## **Aerial Lift Attachments**

Aerial Lift Attachment - Aerial lifts can accommodate numerous duties involving high and hard reaching spaces. Usually used to carry out routine preservation in structures with tall ceilings, prune tree branches, elevate burdensome shelving units or fix phone lines. A ladder might also be used for some of the aforementioned jobs, although aerial hoists provide more safety and strength when properly used.

There are a variety of different models of aerial lift trucks available, each being able to perform slightly unique jobs. Painters will often use a scissor lift platform, which is able to be utilized to get in touch with the 2nd story of buildings. The scissor aerial lifts use criss-cross braces to stretch and extend upwards. There is a table attached to the top of the braces that rises simultaneously as the criss-cross braces raise.

Cherry pickers and bucket lift trucks are a different variety of the aerial lift. Normally, they contain a bucket at the end of an extended arm and as the arm unfolds, the attached bucket lift rises. Lift trucks use a pronged arm that rises upwards as the lever is moved. Boom hoists have a hydraulic arm which extends outward and elevates the platform. All of these aerial lifts require special training to operate.

Training courses presented through Occupational Safety & Health Association, known also as OSHA, cover safety procedures, machine operation, repair and inspection and device weight capacities. Successful completion of these education programs earns a special certified license. Only properly licensed individuals who have OSHA operating licenses should drive aerial lift trucks. The Occupational Safety & Health Organization has developed guidelines to uphold safety and prevent injury while using aerial platform lifts. Common sense rules such as not using this apparatus to give rides and ensuring all tires on aerial platform lifts are braced in order to prevent machine tipping are noted within the rules.

Unfortunately, statistics reveal that greater than 20 aerial hoist operators die each year while operating and almost ten percent of those are commercial painters. The bulk of these incidents were triggered by inadequate tie bracing, therefore some of these might have been prevented. Operators should make sure that all wheels are locked and braces as a critical security precaution to stop the machine from toppling over.

Additional guidelines include marking the surrounding area of the machine in a visible manner to safeguard passers-by and to ensure they do not come too close to the operating machine. It is vital to ensure that there are also 10 feet of clearance between any utility cables and the aerial hoist. Operators of this equipment are also highly recommended to always wear the appropriate safety harness when up in the air.