

TOOL BOX TALKS

Bucket Truck Safety

Construction Slip, Trip and Fall Prevention



Bucket trucks are a much safer and efficient option when compared to ladders or scaffold use. However, bucket truck operations can expose employees to hazards that could cause an injury or death. Follow the tool box tips below to reduce your exposure to injury.

Tool Box Tips

1. Wear your seat belt when driving or riding in trucks.
2. Perform a vehicle safety check before operating.
3. Get training before operating a bucket truck.
4. Know how to lower the boom manually in the event of an emergency.
5. Do not touch a boom truck that is in contact with a power line.
6. Use fall protection equipment when working from a bucket truck.
7. Use short lanyards when working in the bucket.
8. Always inspect fall protection equipment before each use.
9. Do not overload the boom's rated lift capacity.
10. Survey the job site for overhead power line hazards. Keep a minimum clearance of 10 feet from overhead lines.
11. When in doubt about an overhead power line, contact your local power company for specific instructions.
12. Never drive the truck with anyone in the bucket.
13. When the platform is elevated, remember events could shock load the boom such as wind, hydraulic failure, overloading, and load shift.
14. Set up properly in traffic using cones and protective devices to prevent the truck from being struck.



A fall protection harness needs to be worn at all times.



Do a quality safety check of booms and systems before use.



Set up to protect the truck from being struck by vehicles. Set up on stable and level ground.

These advisory materials have been developed from national standards and sources believed to be reliable, however, no guarantee is made as to the sufficiency of the information contained in the material and Missouri Employers Mutual Insurance Company assumes no liability for its use. Advice about specific situations should be obtained from a safety professional.

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