



MOBILE ELEVATING WORK PLATFORM SAFETY

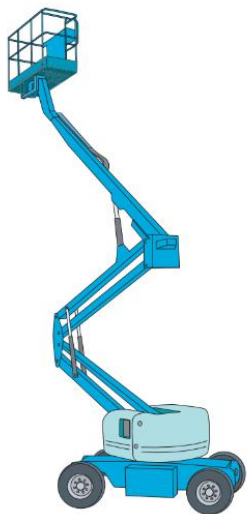
Mobile Elevating Work Platforms (MEWPs) are widely used for working at height. Operating or using MEMPs unsafely can lead to serious injuries or even fatalities. From early 2024 to late November 2024, several MEWP-related accidents occurred in the construction industry. The Construction Industry Council (CIC) would like to deliver this safety message for your attention. It would be appreciated if you could distribute the message below to your fellow members, relevant personnel or other industry stakeholders where appropriate. Thank you very much.

Major Hazards of Using and Operating MEWPs

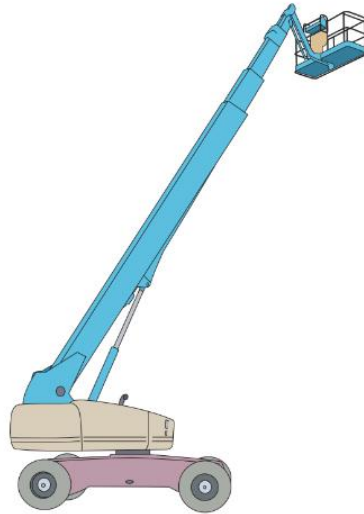
- The operator being trapped between the MEWP and other fixed objects while the MEWP is moving or raising
- The MEWP tipped over and crushed the workers
- Workers fell from the MEWP
- Worker is struck by a moving or rotating MEWP
- The MEWP's boom suddenly broke

Selection of a Suitable MEWPs for Work

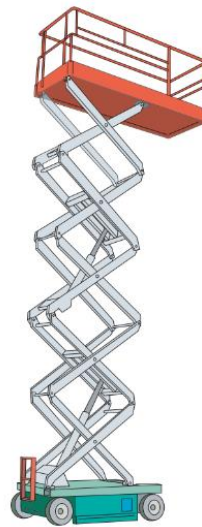
MEWPs are commonly classified as follows, "The articulating boom type", "The telescopic boom type", "The scissor type" and "The vertical mast type". Employer or Contractors shall select the suitable MEWPs for work depending upon the working environment and the nature of work. Factors to consider include the working height, horizontal distance, total working load with weight of personnel, equipment and materials, the clearance working space and safety devices, etc.



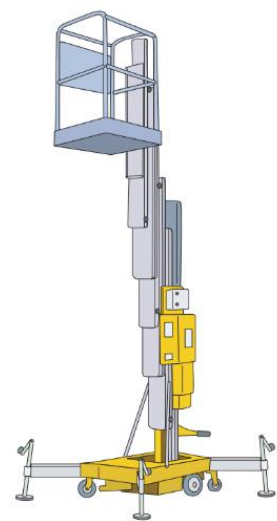
The articulating boom type



The telescopic boom type



The scissor type



The vertical mast type



Safety Roles and Responsibilities

The Employer or Contractors

- Select a suitable MEWP to ensure that its safe working capacity, height and specifications are appropriate for the work
- Formulate detailed safe working procedures with due regard to the result of the risk assessment, and in conformity with the instructions given in the machine manufacturer's manual
- Strictly implement safe working procedures
- Ensure the MEWP can only be operated on a level and solid ground where sufficient bearing capacity is given
- Establish emergency rescue plans
- Implement adequate and effective monitoring to ensure all safety measures are strictly implemented, compiled with and maintained

The Operator

- Before the operation of MEWP, operators should have received appropriate training and be familiar with the operation for that specific model of MEWP
- At the beginning of each shift, dynamic risk assessments should be conducted to evaluate the workplace conditions, including openings, steep slopes, overhead obstacles and traffic conditions; and
- Physical and functional checks for the MEWP to ensure that the MEWP is in safe working condition
- Workers working on the MEWP must wear a suitable safety harness with its lanyard anchored to a specified anchorage point of the MEWP
- Workers should follow the developed safe working procedures and safety precaution measures

Critical Parts Inspection

A MEWP with its associated critical parts (e.g. boom, hydraulic cylinders, support structure and condition of tyres) should be regularly inspected, tested, and properly maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions in order to ensure it is in safe working condition at all times.



