

Aerial Lift Devices IVO Trolley Tracks

The following rules apply to Aerial Lift Devices (Manlifts and Bucket Trucks) and Cranes for use in MTS right of Way.

Work Zone is the area 360 degrees around the equipment, up to the maximum working radius.

If any part of the equipment, load line or load, if operated up to the equipment's maximum working radius in the work zone, it is considered fouling the ROW. Therefore, Aerial Lift devices will be limited to non-revenue hours. If it will be operated within 10 feet of the Overhead Catenary System a Power down Request will have to be submitted.

Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and industry safety standards, "fouling" is defined as placing an individual or equipment in such close proximity to a track that it could be struck by a moving train, or is within 15 feet of the nearest rail.

Physical Obstruction: The crane or its boom is within the 15-foot danger zone or directly on the rail, creating an immediate obstacle to safe train passage.

Collision Risk: The incident creates a situation where a train could collide with the crane, often classified as an impact accident between a train and a roadway maintenance machine.

Operational Definition: Equipment is considered fouling if it is capable of entering within 15 feet of the rails, which a tipped-over crane inherently does.

According to safety guidelines, equipment must be "in the clear" (usually at least 15 feet from the track) to avoid fouling, unless specific safety protections are in place.

All Aerial Lift Devices shall:

- Have a pre-operational site Inspection completed by an ANSI Level II rated competent person who shall inspect all machinery and equipment prior to each use, and during use, to make sure it is in safe operating condition. Any deficiencies shall be repaired, or defective parts replaced, before continued use.
- The Crane or Aerial Lift Device shall be leveled according to the manufacturer's specifications. Ensure support surface is firm and able to support the load.
- The crane shall be uniformly level within one percent of level grade and located on firm footing. Cranes equipped with outriggers shall have them all fully deployed following manufacturer's specifications, insofar as applicable.
- Be mindful of asphalt which easily becomes a shifting, soft surface under a concentrated load.
- Aerial Lift Devices shall not be stored in the MTS ROW.

All Aerial Lift Operators shall:

- Review the site for possible hazards:
 - Overhead lines
 - Unstable soil
 - High wind conditions
 - Other work activities in the area

- Determine the Characteristics of the load:
 - Weight
 - Dimensions
 - Center of gravity

- Preferred methods of safety around overhead lines include:
 - de-energizing and grounding all electrical lines
 - erecting insulating barriers

- Use signalman to assist in maintaining clearances where vision is obstructed.

- Hand signals shall be ANSI standard for the type of crane in use. An illustration of the signals shall be posted at the job site.

- Use nonconductive taglines to stabilize loads.

- Barricade areas within swing radius.

- Maintain 4-foot clearance from all MTS infrastructure.

OCS Power down:

A signalman shall be designated to observe the clearance of the Aerial Lift Devices in relation to MTS infrastructure and give timely warning for all operations where it is difficult for the operator to maintain the desired clearance by visual means. If a signalman is not available, they may measure out the clearance distance and install visual barriers for the operator to use.

Aerial Lift Device Emergencies

If an Aerial Lift Device has a Mechanical Failure, encounters MTS infrastructure, or overturns you shall notify MTS as soon as possible

LADDER USE

Using a ladder near overhead power lines is extremely dangerous and can result in severe injury or electrocution. Always maintain a minimum clearance of **10 feet** between your body, the ladder, and any OCS Lines. Treat all wires as live and be aware that electricity can arc or jump even if direct contact isn't made. If you need to work within 10 feet of a MTS Catenary line, you must submit a Red Tag Request to MTS in advance to have the lines de-energized or covered with safety blankets.

Using a ladder near MTS tracks requires strict adherence to federal railway and workplace safety laws. Never set up a ladder within **15 feet of the nearest rail** without prior written approval from MTS.

- **Material:** Use a fiberglass or non-conductive ladder. Never use metal ladders, as they readily conduct electricity. Even wood ladders can be dangerous if wet or dirty.
- **Carry horizontally:** Always carry extension ladders horizontally rather than upright to prevent accidental contact with overhead wires.
- **Survey the area:** Carefully scan your surroundings. Be aware that tree limbs or foliage can conceal power lines.
- **Minimum Clearance:** Equipment, tools, and temporary structures (including ladders) generally must remain at least 15 feet away from the centerline of the nearest track to avoid being struck by passing trains or on-track equipment.
- **Worker Proximity:** Under Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) rules, individuals and unanchored equipment cannot enter the clearance envelope while trains are operating or moving through the area.
- **Electrical Hazards:** Railroad tracks and adjacent areas contain overhead catenary wires, fiber optic Cable and signal cables. Ensure your ladder is non-conductive (e.g., fiberglass) to prevent lethal shocks.
- **Proper Anchoring:** Railroad ballast is uneven, shifts easily, and is highly unstable. The ground must be perfectly level and solid before climbing. Secure, stake, or tie off the ladder to prevent it from displacing into the tracks.
- **Work with a spotter:** Never work alone on a ladder near power lines. Always have someone foot the ladder and watch for dangerous shifts.
- **Who to Contact:** If you must work on or directly over railroad right-of-way property, you must coordinate with the MTS Right of Way to obtain the necessary permits before starting the job.

What to Do in an Emergency

If your ladder or equipment touches a power line, **do not attempt to remove it or touch the ladder**. Electricity will travel through the ladder and shock you instantly.

Do not step off: Stay on the ladder if you are on it, or if you are on the ground, stay put. Never touch the ladder and the ground at the same time.

1. **Call for help:** Immediately call 911 and contact MTS to shut off the power.
2. **Warn others:** Instruct anyone nearby to stay at least 35 feet away from the area due to potential ground current.