

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

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Job Name _____ Date _____

AERIAL LIFTS: RISING ABOVE DANGER

Aerial lifts are vehicle-mounted devices used to elevate workers to work areas not accessible from the ground. Aerial lifts include extendible boom platforms, aerial ladders, articulated booms, vertical towers, and any combination of these devices.

If you drive past any construction site today, you can see painters, stucco installers, electricians, plumbers, carpenters, and ironworkers working out of aerial lifts. These machines have enabled us to reach areas that were previously available only by working from a scaffold or out of a personnel basket hung from a crane.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, about 26 construction workers die each year from using aerial lifts. The major causes of injuries and deaths involving aerial lifts are falls, electrocutions, and tip-overs. As with everything else in the construction industry, using aerial lifts requires skill, knowledge, and safety.

It's important for everyone working with aerial lifts to be able to identify and control safety hazards. Remember that as conditions on a job site change, or when you start working with a different lift, you may need more training to use the equipment safely.

Here are a few aerial lift safety tips to remember:

- Operate a lift only if you are qualified to do so.
- Read the manufacturer's operating instructions.
- Test all controls and safety devices prior to operation.
- Barricade areas below the lift to prevent others from walking under an active work area.
- Look overhead for any low-hanging electrical lines before extending the lift upwards.
- Keep aerial lifts away from power lines; maintain a minimum clearance of 10 feet.
- Use proper personal fall protection equipment and make sure you are tied off.
- Do not exceed the manufacturer's load limits.
- Never move an aerial lift while the lift platform is elevated unless it is specifically designed for this use.
- Always close lift platform doors.
- If the lift has outriggers, be sure to use them.
- Avoid tip-overs by keeping aisles and roadways clear, and avoiding drop-offs or changes in elevation.

For more information see OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1926.453 at www.osha.gov or talk to your supervisor.

SAFETY REMINDER

**Prevent unauthorized use of aerial lifts:
lock the lifts, remove the keys,
and keep the keys in a secure location.**

Special Topics For Your Project _____

Employee Safety Recommendations _____

S.A.F.E. Cards® planned for this week _____

Reviewed MSDS # _____ Subject _____

Meeting Attended By _____

Supervisor's Signature _____

These instructions do not supersede local, state, or federal regulations.