

**Newport News Shipbuilding
Contractor Environmental, Health and Safety
Resource Manual**

Aerial and Scissors Lifts

AERIAL & SCISSORS LIFTS

1. *Hazard*

Aerial and scissors lifts are used in many industries including shipbuilding. They provide a flexible work platform that can be used to place a worker at an elevated work site quickly and safely. However, many hazards are created with the use of this equipment, including ejection or falling from the equipment, possible electrical hazards when working near electrical lines and equipment failure due to overloading.

2. *Regulations & Requirements*

- a. When employees will operate aerial or scissors lifts, OSHA and NNS require each employer to establish and implement a written compliance program to comply with 29 CFR 1910.67 or 1926.453 as applicable and the best management practices of ANSI A92.5 and ANSI A92.6.
- b. During the NNS pre-approval process each contractor whose employees will operate aerial or scissors lift equipment, must provide to the NNS Environmental, Health and Safety Department a copy of its written program. This document must describe the contractor's program for complying with each element of the applicable OSHA standard(s). The contractor shall provide a copy of any changes to the program on an annual basis, such as at the beginning of each year.
- c. The written compliance program shall specifically address the following items, in addition to the items already discussed:
 - 1) Mobile equipment used for handling personnel on barges or scows without bumpers shall be securely lashed ***and used only in attaining proper elevation.***
 - 2) When it is necessary to drive a lift while on a barge, the platform shall be fully telescoped in and brought to its stowed position. An observer must be used to ensure the travel path is clear of obstructions and debris while the lift is being driven. The observer must be in constant communication with the operator at all times.
 - 3) A boom or scissors lift will not be used for any purpose other than positioning working personnel, their tools, and equipment. Where no other means is available and access or exit is needed above ground from the platform (basket), all fall hazards must be eliminated by positioning

the platform as close as possible (within 12 inches) to the transfer surface. Alternatively, fall arrest protection with two lanyards must be provided. In all cases an operator must remain at the basket controls at all times when someone has exited from an elevated basket to another surface.

NOTE: Best management practice at NNS requires a console cover to prevent obstacles from striking or interfering with the operating controls.

- d. The contractor shall also ensure that associated OSHA regulations such as fall protection are addressed either in this program or additional written programs.
- e. Operators and passengers of scissor lifts must be tied off with a harness and lanyard.