



Western Canada Fire & First Aid Inc.

Subject: Mobile Elevating Work Platforms

(AKA) – Aerial Platform, Scissor Lift, Elevating Work Platform, EWP, Boom-lift, Genie, JLG, etc.

- Why are you receiving this information?
 - There are two new standards on this subject that will effect our clients:
 1. *CSA B354.7:17 Mobile elevating work platforms – Safety principles, inspection, maintenance and operation.*
 2. *CSA B354.8:17 Mobile elevating work platforms – Operator (driver) training.*
- The scheduled date for compliance to these standards has been postponed from December 2019 to March 2020.
- Frequently Asked Questions:
 1. Do supervisors require full training to the new standard?
 - Not according to the CSA standard, but the new ANSI standard may. However it depends what is adopted by Alberta or your local jurisdiction in their OHS regulation whether it is mandatory.
 - In addition though the CSA standard does require monitoring the performance and supervision of the work of the operator to ensure compliance with provisions of this international standard.
 - The Alberta OHS regulations require supervisors to be competent in their ability to supervise employees using this equipment.
 - Saga / WCFF advice: the supervisors should be fully trained to the new standard.
 2. Do current workers who are already trained need to be re-trained to the new standard?
 - It depends what their previous training included.



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- Much of what is required under the new standard is already required by Alberta OHS, however there are some new requirements that are not specified in the OHS regulations, yet.
 - Saga / WCFF advice: the workers should be trained to the new standard.
3. Does Saga / WCFF train to the new CSA standard?
- WCFF courses have always included mandatory training to be compliant with OHS and applicable standards.
 - Saga MEWP courses now being delivered by WCFF have been updated to the new standard and include three new subjects; Familiarization Training, Occupant Training, and CSA Classifications of MEWP.
 - Saga MEWP courses being delivered with the above updates and the thoroughness of the course in being compliant with the OHS regulations means they are compliant with the new CSA standard for “**Primary Training**”.
 - Keep in mind that one requirement of the standard is that “**Familiarization Training**” required in the standard must be done on the machine the worker will be operating, in their work environment.
4. Who Are Occupants?
- An Occupant is anyone in the MEWP platform who is not an Operator.
 - Under the new standards, occupants must receive training on fall protection systems and what to do if the operator can no longer operate the lift, safety concerning the lift, etc.
 - The operator is responsible for ensuring every occupant in the platform knows how to work safely on the MEWP.



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What our clients might like to know:

- The new standards affect all owners, operators and supervisors of aerial lifts including booms, scissor lifts and under-bridge inspection machines.
- The new standards are designed to enhance safety and shift North American equipment standards closer to international standards - allowing companies and equipment manufacturers to be more competitive in the global marketplace.
- The new standards place greater responsibility on the equipment user/owner regardless of whether they are a large maintenance operation or a small business that rents a scissor lift, boom lift, etc. for seasonal work.
- The new standards affect training, job site safety and equipment design. There are also new equipment classifications for scissor lifts, boom lifts, stock pickers, etc., and a new class of user: Occupants.
- Rather than being classified by the equipment type, machines are now broken up by Groups, then sub-divided into Types.
- All MEWP users, including both full-time owners and companies who occasionally rent aerial equipment, must develop a risk assessment and site safety plan. The plan must be documented and shared with everyone on the work site.
- There must be someone on the ground who can act as the Operator and return elevated workers to the ground in the event of an unexpected malfunction or an emergency.
- Maintenance personnel must conduct annual inspections in addition to evaluating any MEWP put into use after being out of service for three months or more.
- Maintenance personnel must also be trained on any new features load such as the load limit alarm, tilt sensor and wind speed sensor.
- Aerial Equipment Design; The standard includes new requirements for equipment manufacturers. *Existing equipment does not need to be retrofitted to meet the new standards*