



Minnesota Electrical Association

Electrical Toolbox Talks

Boom Trucks

- Refer to the owner's manual for safe operation of the boom truck.
- Always check for overhead obstructions before elevating the boom platform.
- The brakes must be set, and when outriggers are used, they must be positioned on pads or a solid surface. Provided they can be safely installed, wheel chocks must be installed before using a boom lift on an incline. Before moving the boom truck, the boom must be inspected to be sure it is properly cradled and that outriggers are in a stowed position.
- Lift controls must be tested each day prior to use to ensure that they are in safe working condition.
- Employees must always stand firmly on the floor of the basket, must not sit or climb on the edge of the basket, or use planks, ladders, or other devices for a work position.
- An aerial lift truck must not be moved when the boom is elevated in a working position with men in the basket, except for equipment specifically designed for such use.

Fall Protection Requirements

Employees must use a "restraint system" or a personal fall arrest system when working in the bucket. Restraint systems can be used for fall protection if the lanyard and anchor point are arranged so that an employee is not potentially exposed to falling out of the bucket (This means you have a short lanyard with an anchor point inside the bucket). A restraint system includes the use of a body belt, lanyard, and anchor point. If the boom truck's anchor point is outside the bucket, then a personal fall arrest system must be used (including a full body harness and lanyard).



Working without fall protection is dangerous and against OSHA regulations.

Prevention of Electrocutation - Construction Industry Requirements

- When working near energized power lines or equipment, aerial lifts must be grounded or barricaded and considered as energized equipment, or the aerial lift must be insulated for the work being performed.
- Unqualified persons in an elevated bucket cannot be closer than 10 feet to power lines.
- When an unqualified person is working on the ground in the vicinity of overhead lines, the person on the ground may not bring any conductive object close to unguarded, energized overhead equipment.
- Material must not be passed between a pole or structure of an aerial lift while an employee working from the basket is within reaching distance of energized conductors or equipment that is not covered with insulating protective equipment.
- Employees standing on the ground may not contact the vehicle, mechanical equipment, or any of its attachments.

More regulations on Boom Trucks can be found at the following web site:
<http://www.osha.gov> or in the OSHA Construction Standard 1926.453 & 1926.955

Sponsored by

