

ELEVATED WORK PLATFORMS (EWPS)

SAFELY CONTROLLING WORK CRITICAL RISK CONTROL DOCUMENT



We are always licenced and competent when operating plant



We always isolate all energy sources before working on equipment and systems



We come to work free from impairment, alcohol and drugs



We ensure plant and equipment is safe to use



We work safely at height












We always observe walkways, safe zones and exclusion zones



We always make sure loads are secure and within safe working load limits before moving them



We always follow the Permit process when a Permit is required

DOCUMENT CONTROL			
Document Name	Elevated Work Platforms (EWPs)		
Issue Date	01-June-2022		
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DOCUMENT REVIEW			
Date	Revision	Description of Change	Author
1-Dec-2021	1	First document	AE, MJ, OG
1-Jun-2022	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Included page numbers Added a section in training and competency to ensure that all operators who use the EWP must have current ticket/certificate Confirmed that EWPs with anchor points (e.g. truck mounted EWP, trailer mounted EWP and Boom Lift/Knuckle Boom/Cherry Pickers) require harness use (and harness training as per the Work at Height, dropped objects and TWP SCW document). 	AE, MJ, OG, AVR, JB

Elevated Work Platforms (EWPs)

Elevated work platforms (EWP) are a type of 'plant' or equipment that facilitate working at height. They consist of a working platform on an extending structure and chassis, with controls for operation.

Some activities on our construction sites that involve use of EWP's objects include:

- Using Scissor Lift
- Using Knuckle Boom/cherry picker/boom lift
- Using Vertical Lift
- Using Trailer Mounted EWP
- Using a truck Mounted EWP

Related safely controlling work documents:

- [Work at height, dropped objects and temporary work platforms](#)
- [Mobile plant](#)
- [Underground and overhead services](#)

Risks - What could go wrong?

- Fall from EWP causing a fatality or a potentially major injury such as dislocation, strains/sprains, bruising/lacerations, fractures or serious head injuries
- Collision with a person, structure or other item of plant causing a fatality or a potentially major injury such as dislocation, crushing, bruising/lacerations, fractures or serious head injuries
- Overturn of EWP from incorrect operation or unstable ground causing a fatality or a potentially major injury such as dislocation, strains/sprains, bruising/lacerations, fractures or serious head injuries
- Tools/materials/other objects falling onto one or more workers causing serious injury such as fractures, head injury, crushing or bruising/lacerations (see 'Working at height, dropped objects and temporary work platforms' if your work poses a risk of dropped objects)
- Entrapment between platform and other structure causing a fatality or a potentially major injury such as dislocation, crushing, bruising/lacerations, fractures or serious hand/head injuries
- Equipment failure causing a fatality or a potentially major injury such as dislocation, strains/sprains, bruising/lacerations, fractures or serious head injuries
- Medical event at height when using EWP causing a fatality or a serious injury from medical event
- Electrocuting from contact with overhead, electrical components or lightning strike
- Carbon monoxide poisoning from inhalation of exhaust fumes causing a fatality or a potentially major health effect such as brain damage

Controls – How do I keep safe?

The identification of hazard and risks from EWP operations, and appropriate control measures are to be fully detailed in a Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) or similar risk-assessment document prior to commencing any work involving an EWP.

The SWMS must be reviewed by an appropriate Ryman representative prior to any work commencing and following any changes to the task or environment.

Can I eliminate the risk?

Wherever work can be completed without the use of an EWP, this should be the first consideration in eliminating the risk. For example, completing the work on the ground or use of prefabricated materials.


Selecting the right equipment for the job


Before using an EWP, make sure to consider if it is the right equipment for the job.

Considerations when selecting equipment include:

- Would a mobile scaffold or other temporary access platform pose less risk? (substituting the equipment for a safer option)
- What are the ground conditions - Is the ground flat and firm? Are there any drop off points? How much room is available for the equipment?
- How far do I need to reach from a safe setup area?
- How much weight is the EWP going to need to hold? - Consider the operators and any tools/materials

EWP controls include but are not limited to:

