## Alberta Aerial Lift Safety Training

Aerial Lift Safety Training Alberta - There are roughly 26 to 30 construction deaths in North America due to the utilization of aerial lifts. Most of the people killed are craftsmen like for instance laborers, painters, electrical workers, ironworkers or carpenters. Nearly all fatalities are caused by falls, tip-overs and electrocutions. The greatest danger is from boom-supported lifts, like for instance cherry pickers and bucket trucks. The majority of the fatalities are connected to this particular type of lift, with the rest involving scissor lifts. Other risks include being struck by falling objects, being thrown out of a bucket, and being caught between the lift bucket or guardrail and a thing, like for example a joist or steel beam.

The safe operation of an aerial lift needs a check on the following items prior to making use of the device: operating and emergency controls, personal fall protection gear, safety devices, and tires and wheels. Look for possible leaks in the air, fuel-system, hydraulic fluid. Check the device for loose or missing parts.

The area where the device would be utilized must be thoroughly examined for possible hazards, like holes, bumps, drop-offs and debris. Overhead power lines should be avoided or closely monitored. It is recommended that aerial lift devices be used on surfaces which are stable and level. Don't work on steep slopes which go beyond slope limits specified by the manufacturer. Even on a level slope, brakes, wheel chocks and outriggers should be set.

Employers are needed to provide maintenance mechanics and aerial lift operators with the right manuals. Operators and mechanics need to be trained by a qualified person experienced with the applicable kind of aerial lift.

Aerial Lift Safety Guidelines:
o Prior to operating, close lift platform chains and doors.
o Do not lean over or climb on guardrails. Stand on the floor of the bucket or platform.
o Stay within manufacturer's load-capacity limits.
o When working near traffic, utilize appropriate work-zone warnings, like for example signs and cones.

Electrocutions are avoidable if safety procedures are followed. Stay as far away from power lines - at least 10 feet. Skilled electrical workers must insulate and/or de-energize power lines. Workers need to make use of personal protective equipment and tools, like a bucket that is insulated. Nevertheless, a bucket which is insulated does not protect from electrocution if, for instance, the individual working touches another wire providing a path to the ground.

When inside the bucket, workers must prevent possible falls by securing themselves to the guardrails by utilizing a positioning device or a full-body harness. If there is an anchorage in the bucket, a positioning belt along with a short lanyard is adequate.

Tip-overs are preventable by following the manufacturer's instructions. Unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer, never drive while the lift platform is elevated. Follow the device's horizontal and vertical reach restrictions, and never go beyond the specified load-capacity.