

## Aerial Lifts

Aerial lift trucks are able to accommodate many odd jobs involving high and tough reaching places. Often utilized to perform daily preservation in buildings with high ceilings, trim tree branches, elevate burdensome shelving units or mend phone cables. A ladder might also be used for many of the aforementioned projects, although aerial platform lifts offer more security and stability when properly used.

There are a variety of different designs of aerial lifts available, each being capable of performing moderately unique tasks. Painters will sometimes use a scissor lift platform, which is able to be used to get in touch with the 2nd story of buildings. The scissor aerial lifts use criss-cross braces to stretch and lengthen upwards. There is a platform attached to the top of the braces that rises simultaneously as the criss-cross braces elevate.

Container trucks and cherry pickers are another type of aerial hoist. They possess a bucket platform on top of an extended arm. As this arm unfolds, the attached platform rises. Lift trucks use a pronged arm that rises upwards as the handle is moved. Boom lift trucks have a hydraulic arm which extends outward and lifts the platform. Every one of these aerial lift trucks call for special training to operate.

Training courses offered through Occupational Safety & Health Association, acknowledged also as OSHA, cover safety strategies, system operation, repair and inspection and device weight capacities. Successful completion of these education courses earns a special certified certificate. Only properly qualified people who have OSHA operating licenses should drive aerial platform lifts. The Occupational Safety & Health Organization has developed guidelines to maintain safety and prevent injury while using aerial lifts. Common sense rules such as not using this piece of equipment to give rides and making sure all tires on aerial lifts are braced so as to hinder machine tipping are noted within the rules.

Unfortunately, statistics show that over 20 operators die each year when operating aerial lift trucks and 8% of those are commercial painters. Most of these mishaps are due to inadequate tire bracing and the lift falling over; therefore a lot of of these deaths had been preventable. Operators should ensure that all wheels are locked and braces as a critical safety precaution to prevent the machine from toppling over.

Marking the neighbouring area with visible markers need to be used to safeguard would-be passers-by so they do not come near the lift. Moreover, markings must be set at about 10 feet of clearance between any electrical lines and the aerial lift. Lift operators should at all times be well harnessed to the hoist when up in the air.