

Contractor Fatality

Tipped Elevated Manlift



Activity: Two third-tier subcontractor employees performing overhead steel erection work in support of an aircraft hangar Military Construction project, were injured, **one fatally (23 yrs. old) and one seriously (40 yrs. old)**, when the articulating boom lift they were operating within the interior of the hangar tipped over. The boom was elevated to approximately 35' (max capacity >60'). When repositioning the lift on the earthen floor of the hangar, a wheel rolled into a 2' deep trench, causing the lift to topple and dropping the men an equivalent of 3 stories.

Potential Contributing Causes

- Equipment travel over uneven surfaces (trench)
- Articulating boom lift traveling in elevated position
- Failure or bypass of controls limiting elevated lift travel
- Ineffective trench warning system or physical separation by spotter, barricades, demarcation, or trench covers.

Communication Points

- Operators **must** pre-plan all work and walk equipment travel paths to identify and mitigate hazards before starting **any** work
- Operators **must know** equipment operational tolerances and restrictions on uneven surfaces and while elevated

