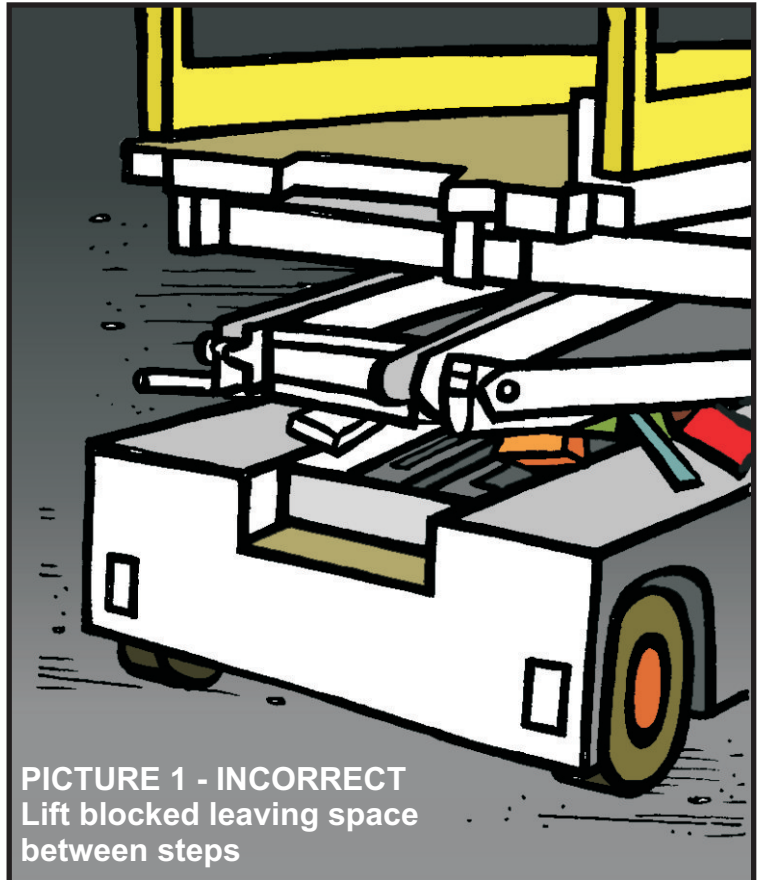


TOOLBOX SAFETY TRAINING

Company _____ Location _____ Date _____

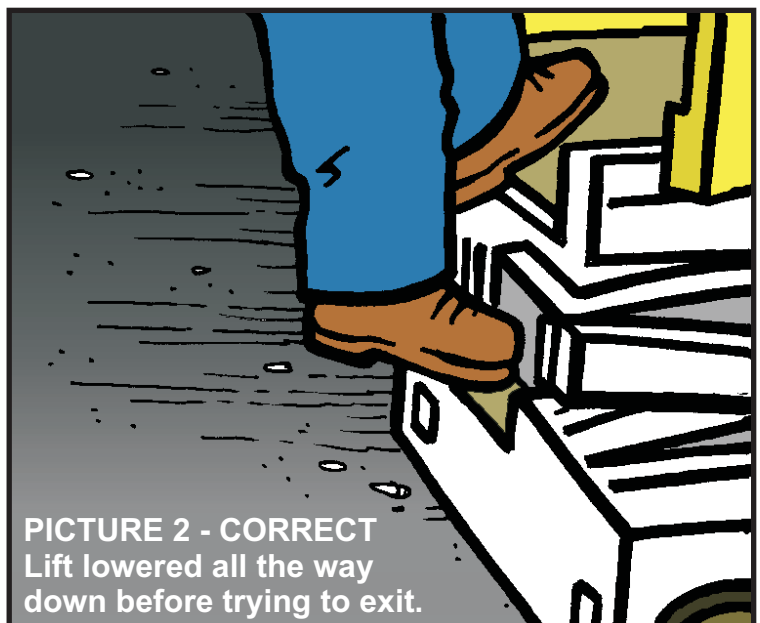
Vol 16 - No 7 SCISSOR LIFT HOUSEKEEPING

Observance of housekeeping in the work area is a job site requirement. In addition, the inspection of equipment is essential to safe operations. This accident is a result of disregard for both. In April 2007, an employee for an electrical company was installing permanent lighting by connecting flex conduit. The scrap material had gathered up on the wheel base of the scissor lift in use. The employee attempted to set the lift down but he failed to notice that scrap metal from this project and others had gathered at the end of the roller. The hydraulic cylinders which lower the platform run a set of rollers against the wheel base. Because of the trash build up, it failed to set all the way down, leaving a 6" difference on the steps of the lift (Picture 1). An employee attempting to step off the lift was taken by surprise and fell off the back end, injuring his wrist while attempting to break his fall.



