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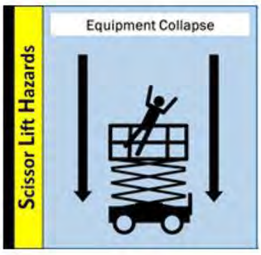
Scissor Lift Safety

One of the most convenient ways to perform elevated work is with a scissor lift. From the platform of a scissor lift, workers perform different types of tasks across a variety of industries. To ensure safety, operators of this equipment need to be aware of ways to prevent common hazards from being realized.

Preventing Falls

The guardrail system, which includes a top and mid rail, needs to be in place and fully intact before elevating the scissor lift.

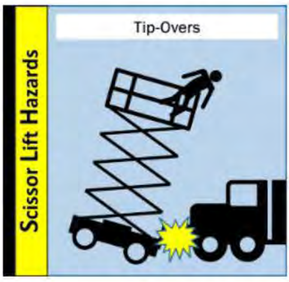
Feet need to remain on the floor of the platform. Never stand on the guardrails. Do not lean over the guardrails or away from the scissor lift. If the work cannot be easily reached, the equipment will need to be moved closer.

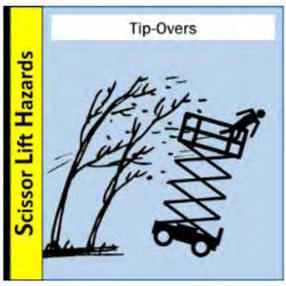


Preventing Collapse

Never exceed the weight limit set by the manufacturer. The load includes the weight of the worker(s) and tools, equipment, materials, etc.

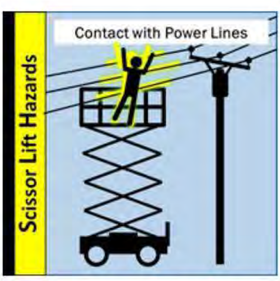
Inspect the equipment prior to use to ensure that all components and safety systems are in proper working condition.





Preventing Tip-Overs

Avoid moving the lift when it is elevated. If re-positioning is necessary, lower the platform first. Only operate the scissor lift on stable, level surfaces. Take measures to ensure other types of equipment or vehicles remain a safe distance away and cannot contact the lift. Do not operate the scissor lift in windy conditions.



Preventing Contact

Stay at least ten feet away from electrical power sources since electricity can arc several feet even if no direct contact is made. Do not allow pedestrians to walk or other equipment to operate near the location of the scissor lift. Be aware of fixed objects, such as walls, and always scan the area before moving or elevating the lift.

information and images from OSHA & Genie