

Boomlift / Manlift

Used Boom Lift Gilbert - In terms of popular aerial machinery, the boom lift is one of the most recognizable. 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. Workers need to remain safe as they access locations at higher altitudes. There are numerous models of boom lifts available in the industry. A single operator can control a variety of boom lift models. This machine is popular for harvesting fruit in locations such as orchards that historically relied on climbing dangerous ladders. Since ladders require even, solid ground for setting them up safely, they can be unreliable in the agricultural industry. Boom lifts make it much easier to reach high tree tops for collecting fruit.

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. Boom lifts can reach items even when it is impossible to move the machine right underneath the area you are working in, making it possible to fix overhead cables within telephone line and pole installation, window cleaning applications and similar circumstances. Articulated boom lifts are comprised of many joints that allow the machine to bend under or over obstacles. The articulated boom sections can move independently to grant operators access to many locations. Articulated booms feature a tight turning radius, making them ideal for hallways and narrow storage corridors. Dual-fuel models can work both inside and outside. Diesel versions are best suited outside and electric models are preferred for interior environments.

Articulating Boom Lifts Popular for maintenance jobs and construction, articulating boom lifts are a useful piece of material handling equipment. 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. Telescoping sections are available on certain models to extend reach to the maximum. 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. Capable of fitting through doorways, interior articulating boom lifts are more compact and used commonly in storage, retail and warehousing applications. Electric boom lifts are common for interior jobs due to their quieter options and lack of unhealthy carbon monoxide exhaust.

Telescopic Boom Lifts Telescopic boom lifts do not bend the way articulating boom lifts do. Instead, they extend outwards and upwards with hydraulics that retract and extend. The operator who is situated in the platform has the controls to operate and extend the lift on their own. Certain larger and taller models feature a jib located close to the top similar to an articulating boom lift model. Some models of boom lifts can achieve a reach of more than 180 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. Boom lifts can fit through tiny spaces and there are 4WD options on the market. Telescopic booms are common in a variety of settings due to their ability to combine height and reach.

Jib The jib is the extension found at the end of the main boom and between the platform. This enables extra reach and another articulation point or hinge for the platform to move side-to-side or up-and-down. Jibs are an option on many telescoping and articulating boom lifts. Articulating models have a joint situated roughly halfway between the wheels and the platform to enable it to reach over an obstacle and then lower again if required.

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 model features excellent mobility and is capable of accessing hard to reach areas. The machine can lift up, over and out with ease, making difficult locations easy to work with. 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 Of course, safety is the highest priority when operating any type of boom lift. All known safety hazards must be known to anyone working within the vicinity. Operating the equipment safely is vital for the operator and everyone in the vicinity. Proper safety gear and communication need to be completed prior to operating. Ensure there are no flammable or combustible items, open flame or lit cigarettes near the machine, engine fuels or battery gases. Have a properly mounted, accessible and visible fire extinguisher mounted within reach. It is important to maintain a clean work space around charging stations and work surfaces since clutter or tools could puncture 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. Fasteners, straps and chains must be regularly checked to make sure they are safe working order. 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. Workbenches and workshop or garage areas need to have adequate lighting and ventilation. 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. Popular categories include Engine, Drive Chassis, Platform, Booms, Turntable, Controls and Function. Improper completion can result in unsafe operation, damage to components, poor performance and downtime. The maintenance inspection report extend the performance and service life of the machine and needs to be accurately maintained to ensure the machine is safe to run and that the machine is capable of performing properly. Commissioning refers to a list of one-time maintenance procedures to be complete at 50 hours and at 150 hour intervals. 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. Prior to operating your equipment, check your maintenance manual to make sure all of the fluid levels, oil changes, battery life and maintenance are up to date.