

MEWP Operator Training Programme



Course Duration: 1-3 days dependent on machine type(s)

Course Entry Criteria: At present there are no specific requirements other than all applicants should be at least 18 years old. It is, however, desirable (but not mandatory) that applicants should be literate and have had driving experience as an indication of dexterity.

Aims: To instruct an operator to prepare and safely operate various types of Mobile Elevating Work Platforms (MEWP) and to obtain an IPAF MEWP Operators Licence.

Terminal Objectives

At the end of the course the operator will:

- ▶ Be aware of the relevant Health and Safety regulations
- ▶ Be aware of accident prevention and control
- ▶ Be aware of the needs regarding personnel protection
- ▶ Drive the MEWP safely and manoeuvre the machine as required, to correctly position and carry out the required tasks in a correct and proper manner, inside and outside a building

Theory:

The operator should know:

- ▶ The pre-use checks and daily maintenance to be carried out prior to commencing work
- ▶ The correct and safe method of operating the specific machine
- ▶ The correct emergency procedures, capacities and limitations to enable safe operation
- ▶ Selection and use of fall protection equipment covering as a minimum anchorage points in platforms, harness standards, explanation of fall arrest, lanyard types, harness inspection, use and correct fitting, rescue procedures, current recommendations [HS(G)150, HSE & IPAF]

The programme will consist of the following subjects:

1 Safe Operation and Limitations of Use

NOTE: Training may be undertaken on different machine types provided sufficient space is available.

2 Introduction to Mobile Elevating Work Platforms

Awareness of different types of MEWPs.

3 Introduction to the Actual Machine

Walk around and familiarisation with MEWP.

4 Major components

Identification of each component and its function.

5 Pre-use Checks and Inspection

Carry out all the required checks/inspections on the following items:- Tyres, main frame, turntable, fluid levels, hoses, electrical cables, booms, cage, brakes, steering, lights, travel, controls, (lower/upper), pins/retaining bolts and decals.

6 Starting/Stopping the Machine

Correct starting and shut down procedures.

7 Pre-Use Function Checks

Fully function the machine and carry out full emergency lowering procedure.

8 Checks Prior to Road Travel (Truck Mounted, Self Propelled & Trailer Mounted)

Self propelled, booms retracted, stabilisers retracted, machine secure, e.g. no loose objects. Trailer mounted, booms secured, retracted, stabilisers retracted, machine secure, e.g. no loose objects, correctly coupled to towing vehicle. Truck mounted, booms retracted and locked, stabilisers retracted, machine secure, PTO disengaged and no loose objects. Correct operation of the cage gate.

9 Planning the Route

Gradients, access, overhead obstructions and ground conditions

10 Travelling the Route and Manoeuvring the Machine

Ensure route clear, use of assistant to signal, etc., practice close manoeuvring and observe correct driving practices (tail swing, etc).

11 Setting the Machine for Work

Practice setting up, cone off requirements, road requirements, stabiliser set-up and carry out stabiliser deployment checks.

12 Basic Operational Practice

Carry out operational functions at two-thirds of full working envelope so far as is reasonably practical with minimum of 75% SWL, observe all safety practices. Large machines capable of exceeding a height of 26 m should be fully elevated with the trainee on the platform.

13 Typical Work Applications

Carry out practice applications observing all safety practices.

14 Parking the Machine

Ensure that the machine is correctly parked, engine stopped, brakes applied, keys removed and clearance of all obstacles. Correct refuelling procedures, diesel, LPG. Battery checks, charging and safety precautions.

15 Achievement Testing

Verbal and practical based on the use of the Training Centre Route/Activity Plan.

16 Review and Course Close