PICTURE 1 - INCORRECT
Lift blocked leaving space
between steps

The OSHA standard requires uniform steps on ladders and stairwells. Equipment also needs to meet these requirements (Picture 2). We do not use our eyesight to look at every step we take. Instead, we travel and climb throughout the job site, mostly on muscle memory. When there is a change in elevation, there is usually a misstep causing us to lose our balance and fall.



PICTURE 2 - CORRECT
Lift lowered all the way
down before trying to exit.

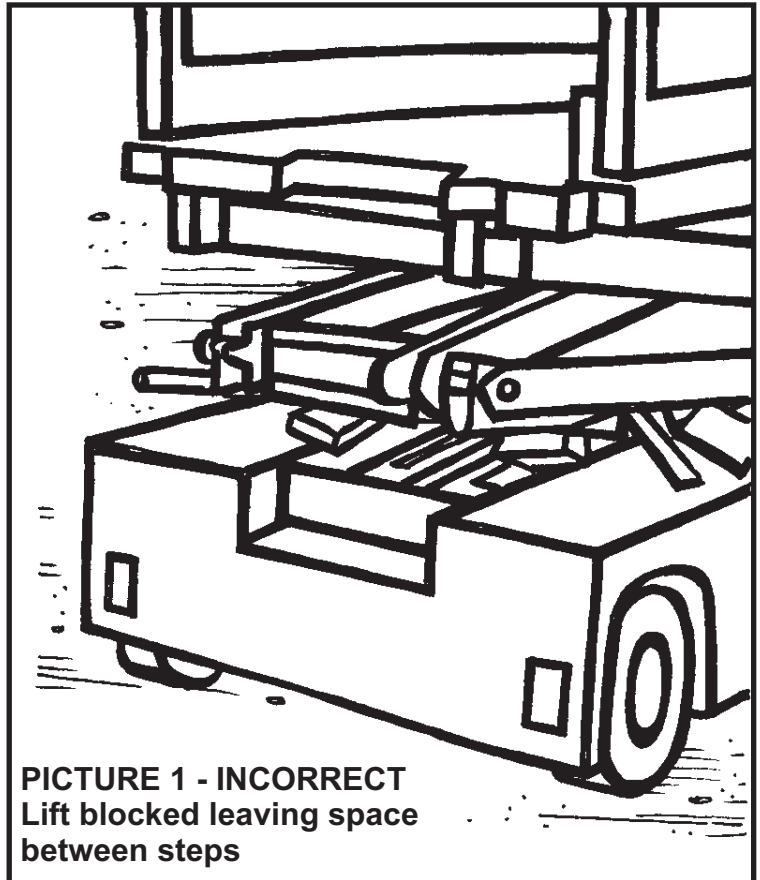
Preventative measures should be taken by inspecting the wheel base of scissor lifts and cleaning debris from previous jobs so as not to cause interference with equipment operations.

TOOLBOX SAFETY TRAINING

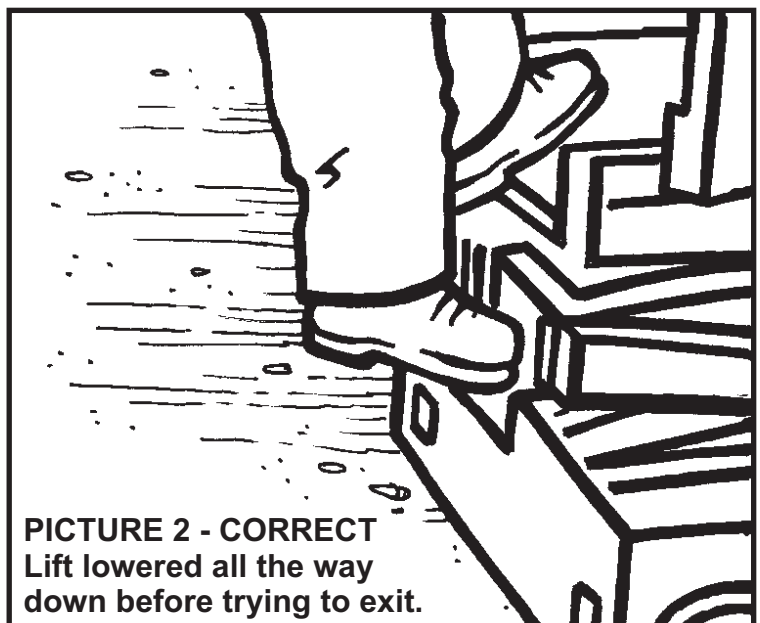
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