MOSCA®

Task Method Statement

Description of Task	Mobile Elevated Work Platform (Cherry Pickers & Scissor Lifts)

Reference Number	TMS/01	Rev No	1.0
Date	01.02.2023	Review	12 months

Operator Competency Requirements	IPAF Cards: 3a (3a+)
Guidance Used	IPAF Information HSE General Information Sheet No 6: The selection, management and use of mobile elevating work platforms

1. Hazards Identified / Control Measures

The following hazards have been identified by carrying out a risk assessment of the task to be undertaken:

- Falls from height
- Items falling from height
- Ground conditions and consideration of underground services
- Contact with overhead powerlines/other services
- Weather conditions/wind speed/lightening risk/poor light
- MEWP struck by other vehicles
- Struck or crushed when moving MEWP's
- Incapacitated operator/failure of controls
- Contact with pedestrians
- Musculoskeletal damage
- Slips trips & falls

<u>Control measures</u>

- Only competent, trained staff allowed to operate MEWP's (IPAF 3a / 3a+ trained)
- MEWP's hired with current safety certificates; operators to carry out visual checks before each use in accordance with machine manual
- Minimum tools & equipment to be used on platform. Tools to be tethered if required by specific site risk assessment
- Work area to be protected by suitable barriers and warning signs
- Onsite risk assessment to be undertaken to assess local conditions. Particular attention paid to overhead cables and ground conditions. Proximity checks to be undertaken to identify overhead cables. Wind speed checked before starting work. Weather monitored throughout the operation, work to be ceased if high winds or inclement weather occurs
- Thoroughfares kept clear where MEWP's are operating
- Sufficient clearance and a low speed maintained when manoeuvring past, or under objects. Banksman to be used where necessary
- Good housekeeping maintained at all times
- Operators must ensure they are familiar with the emergency procedures documented in Section 4.
- Client/other identified site operative/s briefed on emergency auxiliary controls

2. Method of Work

General

- Contact Site Management and discuss work to be undertaken using site specific method statement. Discuss transport routes and access routes to position vehicle.
- Carry out a risk assessment of the site. Pay particular attention to the ground the MEWP will be positioned, check any available existing service drawings and overhead cables, any other obstructions and general weather conditions
- Ensure that the MEWP has a current safety certificate (within the last 6 months) and carry out 'Pre use' checks for any obvious defects in accordance with the Pre-use Checklist
- Check safe working load of machine. Never exceed the stated SWL
- Set up work barriers complete with warning signs as necessary and position MEWP. If possible, leave at least a 1m protective space around MEWP
- Where at all possible, segregate traffic routes to keep pedestrians away from the work area
- Ensure that the appropriate PPE is worn i.e., safety boots/high visibility clothing/safety hat. A full body harness with adjustable lanyard connected to the appropriate anchor point may be required
- Always be aware of other site activities; immediately stop work and report any unsafe conditions

Travelling to & from the work area

- When manoeuvring the MEWP, where possible choose routes that will avoid overhead obstructions and give a clear thoroughfare
- Where overhead obstructions cannot be avoided, ensure that there is sufficient clearance and maintain a low speed when travelling past or under obstructions
- Do not travel with the platform raised or extended
- Always remain within the constraints of the platform; it is prohibited to lean out over the safety rails
- Keep the minimum amount of tools & equipment on the platform during manoeuvring procedures. Ensure that no items are left leaning against the safety rails or near the controls which could cause a distraction whilst moving. Be aware of other distractions such as mobile phones while using the operating controls
- Use a banksman for manoeuvring if necessary

Accessing the work area and working at height

- Ensure that there is sufficient clearance if working near obstructions. If sufficient clearance cannot be maintained, stop work and report to the Site Manager
- It is prohibited to lean out over the safety rail, if the work area cannot be accessed safely, reposition the MEWP or report to the Site Manager who will investigate alternative access arrangements
- Use only the necessary amount of tools & equipment required on the platform for the task being performed. Ensure that no items are left leaning against the safety rails or near the controls which can cause a distraction when operating the controls. Also ensure that the platform is kept as tidy as possible to reduce the risk of slips or trips
- Never leave the MEWP unattended without first ensuring that the machine cannot be used by unauthorised people

Significant safety aspects

- Never lean out over the safety rails. If the work area is difficult to access, the MEWP must be repositioned or an alternative form of access considered
- Operators must be aware of overhead power cables. The safe recommended set up distance from wooden poles carrying power cables is 9m. The safe recommended set up distance from steel pylons is 15m
- Check the wind loading of the individual machine you are using. Some machines are only designed to be used indoors. If the machine is designed to be used outdoors, do not start work if the wind speed is in excess of 12.5m/s. If weather conditions deteriorate and the wind speed approaches 12.5 m/s, immediately stop work and lower the MEWP to the lowered position

Never use a MEWP:

- As a support for ladders, trestles or other access equipment
- In weather conditions likely to make it unstable
- Without a current safety certificate
- Unless all controls and safety devices are functioning correctly

3. Personal Protective Equipment

Mandatory

- Safety boots to BS EN ISO 20346
- High visibility vest to BS EN 471
- Safety helmet to BS EN 397

Additional PPE Requirements, (if required)

- A work restraint system would normally consist of a full body harness (BS EN 361) connected to a lanyard (BS EN 354) which is connected to an anchor point on the MEWP basket.

Hearing protection, safety gloves, dust masks and wet/cold weather gear is available if required.

4. Emergency Procedures

Emergency Situation	Proposed Action
Failure of upper control functions whilst elevated	Where the normal upper control functions fail, the operator will use the upper auxiliary controls to lower the platform safely
Failure of the operator being able to operate the MEWP functions whilst elevated due to: A. Operator incapacitated B. Auxiliary functions fail to operate from upper control station	Where the operator is incapable of lowering the raised platform using the upper controls, an appointed person familiarised in the use of the 'ground' controls will lower the platform safely using the normal ground controls
Failure of normal ground controls	Where the normal ground controls fail, an appointed person familiarised in the use of the 'ground' controls will use the ground auxiliary controls to safely lower the platform

Failure of ALL normal and auxiliary lowering functions	Where all normal and auxiliary functions have failed, a competent and authorised service engineer should be contacted

Names of nominated ground person(s) on site, familiarised and authorised to lower the work platform in the event of an emergency or a machine malfunction:

Name:	Name:
Signature:	Signature:

5. Consideration for mid-air rescue

A mid-air, platform to platform rescue should only be considered in exceptional circumstances and only after:

- All normal and auxiliary lowering procedures have been attempted and these are unable to lower the platform
- Site management have contacted the competent and authorised service engineer listed in the rescue plan, to report failure of normal and auxiliary lowering systems and request engineering assistance

If after inspection by the competent engineering assistance, it is not possible to affect a timely repair to allow the machine to be brought to the ground safely, senior site management should be contacted for permission to carry out mid-air rescue.

Or

Where the competent engineering assistance is not readily available and an immediate risk exists to the health and safety of any of the occupants from remaining in the elevated basket until an engineer can attend, then senior site management should be contacted for permission to carry out mid-air rescue.

In the unlikely event of amid-air rescue being required, immediately contact the Installation Manager who will make the necessary arrangements.