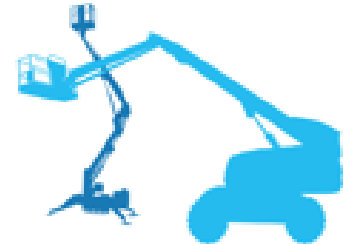




AERIAL WORK PLATFORMS

AERIAL WORK PLATFORMS

As construction workers, we are often tasked with working from heights. Aerial work platform (AWP) equipment provides a safe means to access work heights when properly maintained and operated by trained and familiarized operators. With proper use, projects can be completed successfully while helping to ensure user safety; however, if not used as intended and designed for by the manufacturer the likelihood of falling and/or suffering a serious injury is increased significantly. Most falls involving AWP equipment can be traced to operator error and/or improper use. Reasons for falls may include:



- Occupant is not wearing required Personal Fall Protection (PFP) equipment or is not attached to designated anchorage point
- Occupant is ejected or catapulted from a bottom lift when it is struck by another vehicle or object or moves unexpectedly.
- Occupant climbs on guardrails or out of the platform
- Occupant overreaches beyond the edge of the platform
- Platform component failure occurs due to improper maintenance or inspection

Guidelines to follow when operating an AWP:

- Ensure that only properly trained and familiarized personnel are authorized to operate AWP equipment, or be passengers.
- Read and understand the manufacturer's instructions for all equipment to be used.
- Choose the correct AWP equipment to reach the work.
- Ensure that the AWP is inspected before each use by a qualified person.
- Ensure that each person wears personal fall protection equipment as required.
- Ensure that the AWP equipment guardrail system is properly installed and positioned, and access gate(s) and opening(s) is closed while in use.
- Operate the AWP equipment safely to avoid the risk of ejection (e.g. drop-offs, curbs, bumps, being hit by other vehicles or objects).
- Always stand with feet firmly on the floor of AWP equipment.
- Maintain a minimum clearance of at least 10 feet away from the nearest, energized overhead lines.
- If equipped, set outriggers on pads or extend axels on a level solid surface.
- Do not overextend your upper body outside of the basket.
- Do not sit or climb on the edge of the basket or use planks, ladders, or other devices for a work position.
- Do not use guardrails or other AWP equipment components as a PFP system anchorage.
- Do not connect to adjacent poles, structures, or equipment while working from AWP equipment.
- Do not remove the guardrail or leave the gate open during use.
- Do not leave an elevated work platform or exit while elevated unless authorized.
- Do not exceed the load limits of the equipment. Allow for the combined weight of the worker, tools, and materials.
- Do not exceed the manufacturer's allowed rated horizontal forces when working from the platform of AWP equipment. (additional forces from wind gust will affect operation of AWP and should be monitored closely)

Everyone who operates AWP equipment must have a clear understanding of his or her role in the requirements for the safe use of that equipment.

TOOLBOX TALKS **AERIAL WORK PLATFORMS**

Meeting Conducted By: _____ Date: _____

Comments: _____

Attendees:

Print	Signature	Print	Signature
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