



SAFETY ALERT # 22



June 1, 2007

In the interest of keeping everyone safe CAMSAFETY will be sharing injury information with preliminary root cause analysis. This information is intended to make you think not assess blame. If you have an incident that you would like to share send us the information and we will pass it along.

FATAL FALL FROM ARTICULATING AERIAL LIFT

The question has come up a million times, “why should I tie off to the bucket and not the structure I’m working on”. Statistics have shown that the greater hazard is being thrown from the bucket rather than equipment failure. This is a “perfect” example of that problem.

What Happened

The employee was operating an aerial lift, with an extendable boom rotating aerial work platform. He was thrown from the basket while moving the machine. The boom was fully extended and the machine apparently ran over some bricks, causing the boom to flex or spring, throwing the employee from the basket. The fall was about 37 feet to a concrete surface. The employee died from severe head and chest injuries.



The foreman was not on the site at the time.

Prevention: (Aerial Lifts are covered by MIOSHA Part 32)

1. Have a competent person conduct frequent regular inspections of the worksite.
2. Permit only those employees qualified by training to operate equipment and machinery. MIOSHA Rule: 3207(1)
3. Instruct each employee in the recognition and avoidance of unsafe conditions and the regulations applicable to his or her work environment.
4. Require the wearing of a body harness and lanyard at all times while in this type of device, in accordance with MIOSHA Rule: 3209(11)
5. Belting off to an adjacent pole, structure, or equipment while working from an aerial work platform is prohibited. MIOSHA Rule: 3209(13)
6. Before moving the lift the operator must make sure that the path of travel is free of obstructions and other hazards. MIOSHA Rule: 3209(27)