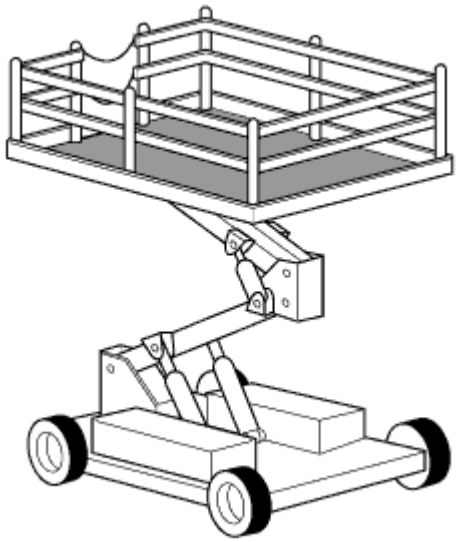
Platforms – Elevating Platforms Fact Sheet

WHAT ARE SOME TIPS FOR USING ELEVATING PLATFORMS?

- Follow the manufacturer’s operating instructions.
- Follow manufacturer’s guidelines for maintenance and operation of the engine and hydraulic systems.
- Ensure that operator controls are at platform level and remain accessible to the operator. Place emergency override controls at ground level.
- Lock wheels and use outriggers with adequate sole plates.
- Only operate the lift if you have received appropriate training.



What are some hazards to look for on the job site?

Check job site for:

- ditches,
- drop-offs or holes,
- bumps and obstructions,
- debris,
- untamped earth fills,
- overhead obstructions and electrical wires,
- moving vehicles or oncoming traffic,
- hazardous atmosphere, and
- weather conditions.

What should be inspected before using the platform?

Keep a log of all inspections and repairs. Report all concerns and repair before use.

Inspect the platform at the beginning of each shift for:

- the correct loading capacity for the job,
- overall frame condition,
- uncontrolled motion,
- loose connections or missing fasteners,
- improper adjustments,
- cracked welds,
- broken or fraying wire ropes,
- damaged electrical wires, or hydraulic or pneumatic lines,
- inefficient brakes,
- poor tire condition and pressure,
- missing load capacity postings,
- adequate fuel supply,
- damage to ladder or steps,
- broken safety devices (horns, emergency controls, gates, fall protection, anchorage points, etc.).

Inspections are also required on an annual or “hours of use” basis. See manufacturer’s guidelines or standards such as CSA B354.2-01 (R2013) “Self-Propelled Elevating Work Platforms”.

What should you do before raising or moving the platform?

- Check for overhead obstructions and electrical wires. Regulations set minimum distances that platforms must be from electrical wires.
- Place on a firm and level surface only.
- Position outriggers or stabilizers.
- Install platform guardrails properly and check that gates or openings are closed.
- Retract the extendable platforms before raising or lowering the device.
- Make sure all controls are clearly labelled with action and direction.
- Ensure that barriers on scissor-type lifting mechanisms are in place to prevent entry.
- Ensure that ropes, electrical cords and hoses will not entangle in the work platform.
- Load platform evenly according to manufacturer’s instructions.
- Do not trap the operator between the platform and the structure (e.g., the operator becomes trapped in a confined space and may not be able to reach the controls).
- Do not overload platform.
- Do not allow workers on or near the platform during raising or lowering.
- Ensure that the proper fall protection equipment is available and used by trained workers, and designated tie-off point is determined.

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