

USE OF HARNESSES AND LANYARDS IN MOBILE ELEVATING WORK PLATFORMS (MEWPS)



Harnesses and lanyards are referred to as personal fall protection equipment (PFPE). Wearing PFPE in a boom type MEWP is essential to manage the risk of a fall or the catapult effect, which is when stored energy, or an impact to the MEWP's superstructure, causes a whiplash movement to travel through the boom to the platform resulting in occupants being ejected.

BOOMS

When working from a boom type MEWP, whether it be a static boom (1B), or a mobile boom (3B), it is strongly recommended that occupants wear PFPE. The lanyard should be short enough to restrain the wearer within the confines of the platform and the karabiner attached to the manufacturer approved anchorage point. The lanyard may contain an energy-absorbing device, provided it is short enough to restrain the wearer within the platform.

VERTICALS

The catapult effect is not deemed a risk to occupants working from a vertical type MEWP, so wearing of PFPE is not normally required.* This applies to static verticals (1A), mobile verticals (3A), push around verticals (PAV) and mast climbing work platforms (MCWP).

**Always check local legislation which may state PFPE should be worn in all MEWPs, including in vertical type MEWPs. Also, in exceptional circumstances, a risk assessment may deem wearing of PFPE necessary for a specific task or operation.*



WORKING NEXT TO OR OVER WATER

A job-specific risk assessment should be undertaken prior to work commencing including consultation of the manufacturer's operator manual. Risk assessments should determine whether occupants should wear PFPE or a personal flotation device (life jacket) to manage the risk of drowning.



Clip On!

Wear a full body harness with a short lanyard in boom type platforms.



ALWAYS ATTACH THE LANYARD IN BOOM TYPE MEWPS*



**If working over or near water, a risk assessments should determine whether occupants should wear PFPE or a personal flotation device (life jacket) to manage the risk of drowning.*



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