

AI-01624 Scissor Life Mechanism

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🕒 Created time	@April 21, 2025 10:56 AM

History of the scissor lift invention

The invention of the scissor lift as we commonly know it today is most widely credited to **Charles Larson** of the United States.

Here's a breakdown of its history:

- 1. The Concept:** The core mechanism of the scissor lift uses a linked, folding support system in a criss-cross 'X' pattern, known as a pantograph. Pantograph mechanisms themselves have existed for centuries, used in various applications.
- 2. Larson's Patent:** Charles Larson filed a patent for his invention, titled "Mobile Elevating Support," in April 1963, which was granted in 1966 (US Patent 3,256,958). While working for Selma Trailer and Manufacturing Company in California, Larson designed this specific type of elevating work platform.
- 3. Motivation:** The invention was driven by the need for a safe and mobile way to elevate workers and materials to height, particularly in construction and maintenance industries.
- 4. Early Development & Adoption:** Following Larson's design, various companies began manufacturing and refining scissor lifts. They quickly gained popularity due to their stability, relatively large platform size, and ability to lift significant weight straight up.

While Charles Larson is generally credited with the invention of the modern, practical scissor lift, it's worth noting that patents for similar lifting mechanisms

using pantographs may exist from earlier dates, potentially like John W. Parker's concept. However, Larson's design is recognized as the basis for the successful commercial scissor lifts used widely today.

Okay, here are 22 examples for each of the categories you requested:

22 Examples of Uses for Scissor Lifts:

1. General construction tasks (e.g., installing drywall, siding)
2. Exterior and interior painting
3. Window washing and installation
4. Building maintenance and repairs (e.g., facade cleaning, roof access)
5. Electrical work (installing fixtures, running cables)
6. Plumbing installation at height
7. HVAC system installation and maintenance
8. Warehouse operations (stocking shelves, inventory checks)
9. Order picking in distribution centers
10. Installing and maintaining signage
11. Setting up lighting and sound equipment for events
12. Stage construction and assembly
13. Film and television production (camera positioning, lighting adjustment)
14. Aircraft maintenance and inspection
15. Bridge inspection and repair work
16. Tunnel maintenance
17. Orchard work (fruit picking - specialized lifts)
18. Greenhouse maintenance
19. Cleaning high ceilings and fixtures in large venues
20. Installation of fire sprinkler systems
21. Telecommunications tower work (at lower levels)

22. Assisting in decorating for large-scale events or holidays

22 Examples of Manufacturers of Scissor Lifts (Past & Present):

1. JLG Industries
2. Genie (a Terex Brand)
3. Skyjack (a Linamar Brand)
4. Snorkel
5. Haulotte Group
6. MEC Aerial Work Platforms
7. Aichi Corporation
8. Dingli Machinery
9. Manitou Group
10. Sinoboom
11. LGMG (Lingong Machinery Group)
12. PB Lifttechnik
13. Holland Lift
14. Niftylift
15. Custom Equipment / Hy-Brid Lifts
16. UpRight Powered Access (now part of Snorkel)
17. Bil-Jax (historical brand, acquired)
18. GMG (Global Machinery Group)
19. Zhejiang Runshare
20. Mantall Heavy Industry
21. Platform Basket (more specialized, but related)
22. EdmoLift (primarily industrial/stationary lifts)

22 Examples of Types of Scissor Lifts:

1. Slab Scissor Lifts (designed for smooth, flat surfaces like concrete)

2. Electric Scissor Lifts (battery-powered, zero emissions)
3. Diesel Scissor Lifts (engine-powered, higher torque for outdoor use)
4. Rough Terrain Scissor Lifts (4WD, rugged tires, leveling outriggers)
5. Hydraulic Scissor Lifts (use hydraulic cylinders for lifting)
6. Pneumatic Scissor Lifts (use compressed air, less common for mobile platforms)
7. Narrow Aisle Scissor Lifts (designed for tight spaces)
8. High-Capacity Scissor Lifts (designed to lift heavier loads)
9. Micro Scissor Lifts (very compact, for low-level access)
10. Bi-Energy Scissor Lifts (can switch between electric and diesel power)
11. Tracked Scissor Lifts (use tracks instead of wheels for extreme terrain)
12. Push-Around Scissor Lifts (manually positioned)
13. Self-Propelled Scissor Lifts (can be driven from the platform)
14. Stationary Scissor Lifts (fixed in one location, often industrial)
15. Lift Tables (stationary scissor mechanism for lifting goods/materials)
16. Double Scissor Lifts (stacked mechanism for higher reach, usually stationary)
17. Low-Level Access Platforms (includes smaller, lighter scissor types)
18. Compact Scissor Lifts (general term for smaller models)
19. Mega Deck Scissor Lifts (feature extra-large platforms)
20. Explosion-Proof Scissor Lifts (designed for hazardous environments)
21. Stainless Steel Scissor Lifts (for hygienic environments like food processing)
22. Single Scissor Lifts (standard configuration with one set of arms)