

MOBILE ELEVATED WORK PLATFORMS (MEWPS)

February 2021

This fact sheet is intended to give information on the required certifications and training for MEWP operators.

Are MEWP operators required to be trained?

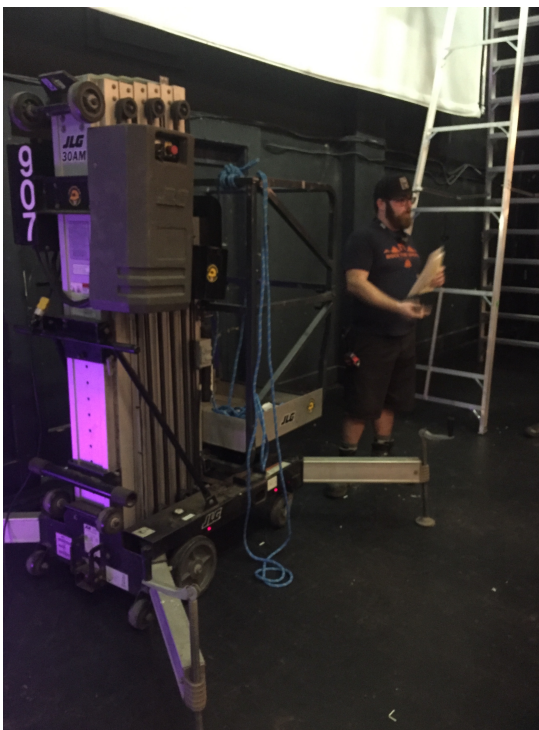
- Yes, all lift operators must be trained to use a MEWP safely
- Only qualified personnel who have been trained and familiarized in the inspection, application, and operation of an aerial platform, including the recognition and avoidance of hazards associated with their operation, shall operate an aerial platform

What training is required to operate a MEWP?

- Mobile Equipment: (If it can be driven from its work position: scissor lift, boom lift)
 - All operators are required to have documented training
- Elevating work and portable powered platform (E.g. AWP24, AWP30):
 - *Workers are required to be trained and competent in the use of this equipment*

What are the different types of MEWP?

- **Boom-supported:**
 - Supported by an elevating device that telescopes, articulates, rotates, or extends relative to the machine base or vehicle, so that the platform can be positioned completely beyond the base
- **Elevating work platform:**
 - A movable work platform that self-elevates to overhead work locations
- **Portable powered platform:**
 - A movable work platform that is raised or lowered by other than manual means, and is not permanently installed on or attached to a building or structure
- **Mobile equipment:**
 - A wheeled or tracked vehicle which is engine or motor powered, together with attached or towed equipment, but not a vehicle operated on fixed rails or tracks



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What is the expiration date on MEWP certifications?

Expiration of valid training period shall not exceed 5 years. The retraining frequency is determined by the employer and if it's a 2017 or newer MEWP then retraining is recommended to not exceed 5 years.



When will operators need to be retrained?

When the operator's certification expires or as necessary, based on the observation of the employer or supervisor identifying one or more of the following:

- Deterioration of proficiency
- Following an accident or near-miss while operating or using a MEWP
- If a condition in the workplace changes in a manner that could affect the safe operation of the MEWP
- New MEWP technologies and working methods



Is a fall protection system required to be used in a MEWP?

- Yes, a person on an elevating work platform must wear a personal fall arrest system secured to a suitable and substantial anchorage point
- A person on a scissor lift, or on an elevating work platform with similar characteristics to a scissor lift, that is on a firm level surface with no irregularities to cause platform instability, is exempt from wearing a personal fall arrest system, provided that all manufacturer's guardrails and chains are in place

OPERATORS MUST


- Be knowledgeable about the lift, including safety devices
- Know what PPE is required
- Know how to
 - complete the required pre-use inspections
 - Get on and off safely, including protecting passengers

SAFE WORK PRACTICES

 DO	DO NOT 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that workers who operate MEWPs are adequately trained and are instructed in how to operate the equipment as per manufacturers instructions. • Ensure proper supervision of all operators • Ensure that all wheels of an elevated lift are properly balanced on a solid base • Inspect the equipment thoroughly before starting your shift. Review and update the logbook. Report defects and conditions affecting the safe operation of the equipment to your supervisor or employer. Have any defect affecting safe operation corrected immediately before the equipment is used • Inspect the work area, including intended travel paths and taking into consideration the activities of other workers, to ensure adequate space for safe operation of the equipment • Stay clear of all overhead hazards and obstructions, including powerlines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never stand or pass under an elevated load or permit others to do so • Never place any part of your body in pinch points • Do not stand on top of a bucket, on guard rails, or use planks or ladders to gain extra height. • Do not exceed the rated load limit

Proof of Training

In general, the operator should keep the proof of training documentation with them at all times while operating the equipment.



Upgrade Training

Operators must receive upgrade training when any of the following circumstances arise:

- New equipment is introduced in the workplace that is unfamiliar to the operator
- The equipment is modified in a manner that affects its safe operation or load capacity
- The operating conditions or the environment in which the operator works has changed
- The operator has been involved in an incident relating to the equipment
- Skill or knowledge deficiencies have been identified
- The requirements of the applicable standards or the Regulation change

References:

- ANSI A92.24
- CSA B354.8
- OHSR Part 16. 16.1, 16.4, 16.5, 16.6, 16.34, 16.46
- OHSR Part 4. 4.3
- OHSR Part 13. 13.1, 13.33
- https://www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/safety_haz/platforms/bucket.html
- [G13.2\(1\)-3 Training requirements for operators of elevating work platforms](#)