SCISSOR LIFT / SAFETY TRAINING

One of the greatest hazards and most frequent causes of preventable scissor lift accidents is poor stabilization. If the scissor lift is not properly secured, it can make the machine tip over, causing damage to the equipment and crew.

Here are a few rules to follow to ensure your scissor lift does not tip over:

- ✔ Always work on firm, level surfaces.
- ✔ If your project is on rough terrain, make sure you use a scissor lift specifically made for use in that environment.
- ✔ Always lower the work platform completely before moving the equipment.
- ✔ Only work in appropriate weather -most outdoor-rated scissor lifts are only approved for use in wind speeds under 28 mph.

On rare occasions, scissor lifts can also collapse, injuring those on and around the equipment. To prevent this:

- ✔ Always check the failsafe functions on your machinery before use.
- ✔ Never exceed the weight limit listed in the manufacturer's manual.
- ✔ Never use other equipment to raise the work platform.

How to Safely Position a Scissor Lift:

- ✔ To prevent crushing incidents, use caution any time you must move the scissor lift.
- ✔ Be sure to clear the surrounding area of people and stay aware of moving vehicles and stationary objects that might be in the moving scissor lift's path.
- ✔ If your worksite is crowded, assign someone to handle traffic control to prevent collisions.
- ✔ When working on projects that involve or are located near a power source, be sure to maintain a careful distance to prevent electric damage. Always avoid direct contact with power lines.

Protective Controls

Like all heavy machinery, a scissor lift comes equipped with an emergency stop button that will shut down all functions immediately in case of an emergency. However, it is important to regularly test this and any other emergency controls to make sure all systems are functioning correctly and will operate properly in an emergency.

To ensure safety on and around the scissor lift, like how to get on the platform using the three points of contact method.
Three Points of Contact Rule: It means that three out of the four limbs are always in contact with whatever vehicle, ladder or stable platform you are mounting or dismounting from. It should be used if you are going to utilize heavy equipment, ladders or other stable platforms that you are climbing on and off of.

NOTE: Always test and inspect the scissor lift's controls before every use, paying special attention to the emergency stop function. Though the whole unit should be inspected regularly, it is especially important to test the guardrail and brakes often in order to prevent unexpected failure during a project.