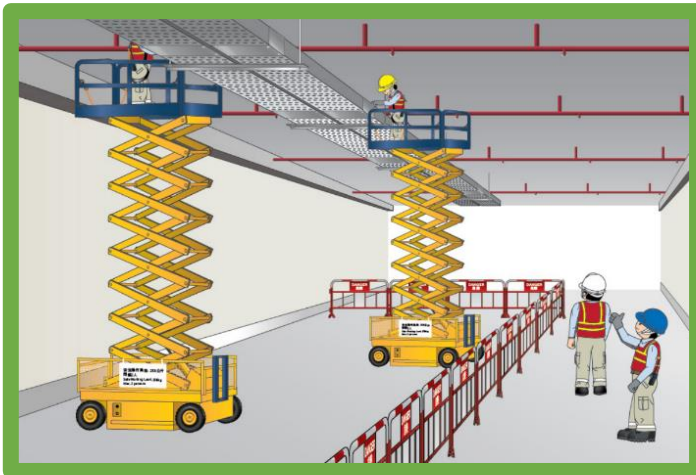
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Reminders for Safe Use of MEWPs

1. Establish a safe system of work for using the MEWP, including but not limited to the following:
 - Select a MEWP with due consideration to the reach limitation of the MEWP and its required clearance working space upon the specific model of the MEWP being used
 - Identify the risks of being trapped and crushed by MEWPs for the various stages of work, including travelling to, moving to the workplace and undertaking tasks within the work area
 - Before raising or lowering the MEWP, make sure there is a sufficient safe distance between the obstacle and the MEWP
 - Establish emergency rescue plans
 - Establish and implement an effective monitoring and management system
2. Before the operation of MEWP, operators should have received appropriate training and be familiar with the operation for that specific model of MEWP.
3. Ensure that ground conditions are suitable for the operation of MEWP.
4. Ensure adequate lighting is provided while operating the MEWP.
5. At the beginning of each shift, physical and functional checks for the MEWP should be carried out.
6. Minimise distractions while operating the MEWP, such as avoid using mobile phones.
7. Ensure that hand and foot controls are not obstructed.
8. Maintain slow speed while travelling or moving a MEWP.
9. Do not override any controls, including its safety devices.
10. If there is any abnormal situation of the MEWP, workers should stop the work and report it to their supervisor immediately.



Before the operation of MEWP, Operators should have received appropriate training and be familiar with the operation for that specific model of MEWP

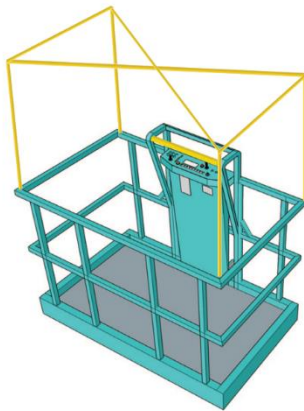


Maintain slow speed while travelling or moving a MEWP

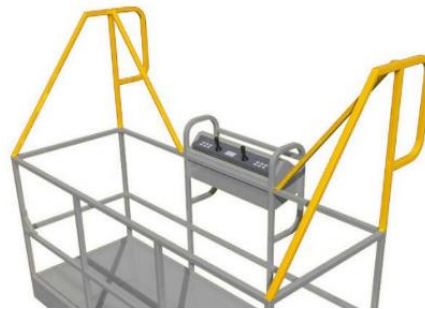


Secondary Guarding Device

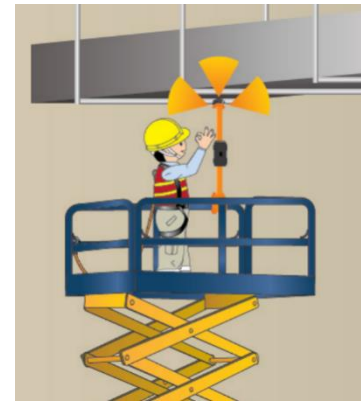
- **Physical Barriers:** To be fitted around the basket of MEWP with adequate strength to eliminate the entrapment hazards. It shall be able to restrict further movement of MEWP once Secondary Guarding Device (SGD) hits any obstacles in the vicinity of MEWP.



Secondary Guarding Device -
Physical Barriers



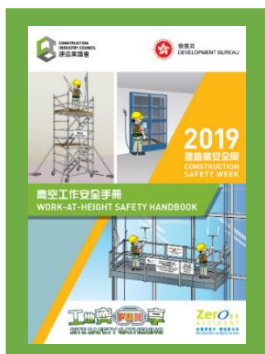
Secondary Guarding Device -
Physical Barriers



Secondary Guarding Device -
Smart devices

- **Smart Devices:** To fit one or more than one proximity sensor(s) at MEWP for detecting any obstacles around MEWP and overhead. A visual and/or audio warning signal shall be issued to alert the operator and/or workers on MEWP if the distance between the operator and/or workers on MEWP and any obstacles around MEWP or overhead is less than 500 mm or other specified distances.

Reference information for sharing



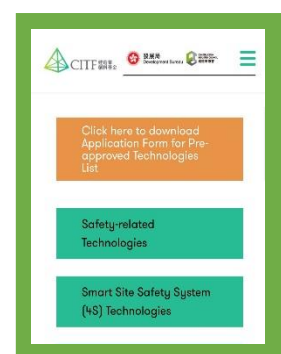
Work-at-Height Safety
Handbook



Safety Poster - Pay Attention to
Surrounding Obstacles Before
Moving the Power-operated
Elevating Work Platform
(PEWP)!



Construction Innovation and
Technology Fund (CITF)
Webpage - About CITF



Construction Innovation and
Technology Fund (CITF)
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System (4S)



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