



# TOOLBOX TALKS

## Fall Toolbox Talk # 1

### How do we prevent falls from aerial lifts?

Ask the following questions and give time for answers.

**What are the hazards?** Falls due to work with aerial lifts

**What are the results?** Broken bones, internal damage, death

**What should we look for?** Equipment damaged or used other than intended, untrained operators, lack of fall protection, overloaded equipment, workers standing on guardrails, ladders on the platform, un-level or unstable surface, or improper driving

#### Actual Incident:

West Chester, PA: An employee was installing gutters along the edge of a roof. The employee was fastening the gutters using a screw gun. The employee was using an articulating boom aerial lift as a means to fasten the gutters and to access the roof to complete the installation. While climbing out of the lift to access the roof, the employee fell 40 feet to the ground. The employee was permanently disabled.

#### What to Do While Operating an Aerial Lift

##### Fall Protection:

- \* Ensure that access gates or openings are closed.
- \* Stand firmly on the floor of the bucket or lift platform.
- \* Do not climb on or lean over guardrails or handrails.
- \* Do not use planks, ladders, or other devices as a working position.
- \* Use a full-body harness with a lanyard attached to the boom or bucket.
- \* Do not belt-off to adjacent structures or poles while in the bucket.



Source: IUOE National Training Fund

*This information has been developed by OSHA and its partners with the intent to assist employers, workers, and others as they strive to improve workplace health and safety. This information must be understood as a tool for addressing workplace hazards, rather than an exhaustive statement of an employer's legal obligations, which are defined by statute, regulations, and standards.*





# TOOLBOX TALKS

## Fall Toolbox Talk # 1

### How do we prevent falls from aerial lifts? (continued)

Ask the following questions about lifts used on this site and ensure every item is covered.

#### Let's talk about this site now.

- \* Have you received formal training on the safe operation of aerial lifts?
- \* How do you sign up for training? Who conducts the training?
- \* Demonstrate how to inspect equipment (move group to equipment for demonstration).
- \* Is fall protection available for use with aerial lifts? Do you use a fall arrest or fall restraint system? How do you select the proper equipment?

Record questions below that you want to ask about this site.

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