

[Sample] Corporation

Fleet Management Fall Prevention Program

Unit Positioning

Worker Restraint System

Personal Fall Arrest System (PFAS)

February 6, 2014

Background:

Fleet Auto/Hydraulic Technicians at times work from heights above four feet with a minimum of three points of contact. At times it is difficult or impossible to maintain three points of contact when using hand tools. Depending on task, employee could be in awkward positions and pulling or pushing tools, or manipulating parts while removing or replacing. These employees often work alone and unsupervised to perform their duties within [corporation] facilities and on job sites. Currently there is no OSHA mandate for fall prevention or fall protection for Fleet Auto/Hydraulic Technicians; however, [corporation] recognizes these working conditions as a risk to our employees.

Fleet Auto/Hydraulic Technicians experience the exposure when required to perform maintenance and repairs on [corporation] fleet equipment. If an employee has a missed step, medical condition, loses balance, slips, trips or other input that causes them to lose contact or control of their position, they are exposed to a fall which can result in severe injury or death.

The US Department of Labor (DOL) lists falls as one of the leading causes of traumatic occupational death within the construction industry. Although the statistics and regulations do not apply to the Fleet Auto/Hydraulic Technician per se, it is important to mitigate the risks when working on equipment elevated above four feet. Over the course of 10 years at [corporation] and at other benchmarking companies, Fleet Auto/Hydraulic Technicians have experienced several falls resulting in serious bodily injury. Fall protection and other mitigating actions to reduce the possibility of injury must be considered.

Purpose:

Provide a stepped approach to prevent injury to [corporation] Fleet Auto/Hydraulic Technician's due to falls from elevated positions while maintaining or repairing [corporation] vehicles and equipment.

Definitions:

Head Protection: OSHA approved hard hat that meets or exceeds ANSI/ISEA Z89.1-2009, Type II, Class E & G type II protection - impact protection for the top, front, back and side of the head. Helmet chin strap must be fastened at all times. (Attachment A)

Unit Positioning: The process of articulating the aerial unit to the ground, or dock area; use rolling work platform, or rolling ladder to avoid working from the bed of the equipment. (Attachment B)

Worker Restraint System: The use of body belt or personal fall arrest harness with adjustable lanyard routed around an object sufficient enough to support the Fleet Auto/Hydraulic Technicians weight and attached to both side “D” rings, and fall prevention hard hat with chin strap fastened. Lanyard shall be adjusted to prohibit worker from reaching edge of work surface. (Attachment C)

Personal Fall Arrest System (PFAS): Includes a body harness equipped with a safety relief step device installed with a retractable lanyard/personal fall limiter. The fall limiter is a retractable lanyard and must be attached to a ratchet anchor or approved secure point of attachment. The fall limiter retractable lanyard attachment point must be above the employee’s head at a vertical angle for proper operation. (Attachment D)

Fall Prevention Equipment Maintenance and Inspection: All equipment used for fall prevention e.g. PFAS, work positioning belts and lanyard, ladders, and platforms will be inspected before each use by the worker. PFAS harness shall be inspected annually and documented by a Competent Person. PFAS harnesses should never be modified marked on or painted unless material is approved for use by the manufacturer. Harnesses should be taken out of service immediately if defective or exposed to an impact.

Process:

Fleet Auto/Hydraulic Technicians when working at a height above four feet and unable to maintain three points of contact or when not able to work within the confines of the unit body shall use all resources necessary to avoid working at heights in an unsecured position.

Fleet Auto/Hydraulic Technicians shall wear a fall protection hard hat with the appropriate chin strap fastened when working elevated on equipment above 4 feet. Exception: When in a secure area with zero chance of a fall from the bed of the unit the fall prevention hard hat may be removed to view into compartments, the turret, or other areas where the hat would obstruct the mechanics ability to see clearly.

Fleet Auto/Hydraulic Technicians shall not perform work on vehicles or equipment until all debris is removed that could result in a slip, trip or fall. If obstacles cannot be removed appropriate mitigation step shall be taken.

Whenever possible, all upper boom or bucket repairs will be made by utilizing unit positioning.

When working on the side of a unit; such as, removing street side boom cover to access slide tubes the equipment shall be positioned towards the dock or other stationary object to eliminate the potential of a fall.

When fall mitigation cannot be obtained by utilizing the methods above, Fleet Auto/Hydraulic Technician's will utilize worker restraint system to prevent access to the edge of the elevated work surface, to prevent any possibility of Fleet Auto/Hydraulic Technician falling from unit. This distance is obtained by adjusting the worker restraint system lanyard.

When unit positioning and worker restraint system method use, are not feasible, approved Personal Fall Arrest System (PFAS) fall prevention PPE shall be used.

When the Fleet Auto/Hydraulic Technician must use the PFAS a second employee must be in the work area during the repair to provide assistance if needed. A written rescue plan will be formulated and documented. (Attachment E)

Worker restraint or personal fall arrest systems should be used when appropriate but shall not be used for suspension.

A full body harness with a shock absorbing lanyard (maximum of 6 feet total length) shall be worn when the employee is operating a bucket truck from within the platform.

All designated Fleet Auto/Hydraulic Technician rolling work platforms more than 4 feet off the ground shall be protected by guard rails and toe boards. Where guard rails cannot be installed, fall protection shall be used by Fleet Auto/Hydraulic Technicians while working on the platform.

Attachment A

Bullard Advent II



Attachment B



Attachment C



Attachment D



Attachment E

Fleet Management Fall Prevention Rescue Plan

Date: _____

Employees: _____

Location: _____

1. What type of fall could the person have (how far could a fall be) can second man get to fallen employee?

2. Who/how will communication with the emergency agency be made? (Who will call 911) how will call be made? (cell phone, two-way radio)

3. Can the employee self-rescue? (use of stirrups, pull to safety) How will second man assist?

4. What rescue equipment is available? How will it be used?

Second man will be trained and briefed on use of rescue equipment, and employee self-rescue techniques, at job tailboard meeting.

When complete turn into Fleet Supervisor.

RS: 1819 Retention Period: 10 Years