is an anchorage inside the bucket, a positioning belt with a short lanyard is acceptable.

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