

Boomlift / Manlift

Used Boom Lift El Cajon - One of the commonest types of industrial equipment and aerial equipment is the boom lift. Boom lifts go by numerous names including cherry pickers, elevating work platforms, aerial platforms, aerial devices and mobile elevating work platforms; created to conduct jobs at higher elevations. Warehouses, companies, contractors and retail operations and more rely on boom lifts on a daily basis. Staying safe while working at high altitude is essential for daily success. The material handling industry offers many boom lift models. Many models are capable of being operated by a single individual. This equipment became popular in the orchard industry to harvest fruit without having to climb a ladder and balance heavy baskets or pails. Since ladders require even, solid ground for setting them up safely, they can be unreliable in the agricultural industry. Relying on a boom lift is an easier and safer way to reach tree tops.

Gaining Access Over Obstacles Some boom lift models can move up and over obstacles, making them ideal for working over top of items safely and efficiently. Having the capacity to reach an object even when you are unable to maneuver the equipment directly underneath has a variety of applications including window cleaning, telephone pole and line installation and service, fixing overhead cables and numerous other industries. With a variety of joints allowing the machine to bend over or under items, the articulated boom lift is helpful for numerous applications. These sections can independently move to allow workers to gain access to a variety of places. Articulated booms feature a tight turning radius, making them ideal for hallways and narrow storage corridors. The dual-fuel boom lifts provide service in both exterior and interior locations. Diesel models are used outside while electric boom lifts are implemented in interior locations.

Articulating Boom Lifts These boom lifts are popular for numerous construction and maintenance jobs. Articulated boom lifts are utilized commonly for working on overhead power lines and wires. Certain models are outfitted with water cannons to be used in firefighting applications. Maximum reach can be attained with telescoping boom sections on certain models. Some articulating boom lift models have an extra jib to enable their platform to reach six feet further in any direction. Since these machines commonly work on steep ground and rough terrain, they resemble “spiders” with their long legs, and often go by that nickname on the job site. Smaller units called interior articulating boom lifts are capable of fitting through doorways, making them valuable in retail, warehousing and storage facilities. Electric models are preferred in interior situations due to the danger that carbon monoxide exhaust poses and how much quieter these models are.

Telescopic Boom Lifts Telescopic boom lifts do not bend the way articulating boom lifts do. These units use hydraulics to retract and extend outwards and upwards. The operator who is situated in the platform has the controls to operate and extend the lift on their own. Certain larger units feature a jib located at the top that looks similar to an articulating boom lift model. Boom lifts are available that reach higher than one-hundred and eighty feet. This equipment has been designed to be reliable and stable, with certain models capable of reaching their extended height in less than a minute. There are dual-fuel and diesel models available. Weight range capacities vary from 500 lbs. to 1000 lbs. and speed is adjustable. Available in 4WD and the ability to fit through small spaces. Telescopic booms are common in a variety of settings due to their ability to combine height and reach.

Jib Certain boom lift models have a jib or an extension located between the platform and the end of the main boom. This design facilitates an extra hinge or articulation point to enable the platform to move up and down or horizontally. Jibs are available on telescoping boom lifts and articulating boom lifts. There is an articulation point available on certain models situated halfway between the platform and the wheels to allow the machine to reach over an obstacle and be lowered again if needed.

Genie Articulating Boom Lifts A well known articulating boom lift that can be seen in a variety of applications is the Genie Z-boom. This unit offers exceptional versatility for accessing difficult to reach locations with the capacity to lift up, over and out with precision. The first Genie Z-30/20 articulating Z-boom model was launched in 1985. Thanks to their “up an over” abilities, they have gained the ultimate

popularity that continues today. **Proper Safety Measures** When operating any type of industrial equipment, safety is first and foremost. It is essential that all potential safety hazards are known to anyone working within the area to maintain a safe atmosphere. Safe operation of the machine and personal safety must be paramount. Before operating the machine, effective communication and essential safety gear need to be in place. Be aware of any battery gases, engine fuels, combustible items, lit cigarettes or open flames near the machine and do not operate if any flammable or combustible items are present. It is important to have an accessible, securely mounted and visible fire extinguisher mounted within the operators' reach. Keep work surfaces and charging stations clean and free from clutter or tools that could puncture the tires or damage the machine or its components. **Daily Maintenance** Daily maintenance includes a visual inspection and consulting the maintenance manual to ensure the machine is up to date and will operate safely. Lifting and supportive devices need to stabilize the weight on hand. Chains, fasteners and straps need to be inspected regularly to ensure they are in optimum condition. Single-use fasteners and components must not be reused as they may fail and become extremely dangerous. It is vital to discard oils and solvents safely and efficiently to prevent contaminating the environment. Adequate ventilation and lighting are essential in garages, workshops and along workbenches. Typically the wide umbrella of maintenance is distinguished by subsections such as Commissioning and Programmed Maintenance Intervals, Annual Maintenance, and Quarterly Maintenance. **Maintenance Inspection Report** The boom lift components are divided and categorized to streamline the process of inspection. Some of the maintenance categories for the boom lift include the Engine, Platform, Controls and Function, Turntable, Booms and Drive Chassis. Improperly conducting maintenance can lead to unsafe working conditions, damaged components, reduced performance and ultimately downtime. A large part of keeping the boom lift secure and operational is the maintenance inspection report that ensures the operator is safe and monitors the machine's performance and service. A list of single maintenance procedures that need to be conducted at 50-hour and 150-hour intervals is known as commissioning. There is quarterly and annual maintenance protocol that is conducted once or many times during the year. Maintenance procedures are based on the operating hours of the boom lift and programmed maintenance may be conducted during pre-delivery machine preparation. Set yourself up for success by consulting your maintenance manual before operating the equipment to ensure battery life, oil changes and fluid levels are ready to go.