



Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



Best Practices for Bucket Truck Rescue Safety Message

Bucket trucks are among the most frequently used pieces of equipment in a utility's fleet. Because of the common use of the trucks, it becomes easy for operators to become complacent in their equipment, inspection, operation and rescue plan – often defaulting to the last job safety meeting with limited consideration for the task at hand and the work environment.

Naturally, the best rescue scenario is the one that never exists.

Two Types of Rescue

When it comes to bucket truck rescue, scenarios typically fall into two broad categories: self-rescue and assisted rescue.

It is essential that each company's leadership review anticipated work environments, crew sizes and expected hazards, and that they select equipment best suited to their applications. With proper training, inspection and work policies, it becomes more likely that work activities will take place with a crew of at least two authorized, competent lineworkers. And in the event that a lone worker experiences a system failure, with enough foresight, they will be prepared to effectively navigate this scenario with the equipment on hand.