## **Aerial Lift Chain**

Aerial lifts might be used to accomplish a lot of different duties executed in hard to reach aerial places. A few of the odd jobs associated with this type of lift include performing daily preservation on structures with high ceilings, repairing telephone and power lines, raising burdensome shelving units, and pruning tree branches. A ladder might also be utilized for some of the aforementioned jobs, although aerial platform lifts provide more security and stability when correctly used.

There are several models of aerial hoists available on the market depending on what the task required involves. Painters sometimes use scissor aerial jacks for instance, which are classified as mobile scaffolding, useful in painting trim and reaching the 2nd story and higher on buildings. The scissor aerial hoists use criss-cross braces to stretch and extend upwards. There is a platform attached to the top of the braces that rises simultaneously as the criss-cross braces lift.

Cherry pickers and bucket trucks are another type of the aerial hoist. Typically, they contain a bucket at the end of an elongated arm and as the arm unfolds, the attached bucket platform rises. Forklifts use a pronged arm that rises upwards as the handle is moved. Boom lifts have a hydraulic arm that extends outward and raises the platform. Every one of these aerial lifts call for special training to operate.

Through the Occupational Safety & Health Association, also labeled OSHA, training programs are on hand to help make sure the workforce meet occupational values for safety, machine operation, inspection and maintenance and machine load capacities. Employees receive qualifications upon completion of the course and only OSHA licensed personnel should run aerial platform lifts. The Occupational Safety & Health Organization has established rules to maintain safety and prevent injury while utilizing aerial lifts. Common sense rules such as not utilizing this machine to give rides and ensuring all tires on aerial platform lifts are braced in order to hinder machine tipping are mentioned within the rules.

Unfortunately, data reveal that in excess of 20 aerial lift operators die each year when operating and just about ten percent of those are commercial painters. The majority of these mishaps were brought on by inappropriate tie bracing, hence several of these may well have been prevented. Operators should make sure that all wheels are locked and braces as a critical safety precaution to prevent the machine from toppling over.

Other guidelines involve marking the surrounding area of the device in an observable way to safeguard passers-by and to guarantee they do not come too close to the operating machine. It is imperative to ensure that there are also 10 feet of clearance between any electrical cables and the aerial hoist. Operators of this apparatus are also highly recommended to always have on the appropriate security harness when up in the air.