

# TOOL BOX TALKS

## Fall Protection Aerial Lifts

Operators of articulating boom lifts, bucket trucks and straight boom lifts should all wear fall protection. Why? Because articulating, rotating boom lifts can shake or “whip” the boom, catapulting the operator out of the bucket. The operator must stay in the bucket at all times, because the basket or bucket is a “roll cage” during an accident. If the operator is thrown out, death could occur.

### WORKSAFE TIPS

#### HAZARDOUS!

**No body harness or lanyard!  
Nothing will keep the operator  
from falling out!**



#### FALL PROTECTION IN AERIAL LIFTS

- Go above and beyond – wear fall protection whenever in ANY platform machine.
- Wear a SHORT lanyard when in any articulating boom machines.
- A 6-foot lanyard is too long—the operator can still fall or be thrown out.
- Retractable lanyards (yo-yos) still allow users to stand on the guardrails—HAZARDOUS!
- Never allow operators to stand on the guardrails – with or without fall protection!
- Use a 2-or 4-foot lanyard.
- Don't tie a 6-foot lanyard off to the handrails – it will not prevent a fall out.
- The basket is a roll-cage when the machine is involved in an accident.
- Stage the machine where it cannot be struck by traffic or other machines.
- Get training before riding in or using articulated boom machines.

#### HAZARDOUS!

**A Lanyard that is too long and will not  
prevent the user from falling over the  
guardrail.**

**Will the cable anchorage withstand the  
impact forces of a fall?**

