

Toolbox Talk

Mobile Elevated Work Platforms



What?

- This is a general term used for scissor lift, aerial platform, or an extendable or articulating boom aerial device (either self-propelled or vehicle-mounted) used for the purpose of positioning personnel, their tools, and necessary materials to elevated work locations and is often referred to as a “MEWP”
- They provide a quick and reliable safe place of work to prevent people falling from height but require trained personnel to operate the equipment to avoid mishap

Why?

- Falling from height is the largest single cause of fatal accidents in the workplace
- Most falls happen because the equipment used to work at height is unsuitable for the work being carried out
- Mobile Elevated Work Platforms (MEWPs) are increasingly being used as temporary working platforms to provide a safe place of work at height and are considered to be very effective at preventing falls from height

Do



- ✓ Always make sure the MEWP is segregated from other site traffic
- ✓ Look out for overhead or adjacent structures which may trap or crush personnel
- ✓ Comply with permit to work arrangements
- ✓ Check ground is firm and level when setting up the equipment
- ✓ Wear and attach fall arrest equipment before leaving the ground
- ✓ Make sure you have received proper training before operating this equipment
- ✓ Inspect daily for defects
- ✓ Check equipment has been thoroughly examined within the last 6 months
- ✓ Communicate a rescue plan before any person operates a MEWP at height

Don't



- ✗ Use for anything other than it's intended purpose
- ✗ Climb out of the platform from any raised height
- ✗ Over-ride the controls
- ✗ Overload the platform
- ✗ Put yourself in a position where you could be trapped or crushed when the platform moves
- ✗ Allow things to fall from the platform
- ✗ Ignore defects or other operational problems, report them immediately
- ✗ Operate a MEWP at height without a 'Nominated Ground Rescue Person'

**Are you trained to use
this equipment?
If not, you should be!**