Platforms – Elevating Use Fact Sheets



WHAT SHOULD I DO WHEN USING AN ELEVATED PLATFORM?

- Have proper training before operating controls.
- Know what to do and follow the emergency procedures in the event of an incident.
- Read, understand and follow the instructions in the manufacturer’s operating manual.
- Tow only vehicles that are designed specifically for that use.
- Wear a safety harness that is fixed to a platform attachment point.
- Maintain three-point contact (one hand and two feet, or two hands and one foot) when getting on or off the platform.
- Maintain firm footing on the platform.
- Look in the direction of travel and make sure that path is firm and level. Always be aware of obstructions that may cause the platform to overturn or to collide with people, cables, power lines, vehicles, etc.

What should I do when working near electrical conductors?

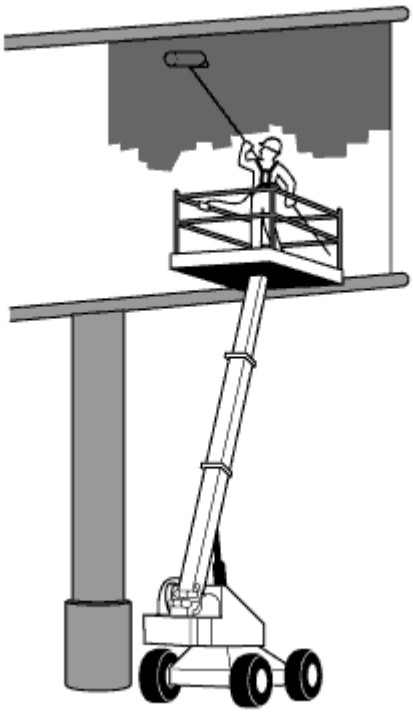
Measure the distance to electrical wires and maintain minimum clearance distances according to safety regulations.

Measure distance from the extreme outside dimension of the work platform and equipment, the safety lines, cables, materials or tools handled to the nearest energized conductor. This conductor could be a wire, transformer or any other energized component. When the minimum distance cannot be maintained, stop all work and contact the authority controlling the electrical system for advice.

What should I not do when using an elevated platform?

- Do not exceed the rated load capacity.
- Do not use a platform without guardrails in place.
- Do not enter or leave a platform when it is elevated.
- Do not use ladders or other devices on the platform to gain extra height.
- Do not stand on guardrails to gain extra height.
- Do not lean over platform railings.
- Do not climb up or down extension or scissor areas.
- Do not use a defective platform.
- Do not use the platform as a jack.
- Do not use guardrails to carry materials unless designed for this purpose.
- Do not overload. Make sure the load is evenly distributed.
- Do not lift loads that overhang from the platform.
- Do not use platform for pulling, pushing or dragging materials.

- Do not trap the operator between the platform and the structure (e.g., the operator becomes trapped in a confined space and may not be able to reach the controls).
- Do not allow objects to fall on to people below.
- Do not use in poor weather, especially high winds that may tilt the platform.
- Do not move the elevating work platform unless all workers on it are properly protected against falling by a safety belt attached to the platform.



Source: © Copyright 1997-2021 CCOHS