

## **Bucket Truck Safety**

<https://api.succeedms.com/v1/training/162436/1/388618/clientpreview>

Bucket trucks are essential equipment on commercial job sites, allowing workers to reach elevated areas safely. However, using bucket trucks comes with inherent risks. This toolbox talk aims to raise awareness of these risks and provide safety guidelines to prevent accidents and injuries.

### **Common Risks Associated with Bucket Trucks**

- **Falls from Heights:** Working at elevated heights increases the risk of falls, leading to severe injuries or fatalities.
- **Electrical Hazards:** Contact with overhead power lines can result in electrocution if proper precautions are not taken.
- **Equipment Malfunctions:** Mechanical failures or hydraulic system issues can lead to accidents if not addressed promptly.
- **Tip-Overs:** Improper operation or unstable ground conditions can cause the bucket truck to tip over, posing a significant risk to workers and bystanders.
- **Struck-By Accidents:** Workers can be struck by moving parts of the bucket truck or falling objects while working in the bucket.

### **Bucket Truck Safety Guidelines**

- **Pre-Operation Inspection:** Conduct a thorough inspection of the bucket truck before each use to ensure all components are in working order.
- **Proper Training:** Only trained and authorized personnel should operate bucket trucks. Ensure operators are familiar with equipment controls and safety procedures.
- **Use Fall Protection:** Wear appropriate fall protection equipment, such as harnesses and lanyards, when working from the bucket. Securely anchor lanyards to the bucket or boom.
- **Maintain Safe Distances:** Keep a safe distance from overhead power lines and other hazards. Maintain a clear area around the bucket truck to prevent collisions.
- **Ground Stability:** Assess ground conditions before extending the bucket. Use outriggers or stabilizers to provide additional stability on uneven or soft terrain.
- **Barricade Work Zones:** Erect barricades or warning signs to alert others of work being performed overhead. Restrict access to the area beneath the bucket truck.
- **Communication:** Establish clear communication between the operator and ground personnel using hand signals, radios, or other means.
- **Weather Awareness:** Monitor weather conditions and avoid operating bucket trucks during high winds, thunderstorms, or other adverse weather conditions.
- **Emergency Procedures:** Familiarize yourself with emergency procedures, including how to lower the bucket in case of power failure or equipment malfunction.