## Kelowna Aerial Lift Safety Training

Kelowna Aerial Lift Safety Training - Each and every year, there are roughly 26 construction deaths attributed to the use of aerial lifts. Most of the craftsmen killed are electrical workers, laborers, painters, ironworkers or carpenters. The majority of the deaths are caused by electrocutions, falls and tip-overs. The greatest hazard is from boom-supported lifts, such as bucket trucks and cherry pickers. Nearly all fatalities are related to this particular type of lift, with the rest involving scissor lifts. Other risks include being struck by falling things, being thrown out of a bucket, and being caught between the guardrail or lift bucket and a thing, like a joist or steel beam.

In order to operate an aerial lift safely, perform an inspection on the following items before utilizing the device: operating and emergency controls, safety devices (such as, outriggers and guardrails), personal fall protection gear, and wheels and tires. Inspect for possible leaks in the air, fuel-system, hydraulic fluid. Inspect the device for loose or missing components.

The places that worker would utilize the aerial device must be inspected carefully for possible dangers, like for example holes, bumps, debris and drop-offs. Overhead powerlines have to be avoided and monitored. It is recommended that aerial lift devices be used on stable, level surfaces. Never work on steep slopes that go beyond slope limitations specified by the manufacturer. Even on a level slope, brakes, wheel chocks and outriggers must be set.

Companies should provide their aerial lift operators with the correct guidebooks. Operators and mechanics must be trained by a licensed individual experienced with the relevant aerial lift model.

Aerial Lift Safety Guidelines:
o Close doors or lift platform chains before operating.
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 Use work-zone warnings, such as signs and cones, when working near traffic.

If right procedures are followed, electrocutions are preventable. Stay at least 10 feet away from any power lines and certified electricians must de-energize and/or insulate power lines. Individuals working should use personal protective tools and equipment, like a bucket which is insulated. Nonetheless, a bucket which is insulated does not protect from electrocution if, for example, the person working touches another wire providing a path to the ground.

When in the bucket, workers have to 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 together with a short lanyard is adequate.

By following the manufacturer's directions, tip-overs can be avoided. Never drive the lift platform whilst it is elevated, unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer. Follow the vertical and horizontal reach limits of the device, and never go beyond the specified load-capacity.