	Control Type	Control Measure	Control Level
Minimization	Elimination	Remove risk by not requiring to work at height (e.g. work at ground level or use pre-constructed materials)	Most Effective Control  Least Effective Control
	Substitution	Substitute EWP for other form of access that present less risk (where applicable) – e.g. scaffold Selection of EWP that is most fit for purpose – e.g. type and size of machine relevant to the task	
	Isolation	Isolate the working area to control unauthorized personnel or plant access and collision with other plant. Isolate with fencing where practicable, or cones, barriers, tapes, bunting etc. Demarcate service areas - for example goal posts for overhead services Power isolation if working within minimum approach distance of overhead powerlines (MAD as per Electricity Act 1992 guidance)	
	↑ WORK ABOVE THE LINE WHERE POSSIBLE TO CONTROL RISK ↑		
	Engineering	Warning devices (such as motion alarms), warning lights and alarms, flashing work lights, stability sensors and a horn (where fitted by manufacturer)	

Control Type	Control Measure	Control Level
	Use of outriggers/stabilizers (where fitted by manufacturer) An emergency-stop control to stop all movement or the engine when pressed Ground level controls - override controls on the platform using a clearly marked switch Suitable natural or mechanical ventilation due to CO emissions Hydraulic systems with fail-safes Use of certified equipment Engineered arrest anchor points Tool tether	Most Effective Control 
Administrative	Signage – e.g. exclusion zone do not enter Spotters – Competent in the dutie/s assigned to them which may include spotting, ground operation of controls and participating in an emergency rescue Emergency Rescue Plan Buddy system for EWP ground control Current inspection certificate issued by a competent person Scheduling works at times that pose less risk CO monitoring	
PPE	This includes the use of PPE, full body harnesses (where required) complying with AS/NZS 1891.1:2007, lanyards with integral shock absorbers complying with AS/NZS 1891.4:2009 and anchor point. Hard Hat with chin strap	Least Effective Control

NOTE: Where the risk cannot be eliminated, a combination of control measures may be appropriate.

Minimum Control Requirements:

- Set up the EWP on firm and level ground. As required, confirm ground conditions are suitable for outriggers use and correct EWP selection (e.g. consult Ryman Civil Foreman). This may mean geotechnical engineering approval if in doubt.
- Use of fitted outriggers
- Harnesses must be worn on EWPs that have a rated anchor point (e.g. boom lift, truck mounted and trailer mounted EWPs).
- Pre-start inspection and logbook completed before use

- Always face direction of travel when moving
- Stay clear of overhead electrical hazards
- Exclusion zones (on the ground where there is risk of objects falling)
- Emergency rescue plan completed (e.g. via SWMS), and all workers involved in the task inducted to the plan. This may require two people to be present during EWP operations depending on the operation risk. For lone work activities controls to manage this risk must be specified in the risk assessment.
- A certificate of compliance issued within the past 6-months

Training and Competency

All personnel involved with the operation of mobile elevated work platforms (EWPs) shall have the appropriate training and **current operator ticket/certificate** for the equipment being used:

Equipment Type	Training Requirements
Operation of a scissor lift	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit standard 23960: scissor lift and; • Unit standard 23966: Describing types of elevating work platforms (EWPs), and legislative requirements for their use
Operation of a truck mounted elevated work platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit standard 23961: truck mounted elevated work platform and; • Unit standard 23966: Describing types of elevating work platforms (EWPs), and legislative requirements for their use
Operation of a self-propelled boom lift	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit standard 23962: self-propelled boom lift and; • Unit standard 23966: Describing types of elevating work platforms (EWPs), and legislative requirements for their use
Operation of a trailer mounted elevated work platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit standard 23963: trailer mounted elevated work platform and; • Unit standard 23966: Describing types of elevating work platforms (EWPs), and legislative requirements for their use
Operation of a powered self-propelled vertical lift	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit standard 23964: vertical lift • Unit standard 23966: Describing types of elevating work platforms (EWPs), and legislative requirements for their use
Spotter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competent in the dutie/s assigned to them which may include spotting

Note: Workers who require use of a harness in the EWP must also be trained and competent in use of the harness. See the ‘Work at Height’ document for harness competencies. Harnesses must be worn on EWPs that have a rated anchor point (e.g. boom lift, truck mounted and trailer mounted EWPs)

Notifiable Work:

Where height work is 5 metres or higher notify WorkSafe if there is a risk of falling.

Notifications can be made via the [WorkSafe website](#). Exclusions include:

- Work in connection with a residential building up to and including 2 full storeys;
- Work on overhead telecommunication or electric lines;
- Work carried out from a ladder only; or
- Maintenance and repair work of a minor or routine nature

Ryman is not required to make a new notification for each stage of the project, if an all-encompassing hazardous work notification is in place for the project for Notifiable Work at Height.

References and Resources:

- [WorkSafe NZ Mobile elevating work platforms](#)