



Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



Climbing In or Exiting a Stowed Bucket Safety Message

We've done it thousands of times, I don't have to review how you get in or get out of a bucket; however, I do want you to consider this:

1. We've had two severe injuries in the past decade from falls while entering or exiting a stowed bucket.

Falls are a leading cause of serious injuries and fatalities that occur in the workplace.

2. More and more utilities have implemented policies prohibiting an employee from getting in their buckets when the boom is in the stowed position and requiring them to bring the bucket to the ground before entering or exiting.

OSHA's requirement for fall restraint / arrest (4' for General Industry / 6' for Construction Industry) and yes that can create confusion. There's no confusion that when you walk up 2 steps climb on the bin of a truck and walk to the bucket you're above the point where protection is required.

That's a fact!! it was even documented in an OSHA report at a municipal here in Indiana.

Suggestions:

1. Look at all your vehicles and can we maintain 3 points of contact to get in the bucket.
2. Are there safer ways to enter and exit a bucket. (That answer will be yes and that's why utilities are making these changes even here in Indiana)