



Mobile Elevating Work Platform (MEWP) malfunction

An arborist was commencing work in a Land Rover MEWP at a height of around 8 feet above the ground the bucket slowly tilted backwards under its own power. A harness and a restraint lanyard were being worn, so the arborist was able to exit the bucket safely.



The vehicle was fitted with a slew ring striker arm, which prevents rotation beyond 360 degrees and damage to the hydraulic system. This has been previously damaged, so it failed to engage the stop switch, and caused damage to the hydraulics. The damage was probably caused over a period of time, due to incorrectly stored materials on the bed of the MEWP.

1. Keep the bed of MEWPS clear of stored materials, rubbish and tree cuttings
2. Put tools and equipment away in designated tool lockers
3. Carry out pre use inspections of machinery and if faults are found report them
4. Ensure there is a site specific Emergency action plan