DuPage County Environmental, Safety, Health & Property Loss Control Program
Aerial Bucket Lift Safety

Purpose: Establish safety protocols, coupled with manufacturer's safety instructions, for use of Aerial Lifts.

Policy: Only employees trained in the safe use of this aerial equipment are permitted to operate such equipment.

Employees working in the "bucket" must wear appropriate PPE including a full body harness with lanyard fall protection securely attached to the manufacturers tie points.

Boom must not to be operated if wind or wind gusts exceed 25 MPH or there is a threat of an electrical storm.

Definitions:

Aerial lift devices are used to elevate personnel to job sites above the ground. These include extensible boom platforms, aerial ladders, and aerial ladder trucks, articulating boom platforms, vertical towers and any combination of these devices. Aerial lift devices may be constructed of metal, wood, fiberglass, reinforced plastic or other materials. *For purposes of this Procedure a Scissor lift is not included but is covered in a separate Scissor Lift Policy.*

- An aerial device includes any vehicle-mounted or self-propelled device telescoping or articulating or both, which is used to position personnel.
- An articulating boom platform is an aerial device with two or more hinged boom sections.
- An extensible boom platform is an aerial device (except ladders) with a telescopic or extensible boom.
- A mobile unit is a combination of an aerial device, its vehicle and related equipment.
- A platform, or elevated platform, is any personnel-carrying device that is a component of an aerial device.
- A vehicle is any carrier that is not manually propelled.

PPE:

- Safety vest
- Hard hat
- Gloves
- Safety boots/shoes
- Safety glasses with side shields or safety goggles.
- Fall protection

Vehicle Safety Inspection: Before leaving for a job site the operator must complete a "circle check" of the vehicle includes looking for:

- ✓ Broken, damaged, loose or missing parts
- ✓ Tire bulges, cuts and Checking air pressure
- ✓ Oil and hydraulic leaks
- ✓ Lights including warning working properly
- ✓ Weld integrity of the boom such as visible cracks and rust
- ✓ Safety signs and decals are in place and legible
- ✓ Insulating pads, flooring etc. in good condition
- ✓ Boom controls are well marked and test that the lift controls are working properly

Work Site Inspection: When approaching work site keep a watch for drop-offs, holes, debris.

- ✓ Try not to park on uneven ground
- ✓ Look for overhead obstructions and power lines
- ✓ Set emergency brake
- ✓ Position wheel chocks
- ✓ Position outriggers, if so equipped
- ✓ Be certain bucket floor is free of tripping hazards
- ✓ Wear fall protection

Bucket Use:

- ✓ Keep feet on floor
- ✓ Do not sit, stand or climb on edge of bucket
- ✓ Do not place any item in bucket for purpose of increasing work height (ladders, stools etc.)
- ✓ Do not climb down from the bucket when it is raised

Operations:

- ✓ Watch for overhead obstructions and electrical lines
- ✓ A minimum of 10 feet must be maintained between any portion of the equipment and power lines, even if the boom or power lines are shielded or blanketed
- ✓ Never use aerial as a crane or other lifting device
- ✓ Never position aerial lift device against another object to steady the elevated platform
- ✓ Never position booms and elevated platform devices in an attempt to jack the wheels off the ground
- ✓ Never operate lefts on grades, side slopes or ramps that exceed manufacturer's recommendations
- ✓ If elevated platforms become caught, snagged or otherwise do not operated properly, remove personnel from the platform prior to freeing the elevated platform using ground controls.
- ✓ Operators must lower, or properly block all booms, buckets, any time the equipment is unattended.

Maintenance:

- ✓ Follow Manufacturers recommendations
- ✓ Conduct welding operations on lift devices per Automotive Society (AWS) Standards
- ✓ Do not alter the insulated portion of the aerial lift an any manner that may reduce its insulating effectiveness
- ✓ Perform electrical system safety tests on aerial lift devices per ANSI/SIA A92.2 Requirements
- ✓ Inspect hydraulic and pneumatic system components (Bursting Safety Factor) on aerial lift devices per ANSI/SIA A 92.2 requirements