

## BULLETIN

# Elevating Work Platform Operation – Licence Requirements

This bulletin outlines the licensing requirements to operate an elevating work platform in the Northern Territory. The use of elevated work platform in some circumstances is considered high risk work and requires the operator to hold an appropriate license to perform high risk work issued by NT WorkSafe.

The licensing of workers aims to ensure that they have the skills and knowledge to perform high risk work in a safe manner so to reduce the health and safety risk to themselves and other persons in the workplace.

## Class of High Risk Work Licence for Elevated Work Platform

Boom-Type Elevating Work Platforms (boom length 11 metres or more) – covers the operation of a telescoping device, hinged device, or articulated device or any combination of these used to support a platform on which personnel, equipment and materials may be elevated to perform work and where the boom length is 11 metres or more.

The 11 metre boom length shall be taken to mean the greater of the following:

- the vertical distance from the surface supporting the boom type elevating work platform to the floor of the platform with the platform extended to its maximum height;
- the horizontal distance from the centre point of the boom's rotation to the outer edge of the platform with the platform extended to its maximum distance.

## Scissor Lifts

An Elevating Work Platform licence is not required for use of scissor lifts over 11 metres however a risk assessment process should be applied. Although operators of scissor lifts are not required to be licensed under the [Work Health and Safety \(National Uniform Legislation\) Act](#), a Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBU) have a duty to ensure the competency of the operator when a scissor lift is operated, so far as is reasonably practicable.

Examples of how to assess the competency of a person to operate a scissor lift could include a review of the work history and training records of a person, conduct appropriate challenge tests and have an experienced competent worker of the PCBU assess a new worker on behalf of the PCBU.

Operators of the plant listed above could demonstrate their competency in the operation of particular plant by:

- Holding a statement of attainment or other nationally recognised qualification
- Successfully completing training at an industry training school
- Completing on-the-job training under supervision of an experienced competent person.
- Many Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) also provide a fee for service called verification of competency conducted by an accredited assessor aligned to that RTO.

## Obtaining a Licence

The minimum age to hold a high risk licence is eighteen (18) years old, however training may commence at an earlier age.

A high risk licence to operate a elevating work platform can be obtained by:

- Undertaking training and competency assessment through an [accredited assessor](#)/RTO to the competency standards set out in Schedule 4 of the Regulations<sup>1</sup>, or
- If you hold a National License, transition to a High Risk Licence by complete the [Application for a High Risk Licence form](#) (provided your licence falls within the transitional timeframes<sup>2</sup>)

### **Interstate Issued Licences**

Licences issued in another jurisdiction of Australia are recognised in the Northern Territory provided the licence is still valid under the issuing jurisdiction's transitional arrangements. For information on if a state or territory licence is still valid and accepted in the Northern Territory, refer to the Bulletin [Licensing Persons Performing High Risk Work](#).

### **Non-Australian Issued Licences**

Non-Australian issued licenses are not recognised in the Northern Territory.

A worker carrying out high risk work with only a non-Australian issued licence is not considered licensed and will be in breach of the [Work Health and Safety \(National Uniform Legislation\) Act](#) and [Regulations](#).

To undertake high risk work in the Northern Territory, a worker must first go through an accredited Northern Territory assessor to obtain the competency and then lodge an application to obtain a licence within 60 days of the assessment. A list of accredited assessors can be found on the NT WorkSafe Website under Service Providers.

### **Trainees and Unlicensed Persons – Supervision of High Risk Work**

Under the repealed Workplace Health and Safety legislation, an unlicensed worker was able to carry out high risk work if they were under the supervision of a worker who had the relevant licence. This is no longer the case and a worker who does not hold the relevant licence must not carry out high risk work until they have completed the appropriate training with an approved RTO.

The only time an unlicensed worker can carry out high risk work under the supervision of a worker with the relevant license, is via a structured training program, formulated by the RTO, undertaken to obtain a licence.

## **Further Information**

The following information on high risk licensing is available on the NT WorkSafe website.

### **Guides**

- [Guide to High Risk Licence](#)

### **Bulletins**

- [Licensing Persons Performing High Risk Work](#)
- [High Risk Work Licensing – Worker Obligations](#)
- [High Risk Work Licensing – PCBU Obligations](#)

**For further information please contact NT WorkSafe on 1800 019 115 or go to [www.worksafe.nt.gov.au](http://www.worksafe.nt.gov.au)**

<sup>1</sup> Please note that these assessments must be lodged with an Application for a High Risk Work Licence within 60 days of the date of the assessment, failure to do so will result in you having to complete a further assessment.

<sup>2</sup> For transitional timeframes please refer to the bulletin Licensing Persons Performing High Risk Work.