INTRODUCTION OF A NEW STANDARD FOR ANTI-ENTRAPMENT DEVICES TO MOBILE ELEVATED WORK PLATFORMS (BOOM TYPE)

INTRODUCTION

Mobile elevated work platforms (MEWP’s) provide safe access to working at height across our sites and in many situations are, and will remain, our preferred method of access.

There have however been too many incidents where operators have become trapped between the MEWP and an overhead obstruction, a number of which have resulted in fatal injuries (Not Interserve Construction Sites). A significant number of these being in boom type MEWP’s (IPAF Category 3b)

NEW STANDARD FOR ANTI-ENTRAPMENT DEVICES

Safe systems of work need to be established for any work at height, and any work using plant and equipment.

This will include correct plant/equipment selections; use of competent operators, and the work being properly planned including emergency arrangements.

Interserve Construction will therefore be introducing the following new standard on all subcontracts place from the 1st July 2013 and for all works on Interserve Construction sites from the 1st October 2013; The Standard:

All boom type MEWP’s (IPAF Category 3b) are to be fitted with anti-entrapment devices, unless it has been demonstrated through a documented risk assessment that there is no risk of entrapment to those in the MEWP.
TYPES OF ANT-ENTRAPMENT DEVICE

There are currently two primary types of anti-entrapment device, a frame fitted to the MEWP basket that provides a “safe zone” within the platform, and sensor bars/pads that stop the movement of the MEWP should the operator be pushed onto them.

Examples of these devices are shown on the following pictures.

Interserve Construction is not mandating a particular type or manufacture of anti-entrapment device. It is for the employer to select the most appropriate type for the environment and activity that is being undertaken.

CHANGES TO COMPANY DOCUMENTATION

The above standard will be incorporated into the Safety Management System and the Health, Safety and Sustainability Codes for Subcontractors at the next revision. (Anticipated to be in May 2013)
Interserve Construction Briefing Note

MEWP Anti-Entrapment Devices

AFI’s Sanctuary Zone

Genie’s Operator Protective Structure
Interserve Construction Briefing Note

Nationwide Platforms SkySiren System

Nifty lift’s SiOPs system is fully integrated into the control panel

JLG’s SkyGuard system