

Roofing Contractor Falls from a Boom-Supported Elevating Work Platform*

Industry: Roofing contractors

Task: Securing roof truss

Occupation: Roofing contractor

Type of Incident: Fall from equipment

Release Date: August 31, 2010

Incident Date: September 27, 2008

Case No.: 08WA05001

SHARP Report No.: 71-95-2010

On September 27, 2008, a roofing contractor died when he fell from a boom-supported elevating work platform. The 53-year-old victim was working from a boom-supported elevating work platform to secure a roof truss while building an airplane hanger on a homeowner's property. He used the end of the boom just under the front of the platform to push against a truss girder so that he could line up the girder and bolt it. The shaft on the hydraulic boom snapped, causing the platform to flip backwards. He was ejected from the platform, fell, and hit a backhoe below before landing on the ground about 30 feet below. He was not wearing a body harness with a lanyard.



Boom-supported platform and roof truss at incident scene.



Front view of boom-supported platform.

Requirements

- ✓ All persons on boom-supported elevating work platforms must wear a full body harness and lanyard fixed to manufacturer provided and approved attachment points or the boom or platform if the manufacturer does not specify an attachment point. See [WAC 296-869-60040](#) and [296-869-20045](#)
- ✓ Do not position the elevating work platform against another object. See [WAC 296-869-60020](#)
- ✓ Only use the elevating work platforms for their intended purpose as specified by the manufacturer. See [WAC 296-869-60005](#)

Recommendations

- ✓ Use the proper equipment, tools, or methods, such as bracing or guying, designed for the purpose of adjusting material into position.
- ✓ Conduct a job hazard analysis which should account for site conditions, activities, and hazards.

State Wide Statistics: This was number 53 out of 72 work-related fatalities in Washington State during 2008, and was number 15 out of 18 construction-related fatalities.

**This bulletin was developed to alert employers and employees of a tragic loss of life of a worker in Washington State and is based on preliminary data ONLY and does not represent final determinations regarding the nature of the incident or conclusions regarding the cause of the fatality.*

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