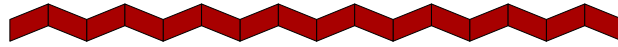




MANUAL AND SELF-PROPELLED AERIAL WORK PLATFORMS



Safety & Security Fact Sheet

✓ **WHAT ARE THEY?**

Powered personnel lifts are machines that use electrically powered hydraulic pumps to vertically raise a platform that the lift operator stands on in order to reach objects high overhead. When used properly, lifts are usually safer than ladders. However, operators of these machines are required to have proper training and give their full attention when using them. Powered personnel lifts can be divided into two major categories, manual and self-propelled.

✓ **MANUAL PROPELLED LIFTS**

Manual propelled lifts are the most common. This type of machine consists of an enclosed platform or "bucket" that is raised by means of telescoping mast sections. Two common manufacturers are Genie and Upright. Manual propelled lifts, as the name implies, are moved to the work location by pushing them. With training and certification, high school student theater technicians are allowed to use manual propelled lifts.

✓ **SELF-PROPELLED LIFTS**

Self-propelled powered lifts are moved by self contained electrical motor driven wheels operated from the aerial platform. These lifts are commonly called "scissor lifts" because the work platform is raised by means of metal arms that are hinged together like a pair of scissors. Students are prohibited from moving self-propelled lifts.

✓ **THERE ARE FIVE KEY CONCEPTS OF SAFE OPERATION THAT ALL OPERATORS OF LIFTS MUST PRACTICE EVERY TIME THEY USE A LIFT.**

1. **AVOID HAZARDOUS SITUATIONS AT ALL TIMES.** Operators must know the safety rules for the particular machine they are using. They must know the hazards of operating powered lifts.
2. **PERFORM A PRE-OPERATION INSPECTION.** A visual inspection of the machine is conducted to look for damaged or missing parts prior to testing the lift.
3. **PERFORM A FUNCTION TEST PRIOR TO USE.** All functions of the machine must be tested prior to use, including normal and emergency controls.
4. **INSPECT THE WORKPLACE.** Prior to placing the lift for use, the work area must be inspected so the operator will be aware of any possible hazards and remove those that can be eliminated.
5. **USE THE MACHINE AS A PERSONNEL LIFT ONLY.** These lifts are designed to lift people and tools only. They are not to be used for other purposes such as an equipment lift.

✓ **REQUIRED TRAINING**

Formal training is available from the Office of Safety and Security. Upon successful completion of the training program, an operators certificate card is issued.

If you need assistance, call the safety section at 571-423-2010.