

GET BACK TO BASICS TO MAKE SURE YOU ARE ANSI READY

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Aerial Work Platforms (AWPs) soon to be known as Mobile Elevating Work Platforms (MEWPs), are designed to provide safe access for temporary work at height – but they are only a safe option if the work is planned and managed appropriately. Accidents can be prevented, through proper planning, risk assessment, and management and supervision of work at height, including operation by trained and familiarized operators.

IPAF's 'Back to Basics' campaign identifies six recognized potential hazards that must be considered if accidents are to be prevented. These hazards can be avoided if users and operators follow essential safe-use practices.

Assess Ground Conditions

Always check ground conditions as part of your site assessment to ensure proper MEWP selection, identify potential hazards, develop control measures, and provide the operator with warning and instructions before using the machine.

Avoid Crushing Hazards

It is essential users and operators identify obstacles that may pose a crushing hazard in any direction of movement with the work platform. Both risk assessments and daily workplace inspections shall employ methods to avoid the risk from the hazards, such as following the best practice guidance provided by IPAF to avoid crushing.



Prevent Unauthorized Use

Consider using a machine capable of reading a Smart PAL Card so that only trained operators can activate machines. After use, always leave the machine in a safe and secure place and remove the key.



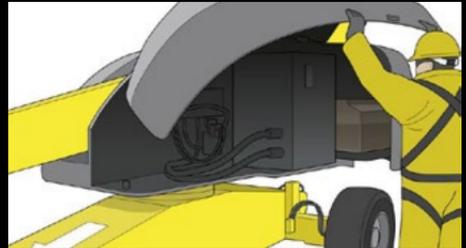
Assess the Risks

It is a user's responsibility to ensure an appropriate risk assessment is performed by a qualified person prior to the start of work. New ANSI A92 standards define a process that addresses all aspects of required safe use. Read IPAF's industry best practice guidance on risk assessment. Read, understand and implement this new responsibility defined in the new ANSI standards and incorporate into operator's daily workplace inspections.



Avoid Electrocutation

Stay safe and keep any part of the MEWP away from the vicinity of power lines/energized conductors. Electrocutations can be prevented through proper planning, risk assessment, site management and continuous observation by the operator of potential electrical hazards.



Inspect Prior to Use

Ensure operators perform checks of the MEWP; both visual and function tests before every use. Conduct daily inspections of MEWPs and ensure any issues are identified and addressed prior to operation.

Ref: BP UK02/17-001

For more information and safety advice please visit:
www.ipaf.com/safe or
contact usa@ipaf.org



Resources:
ANSI A92 Standards
www.ipaf.org/andyaccess
www.ipaf.com/m4m
www.ipaf.com