



## **BOOM LIFT / SAFETY TRAINING**

Boom lifts are an important component of the proper deployment and completion of many construction projects. However, given the size, scale, and structure of this type of equipment, they can also pose substantial risk and have the potential to cause serious injury if effective safety measures are not followed.



### **Keep a clear base and circumference**

Always make sure that the base and the entire circumference of the boom lift are clear of any personnel while the boom lift is in use. The circumference of the lift is often significant, and tools can easily fall from the platform, keeping the entire area clear minimizes the risk of anyone being hit below by objects that may fall.

### **Wear your harness**

A simple but vital safety measure is wearing a harness and ensuring the lanyard is fully secured to the bucket. While it may seem unlikely that an operator will fall out of the platform, even the slightest bump from another piece of equipment or object can throw an operator off-balance and put them at risk of falling. Even a strong gust of wind could knock someone down off the platform and cause serious injury.

### **Don't go over the weight limit**

Each boom lift has a specific weight capacity. It is important to identify and adhere to these restrictions. Going over this limit, even slightly, could potentially make the lift top-heavy and cause it to tip over. One should always account for the weight of the operator on the lift as well as all tools and materials on the platform to ensure that the combined weight is not more than the recommended capacity before operating the lift.

### **Don't climb or sit on outer edges**

When on the platform of a boom lift, it is easy to be inclined to climb on the edge of the platform to reach something instead of moving the entire boom lift to reach it. However, this is more dangerous than many realize. Climbing or sitting on the edge of the platform significantly increases one's chances of falling off the platform and can result in serious injury. If there is something that isn't accessible, communicate with the boom lift operator to help get to a safe position in the platform where you can easily reach what is needed.

### **Avoid windy conditions**

If the wind is strong enough, it can knock a boom lift over completely. One should avoid using boom lifts in extremely windy conditions or in other adverse weather to avoid the risk of a boom lift potentially falling over.

### **Operate on level ground**

Ensuring the boom lift is being operated on even ground and on a stable base will help keep the operator and surrounding workers safe.

**Pre-start checks:** Do not use if battery power is low. Recharge battery before use. Top up liquids if levels are low. Check top and bottom controls. Do not use if movements "jerky". Do not use if brakes or stops do not prevent all movement of unit. Check operation of gate latch. Safety harness must be always worn by people in platform.

**Important:** Remove obstacles and cover voids, drains, etc. Check for clearance for boom. Always travel at safe speed. Corner at slow speed only. Do not travel with boom raised. Ensure that gates on cage closed. Use barricades, traffic cones and signs to prevent collision of other plant or vehicles working in vicinity with boom lift.