

SAFETY BULLETIN #22GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF ELEVATING WORK PLATFORMS  
(SCISSOR LIFTS) AND AERIAL EXTENSIBLE BOOM PLATFORMS

1. These guidelines are applicable to vertically operated elevated work platforms or "Scissors Lifts" and boom mounted, telescoping and rotating, elevating work platforms, such as "Condors."
2. Only persons trained in the safe use of elevating work platforms are authorized to operate these devices. The Industry-Wide Safety Passport Training Course, sponsored by Contract Services Administration Training Trust Fund (CSATTF), provides safety training for employees. Upon successful completion of the training, an employee will receive a certificate stamp from CSATTF in his or her Safety Passport. Persons, in classifications for which there is an Industry Experience Roster, will be skill identified on the Roster.
3. Equipment shall be inspected prior to operation for satisfactory condition, damage and defects. This shall include all operational controls, which shall be in proper functioning condition.
4. Operators shall report all discrepancies to their supervisors.
5. Operators shall consider the job to be performed and shall evaluate the job site location for potential hazards.
  - This equipment shall not be operated within 10 feet of an energized, high voltage source unless danger from accidental contact with that source has been effectively guarded against.
  - The operation of aerial devices/work platforms OVER energized, high-voltage sources of any sort is prohibited at all times.
6. Appropriate measure should be taken to ensure that the job site's surface is stable and will support the equipment and that there are no hazardous irregularities or accumulation of debris, which might cause a moving platform to overturn.
  - Survey the route to be traveled, checking for overhead obstructions; traffic; holes in the pavement, ground, or shoulder; ditches, slope of road, etc. Operation of these devices on inclined surfaces shall NOT exceed manufacturers' ratings.
  - Wheel chocks shall be used on inclined surfaces.**

Safety Bulletins Are Recommended Guidelines Only. Consult All Applicable Rules and Regulations

7. An employee, while in an elevated aerial device, shall be secured to the boom, basket or tub of the aerial device through the use of a safety belt, body belt or body harness equipped with a safety strap or lanyard. (Cal-OSHA, Title 8, Subchapter 7, Group 4, Article 24, Elevating Platforms and Aerial Devices).

- (a) The personal fall protection equipment shall be securely attached to the boom basket, tub or platform to an approved attachment point.
- (b) Safety belts/body belts are prohibited for use in personal fall arrest systems, but may be used as part of a fall restraint or positioning device system.
- (c) Safety belts/body belts used as part of a positioning device system shall be rigged such that an employee cannot free fall for more than 2 feet.
- (d) A body harness may be used in a personal fall restraint, positioning or fall arrest system. When a body harness is used in a fall arrest system, the lanyard shall be rigged with a deceleration device to limit maximum arresting force on an employee to 1,800 pounds, prevent the employee from hitting any levels or objects below the basket or platform, and shall limit free fall to a maximum of 6 feet.
- (e) Attaching the personal fall protection equipment to an adjacent pole, structure or equipment while working from the basket, tub or platform is **NOT PERMITTED**.
- (f) Objects or production equipment, which could fall from the aerial basket/platform, shall be secured with an adequate safety lanyard.
8. The basket, tub or platform shall not be loaded beyond its rated capacity.
9. Ladders, planks or other objects shall NOT be placed in, or on top of the platform or guardrail to gain greater height. Employees shall NOT sit or climb on the edge of the basket/platform.
10. "Climbers" (pole climbing equipment) shall NOT be worn while performing work from an aerial device. The risk of falling while climbing in or out of the basket is too great.
11. Workers shall NOT work from aerial work platforms when:
  - (a) Exposed to extreme weather conditions (thunderstorms, heavy rain, extreme heat or cold) unless provisions have been made to ensure protection and safety of the workers.
  - (b) Winds exceed 25 miles per hour.

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