

## Seattle Aerial Platform Training

Seattle Aerial Platform Training - Aerial jacks can accommodate numerous tasks involving high and tricky reaching places. Often used to perform daily repair in structures with elevated ceilings, prune tree branches, hoist heavy shelving units or repair telephone lines. A ladder might also be used for many of the aforementioned tasks, although aerial platform lifts offer more security and strength when correctly used.

There are a lot of designs of aerial lifts available on the market depending on what the task needed involves. Painters often use scissor aerial hoists for instance, which are grouped as mobile scaffolding, of use in painting trim and reaching the 2nd story and above on buildings. The scissor aerial platform lifts use criss-cross braces to stretch and extend upwards. There is a table attached to the top of the braces that rises simultaneously as the criss-cross braces lift.

Cherry pickers and bucket lift trucks are a further variety of the aerial hoist. Normally, they contain a bucket at the end of an extended arm and as the arm unfolds, the attached bucket lift 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 hoists the platform. All of these aerial lift trucks require special training to operate.

Through the Occupational Safety & Health Association, also called OSHA, training courses are offered to help make sure the workers satisfy occupational standards for safety, machine operation, inspection and maintenance and machine load capacities. Workforce receive qualifications upon completion of the lessons and only OSHA licensed personnel should run aerial platform lifts. The Occupational Safety & Health Organization has developed rules to uphold safety and prevent injury when utilizing aerial lift trucks. Common sense rules such as not using this piece of equipment to give rides and ensuring all tires on aerial lifts are braced so as to prevent machine tipping are referred to within the rules.

Regrettably, figures illustrate that over 20 operators pass away each year while running aerial lifts and 8% of those are commercial painters. The majority of these accidents are due to inadequate tire bracing and the lift falling over; for that reason some of these deaths were preventable. Operators should make sure that all wheels are locked and braces as a critical safety precaution to stop the instrument from toppling over.

Additional rules include marking the surrounding area of the device in an obvious way to protect passers-by and to guarantee they do not come too close to the operating machine. It is imperative to ensure that there are also 10 feet of clearance among any utility lines and the aerial lift. Operators of this machinery are also highly recommended to always wear the appropriate safety harness while up in the air.