

SAFETY ALERT



USING A HARNESS ON BOOM TYPE ELEVATED WORK PLATFORMS

Employers have a duty to protect their workers from injury and illness while at work.

Under health and safety legislation, a Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBU) must ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the provision and maintenance of a working environment that is safe and without risks to health.

Working at heights is classed as a 'high risk' work task and should therefore have a safe work method statement (SWMS) prepared by the PCBU.

- A full safety harness must be worn by everyone on the platform of a boom type Elevated Work Platform (EWP) and be secured to the anchor point. **DO NOT UNCLIP THE HARNESS TO OVER REACH!**
- Where there is a risk of a free fall, a fall-arrest harness designed for attachment to a lanyard assembly, including a personal energy absorber, must be worn by everyone on the EWP.



- Fall-arrest systems rely on workers wearing and using them correctly, and therefore workers who will use such a system must be trained to safely use them.
- They should only be used where it is not reasonably practicable to use higher level control measures.
- Relevant Australian/New Zealand Standards for personal fall-arrest equipment require that they be permanently marked or labelled to indicate their purpose, correct use, limitations and other relevant information aimed at reducing misuse of the equipment.