



# Safety Tip of the Week

## Aerial Platform Safety

Man-lifts and scissor lifts are two pieces of equipment that many workers can't imagine working without. This equipment, if used correctly, provides quick and safe access to work areas that at one time could only be reached from scaffolding or a crane's man-basket. These lifts, collectively called "Aerial Work Platforms," are important tools. But as with any tool, there are right and wrong ways to use them safely.

The most important tip to remember before operating any aerial lift platform is to always read and follow the manufacturer's safety and operation manual! This information must be kept on the rig and can usually be found in a PVC tube tied to the machine's frame or rails.



### Safe Operating Procedures for Man-lifts and Scissor Lifts:

- Set outriggers, brakes, and wheel chocks – even if you are working on level ground;
- If working near traffic, set up work-zone warnings, like cones and signs;
- Close lift platform chains and doors;
- Stand on the floor of the bucket or lift platform. Do not climb on or lean over guardrails;
- NEVER exceed manufacturer's load-capacity limits. Always allow for the combined weight of the worker(s), tools, and materials;
- NEVER overrun hydraulic, mechanical, or electrical safety devices; and
- NEVER use planks, boxes, or other items inside the basket to extend your reach.

Working with and around aerial lift devices always presents some risks. It takes everyone working together to minimize hazards and create a safer work environment.

Follow all safety policies and procedures, and if you are ever unsure about how to safely operate or work around an aerial lift device, ask your supervisor immediately.

***DON'T TAKE THE RISK! USE GOOD SAFETY SENSE!***