

**Appropriate Footwear to be worn****High Visibility Vest/Clothing must be worn**

INTRODUCTION

A Trailer Boom provides a stable and acceptable work platform when used strictly in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. There have been numerous deaths caused by Trailer Boom tipping and loads being placed incorrectly in the past 10 years.

The manufacturers of Trailer Booms are legally required to provide operation manuals on the safe use of the equipment. These manuals provide information on acceptable work practices that if followed should not place workers or the public at risk. Manufacturers' manuals should identify the risk of Trailer Booms overturning and provide warnings such as, *Never attach wire, cable or similar to the platform*. Should they snag, tangle or catch on any object or fixture the machine can tip over.

WORKSAFE VICTORIA, VICTORIAN OHS REGULATIONS 2007 & AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS RECOMMEND:

In relation to the Trailer Booms:

- That the recommendations in the manufacturer's operation manual are followed.
- Where the task intended for the Trailer Boom is outside or is not covered by the recommendations in the operation manual, then the machine's suitability for the task should be confirmed by the supplier, manufacturer or a competent person, before the task commences.
- Where the system of work involves the Trailer Boom working in proximity to other mobile plant or vehicles, then control measure should be in place to ensure the risks associated with entanglement, collision or collapse are eliminated, before the task commences.

In relation to work activities involving Trailer Booms, that prior to any task undertaken,

- Safe Work Method Statements (SWMS) have been prepared in consultation with all those who are involved
- SWMSs of the tasks should include the identification of all likely hazards (including overturning), an assessment of the associated risks and acceptable control measures to be put in place.
- All workers involved with the tasks have been inducted/trained in the SWMSs.
- The work activities are supervised and monitored, as necessary, to ensure that the SWMSs are effective and work is undertaken safely.
- If and when the original work method or procedure is changed, that:
 - All new hazards are identified,
 - SWMSs are received and modified as necessary, and
 - Workers are re-inducted/trained in the new SWMSs.

Trailer Booms are not generally designed to withstand additional lateral or overturning loads such as:

- Wind loading on large objects supported or attached to the unit, or
- Lifting of equipment, materials or other objects whose centre of gravity is outside the Trailer Boom's platform, or
- Lateral loads imposed due to misuse of the equipment or poor work practices.

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PRE OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

1. Check for obstacles around the work platform and in the path of travel such as holes, drop offs, debris, ditches and soft fill.
2. Check for overhead clearances.
3. Make sure the batteries are fully charged. Disconnect battery-charging system from external power source.
4. No person shall operate a Trailer Boom until they have received adequate training, in accordance with manufacturer's specifications.

SAFE OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE

1. Always inspect and/or test controls daily.
2. Always follow the manufacturer safety instructions and load limits.
3. Labels on the lift will remind workers of the safety hazards & tips to avoid injury, as well as load limits.
4. Spread the load or number of workers evenly along the platform before beginning lift.
5. Close and latch safety gates.
6. Stand firmly on the platform during the lift
7. You may grasp, but not lean on, the guardrail during the lifting process
8. While working, don't reach outside of or lean on the railing.
9. Don't climb on or down the lifting mechanism.
10. Be vigilant about the positioning of materials and workers to prevent the machine from tipping.
11. Lifting and elevating the work platform must be done on flat, firm surfaces.
12. Ensure those persons performing work on the ground around the lift stay a distance from the lift in case of falling equipment or an accidental tip-over of the Boom.

HOUSEKEEPING

1. Fully lower the platform.
2. Push the emergency stop buttons.
 - a. On the operator console.
 - b. On the base control
 - c. Turn the base key switch to the off position.
 - d. If you are finished with the Boom Lift, clear all tools, debris, etc from the platform and plug the Trailer Boom in to recharge the battery state.

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