# A screen shot of a computer Description automatically generatedbucket truck - aerial lift safety talk

Bucket trucks or aerial lifts can be one of the most useful and versatile vehicles on the jobsite when used correctly. Once on a jobsite, aerial or bucket truck operators must do a site survey to identify any potential hazards. Following this, an inspection of the area should be done, and a jobsite safety meeting \held before work takes place.

*Potential Hazards to Consider:*

* Overturn- If placed on uneven ground, the vehicle can tip over once the lift is extended
* Electrocution- Contact with an energized line can lead to electrocution
* Crushing by Obstruction- If the lift is raised too close to another object employees can suffer crushing injuries
* Entanglement- Workers operating around lines, limbs or other material that could become wrapped around the employee risk entanglement
* Fall from Lift- If not properly secured to the bucket, workers can be thrown from or fall out
* Struck By Hazards – Passing traffic as well as unsecured tools and equipment can pose significant struck by risks

*Safe Operation Points to Keep in Mind:*

* Operators should read the owner’s manual and be aware of the limitations for equipment used
* The lift should be operated in smooth movements, avoiding abrupt changes in speed or direction
* Always engage brakes, chock wheels and set outriggers regardless of terrain
* All employees working in the bucket must be wearing appropriate fall protection and be attached to an anchor point in the bucket keeping feet on the floor at all times
* Stay at least 10 feet away from power lines and ground workers should not touch the vehicle when in use
* A safe zone should be marked around the vehicle when in use to prohibit anyone from walking below
* Ensure employees in the bucket know safe escape methods and those on the ground are trained in rescue procedures

All employees working in or around a bucket truck or aerial lift should be trained on safe practices and expectations. Ensure everyone has a clear understanding of the scope of work to be done and their part in it.