

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM 84-X-66

TO: All OSH Directors, Supervisors and Field Personnel

FROM: William M. Lybrand, Director of OSH

SUBJECT: Interpretation of Subarticle 7, Section 1926.952(b)(2) and Subarticle 6, Section 1910.67(b)(4)(i)(C)

DATE: February 21, 1984

PURPOSE:

This memorandum clarifies the meaning of the phrase “aerial lift truck shall be insulated from the work being performed” and “an aerial device insulated for the work” as stated in Subarticle 7, Section 1926.952(b)(2) and Subarticle 6, Section 1910.67(b)(4)(i)(C).

BACKGROUND:

There has been confusion as to what constitutes an aerial lift truck or lift device that is insulated from the work. In the past, this has been interpreted that both the upper and lower booms must be made of some type of electrical insulating material. This is not entirely true; and this memorandum clarifies what other conditions are acceptable.

INTERPRETATION:

The aerial lift truck or aerial device is considered insulated from the work being performed, if:

- a. Both the upper and lower booms are insulated from ground. The insulated voltage must be above the voltage of the energized line or lines where the work is being performed.
- b. The upper boom is entirely insulated above the voltage of the energized line or lines where the work is being performed and the lower boom is provided with an insulated section (normally a 24-inch air gap midway of the lower boom section). This section must be capable of withstanding voltage higher than the voltage of the line or lines where the work is being performed. See Attachments A and B.

Aerial lift trucks and aerial devices with only the upper boom insulated and without the lower boom insulated or an insulated section in the lower boom are required to be grounded or barricaded and considered as energized equipment.

## NOTE

Whether the lower section of the boom is insulated can be determined in two ways on aerial lift trucks manufactured by Hi-Range as follows:

- a. The lower boom section that is insulated will have a white fiberglass section of various lengths that protrudes from the steel structure. Otherwise, if it is not insulated, the lower boom will be a straight run of continuous steel.
- b. The model number for aerial lift trucks will have the series number followed by the letter "I" if insulated. For example, 5FI-48 is an insulated lower boom aerial lift truck, while 5F-48 is the same truck with an uninsulated lower boom section.

## EFFECTIVE DATE

This memorandum is effective upon receipt and will remain in effect until cancelled or superseded.