Safety Harnesses in Mobile Elevating Work Platforms

Boom Type Platforms
It is strongly recommended that a full body harness with an adjustable lanyard (used to provide work restraint and adjusted to be as short as possible) is used when working from a boom type Mobile Elevating Work Platform (MEWP).

This would include:
Self Propelled Booms (SPB), Trailer Push-areounds (TP), Vehicle Mounted Platforms (VMP26 & 100).

Vertical Lifts
It is not normally necessary for personnel working from a vertical lift to wear fall protection equipment, other than in exceptional circumstances.

This would include:
Scissor Lifts (SL) and Vertical Personnel Platforms (VPP).

The need for a fall protection system will be the outcome of a job specific risk assessment undertaken prior to work commencing and taking into consideration the manufacturer’s operators’ manual.

More details see overleaf or www.ipaf.org
For information on preventing falls and on the use of harnesses and lanyards in MEWPs see:

HSE Information Leaflet MISC614 Preventing falls from boom-type mobile elevating platforms.

Available from the HSE website at http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/fallindx.htm

This guidance note was issued by the Powered Access Interest Group, a joint committee of the International Powered Access Federation and the Construction Plant-Hire Association, with representatives from hire companies and the Health & Safety Executive, on 18.04.05.
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For information about IPAF’s full range of training programmes for all kinds of MEWPs visit www.ipaf.org

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