

## **Toolbox Talk**

### **Aerial Lift Safety**

Extensible and articulating boom lifts are useful pieces of equipment with specialized features, uses, and also unique potential hazards.

Only trained and authorized operators can use aerial lifts. Employees must receive training in the safe operation of the lifts so they will understand and avoid unsafe conditions that could lead to injuries.

#### **Avoid Tip-Over Hazards**

- Always use proper fall protection when operating an aerial lift
- Never alter or disable warning devices or limit switches – they are there to help avoid tip-over hazards.
- Survey the area to identify and avoid floor drains, uneven surfaces, pipes, pits, holes, debris or other potential hazards
- Never climb or sit on the edge of the platform
- Avoid windy weather when operating an aerial lift outdoors. Consult the user's manual for the maximum wind speed use limit.
- Ensure there is no other equipment in the area that may bump into the aerial lift risking a tip-over. Consider alternating activities with other equipment operators if needed.
- Follow manufacturer's instructions for moving any aerial lift around the job area or work site. All aerial lifts are different and may have different recommendations.
- Follow manufacturer's capacity limits and never overload an aerial lift.
- Do not use the aerial lift as a crane and do not carry objects larger than the platform.
- Do not exceed vertical or horizontal reach limits.
- Set up work zone warnings, like cones, barricades or signs, when necessary to warn others.

#### **Common Hazards with Aerial Lift Use:**

- Electrocution from accidental contact with energized wires
- Tip-over hazards from driving on steps or unstable surfaces
- Collisions or struck-against hazards
- Fall hazards from improper use of the lifts and failure to use proper fall protection

Always look for overhead power lines and electricity lines feeding adjacent buildings and structures. Danger signs should be posted warning aerial lift operators of potential hazards.

#### **Remember these important safety precautions when working with aerial lifts:**

- Always inspect the aerial lift prior to use.
- Do not use an aerial lift in any area with poor ventilation.
- Only use lifts that you are trained and authorized to use.
- Survey the area to identify and avoid floor drains, uneven surfaces, pipes, pits, holes, debris or other potential hazards.
- Use proper PPE and fall protection when operating an aerial lift. Ensure you are not wearing loose clothing that could get caught in any part of the lift and tie back long hair.

- Look for overhead power lines and electricity lines before and during lift operation.
- Never sit or climb on the edge of the basket or use planks, ladders, scaffolding or other devices on an aerial lift.
- Avoid distractions while operating any aerial lift and do not use any heavy equipment while fatigued or under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Follow manufacturer's capacity limits and never overload an aerial lift.
- Never override any safety devices on the aerial lift. These features were put in place by the manufacturer to help ensure operator safety

#### **VEC Authorized Driver List**

Ambrosio, Justin	Jakovina, Dave (CDL)
Bobovnik, Steve	Kineston, Jeff
Bowers, Aaron	Letcher, Justin
Brocius, Bill	Letcher, Rick (CDL)
Burnip, Ty	McClellan, Jason
Connolly, Guy	Miller, Russ
Corbin, Jay (CDL)	Milone, Mark (CDL)
Farkaly, Bill	Patrick, Josh
Ferry, Keith	Perkins, Ryan
Ferry, Scott (CDL)	Porturica, Anthony (CDL, Class A).
Follmeyer, Kim	Rosowicz, Alex
Fox, Marco	Sheehan, Kevin
Franklin, Chris	Telesz, Jon
Gould, Vince (CDL)	Waldo, Adam
Gray, Jeff	Watters, Jim (CDL)
Grove, Jason	Whiteford, Mike
Harcarik, Josh (CDL)	Wiebe, Michael
Hartman, Matt	Wilster, Sean
Holko, Daniel	Yeager, Timothy
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