



Promote and enable the safe, effective use of powered access worldwide

# CHECK IT! SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

Although powered access remains one of the safest methods for temporary work at height, incidents involving mechanical or technical failures can result in major injuries and fatalities.\*

**'Many incidents are avoidable by ensuring proper maintenance, inspections, and checks of equipment.'**

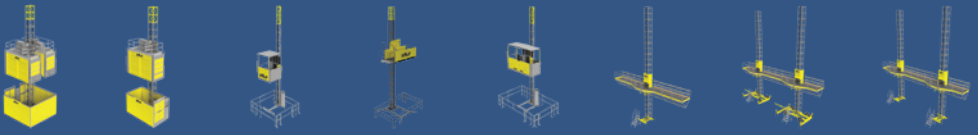
*Brian Parker, Head of Safety & Technical, IPAF*



\*View the IPAF  
Global Safety Report  
[www.ipaf.org/accident](http://www.ipaf.org/accident)

Powered access equipment refers to mobile elevating work platforms (MEWP), mast climbing work platforms (MCWP) and construction hoists (CH), referred to collectively as 'equipment'.





## Hazards of technical/mechanical equipment failure:

- Damaged or worn equipment (including cracked welds, sheared pivot pins, retainers, ropes and chains, boom or mast sections, scissor arms)
- Spilled or leaking fuel from equipment
- Equipment that has not been properly maintained or inspected
- Untrained or unfamiliarised operators using equipment



## Risks of not keeping equipment properly maintained, inspected and checked:

- Injuries / Fatalities** – operators/occupants/ nearby workers and members of the public
- Costly repairs** – of equipment, increasing expenditure and job costs
- Worksite disruption** – requirement to halt or delay site operations impacting project timelines and contracted deliverables
- Irreparable harm** – to natural or built environments caused by hazardous substances
- Increased liability** – companies or individuals may be legally accountable for accidents
- Psychological & personal impact** – e.g. incidents can cause bereavement, PTSD, stress, anxiety, loss of earnings, low morale

## How to reduce risks and who is responsible:

Rental Company/ Equipment Owner	User/Hirer <i>(person in control of operations)</i>	Equipment Operator
Ensure equipment is serviceable, as per manufacturer's specifications & industry standards.	Select most suitable equipment for each task.	Should be trained and familiarised on the equipment to be used.
Ensure statutory/periodic inspection is valid prior to equipment hire.	Ensure equipment is supplied in a safe condition with evidence of statutory/periodic inspection.	Before operating equipment, check for evidence of statutory/periodic inspection.
Provide a legible copy of the equipment's operator's manual.	Access to the paper copy or able to download a digital version of the operator's manual.	Before operating, read and understand the operator's manual.
Supply equipment with a User/Hirer agreement.	Ensure pre-use inspections are conducted and documented by the Operator prior to each use.	Conduct and record pre-use inspection of the equipment prior to each use. (IPAF advises using the ePAL app)
Support equipment breakdowns/issues and inspections with qualified and authorised service engineers/technicians.	Contact Rental Company/Equipment Owner to report any equipment breakdowns/safety issues.	Isolate. Tag. Report. Isolate equipment, remove key, label clearly it is not to be used, report to site supervisor.

Always report incidents & near-misses to IPAF: [ipafaccidentreporting.org](http://ipafaccidentreporting.org)

Reporting accidents helps keep the powered access industry safer • You can report anonymously 🚧

