

Toolbox No.7	Issue No. 1	Date: May 2023
	<b>TOOL BOX TALK</b>	
	<b><u>Working on Elevated Loads</u></b>	

**Scope:**

A suspended load is any item which has been lifted off the ground. Whether the process is focused on manufacture or maintenance, parts of the equipment itself such as empty buckets, forks and masts are still considered suspended loads.

**Things to Consider**

A sudden depressurization of a hydraulic system will cause any elevated load to drop and has the potential to cause serious injury or a fatality

Loads may be suspended by forklifts, wheel loaders, overhead booms and jib cranes

The larger the weight and size of the material lifted, the more hazardous the job and its surrounding area becomes

Anybody operating equipment should be properly trained in respect of Overhead Safety Requirements and Procedures

All maintenance operations should be carried out by certified/qualified engineers

Any load that is lifted above ground should also be supported by other means and not reliant on its own integral hydraulic system

The system should have supported installed to prevent any unplanned dropping whilst the maintenance operation is being completed


Engineers must introduce an exclusion zone within the area whilst maintenance is being carried out to prevent unauthorized persons within a 10 feet radius of the suspended load – in case of an equipment malfunction and or an accidental drop

**Takeaway Points:**

Unsupported loads can seriously injure or even kill a person. The correct processes, training and safety precautions should always be adhered to.





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