

## Kitchener Aerial Platform Training

Kitchener Aerial Platform Training - Aerial platform lifts are able to accommodate numerous tasks involving high and tough reaching spaces. Often used to perform daily repair in structures with tall ceilings, prune tree branches, elevate heavy shelving units or mend phone lines. A ladder could also be used for many of the aforementioned projects, although aerial platform lifts offer more security and stability when correctly used.

There are many designs of aerial lifts available on the market depending on what the task required involves. Painters sometimes use scissor aerial lifts for instance, which are categorized as mobile scaffolding, useful in painting trim and reaching the 2nd story and higher on buildings. The scissor aerial hoists use criss-cross braces to stretch and enlarge upwards. There is a table attached to the top of the braces that rises simultaneously as the criss-cross braces elevate.

Cherry pickers and bucket lift trucks are another kind of the aerial lift. Typically, 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 hoists have a hydraulic arm that extends outward and raises the platform. Every one of these aerial lift trucks require special training to operate.

Through the Occupational Safety & Health Association, also called OSHA, training programs are offered to help ensure the employees satisfy occupational values for safety, system operation, inspection and repair and machine load capacities. Workers receive certification upon completion of the course and only OSHA qualified employees should operate aerial lifts. The Occupational Safety & Health Organization has established guidelines to maintain safety and prevent injury while utilizing aerial lift trucks. Common sense rules such as not using this piece of equipment to give rides and making sure all tires on aerial hoists are braced so as to hinder machine tipping are noted within the guidelines.

Sadly, figures reveal that greater than 20 aerial lift operators die each year while operating and almost ten percent of those are commercial painters. The bulk of these accidents were triggered by inappropriate tie bracing, hence many of these might have been prevented. Operators should ensure that all wheels are locked and braces as a critical security precaution to stop the instrument from toppling over.

Marking the encompassing area with visible markers have to be used to safeguard would-be passers-by in order that they do not come near the lift. In addition, markings must be placed at about 10 feet of clearance between any utility lines and the aerial lift. Lift operators must at all times be appropriately harnessed to the lift while up in the air.