Compliance Review

eSafetyFirst Canada Elevating Work Platform Online Training

Course

The purpose of this document is to outline the compliance review for the eSafetyFirst Canada (eSafetyFirst) online Elevating Work Platform (MEWP) course. The course was viewed in its entirety and then reviewed chapter by chapter to determine compliance with the CSA B354.7 and CSA B354.8 standards. These standards are used in all Canadian jurisdiction for reference when establishing legislation around elevating work platforms.

The course notes throughout that all jurisdictions in Canada use the CSA B354.7 and CSA B354.8 standards for measuring compliance.

Each section will contain points required for compliance with the legislation and recommendations for changes or revisions that need to be added to meet compliance. The report will also contain non-technical recommendations to improve or correct content.

The eSafetyFirst Canada MEWP Safety course does not measure any practical training or assessments or anything for the familiarization phase of MEWP training. eSafetyFirst Canada has taken extra steps to help ensure all participants are well prepared to move the familiarization and practical assessment portions. There are bonus documents available that provide all participants with the criteria on which they will be assessed. This gives each participant ample opportunity to prepared for their familiarization and practical assessments.

The report writer feels it is very important to note, the course also goes in depth in reviewing the hierarchy of controls and cover appropriate points for MEWPs in of the control categories.

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1. Regulatory Framework & Responsibilities

Learners must understand or be able to:

- Identify the **purpose and scope** of CSA B354.7 and CSA B354.8, including their relationship to provincial legislation. Modules 2 and 3 both note that provincial OHS Legislation uses the CSA standards as the compliance model.

- Modules 2 and 3 also note that **provincial regulations may be more stringent** than CSA standards and must be followed where applicable.

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2. MEWP Classification, Design & Components

- The course provides a very thorough overview of the different MEWP **groups and types** as defined in CSA B354.8 (e.g., Group A/B, and Types.
- The course provides an overview of the major components (platform, controls, hydraulics, stabilizers, emergency lowering systems) and a checklist that participants can use to prepare in advance of their familiarization and practical phases.
- The course provides the participant the required knowledge where they will be able to distinguish between **scissor lifts, boom lifts, vertical or mast lifts**, and specialty MEWPs.

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3. Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment

- Participants are able identify common hazards: tip-overs, entrapment, overhead powerlines, unstable ground, weather, and traffic, among many other noted hazards.
- The course notes that operators need to conduct a **site hazard assessment** and determine control measures. Including walking the travel path to ensure there are no obstructions or other obstacles that could cause a tip over or catapult the operator off the platform.
- The course reviews the hierarchy of controls and provides a thorough list of control examples for each level of the hierarchy and the hazards they control.
- Participants will be able apply the principles of **stability, load limits, and centre of gravity** when they are being assessed during the familiarization and practical phases.
- The course thoroughly covers an all-hazards approach covering everything from acid burns to tip overs.
- Additional hazards are reviewed in Module 3 during the maintenance, fueling, and battery overview

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4. Safe Operating Procedures (CSA B354.7-Aligned) (including mandatory inspections)

In order to be certified or considered competent operators must be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of **pre-start checks**, function tests, and inspection requirements. The MEWP course provides an excellent overview and the bonus documentation will prepare the participants appropriately. The course reviews all of the inspections from pre-use inspections, periodic (quarterly or every 150 hours), and the required annual inspections.
- The course provides an overview of **special inspection requirements** in Module 3 and outlines all the cases where one might be required.
- Explain safe travel, elevation, positioning, and shutdown procedures. The MEWP course provides a clear overview preparing all candidates for the next phases.
- Apply safe practices for **platform occupancy, fall protection**, and emergency descent. The course covers fall protection and rescue in module 2.
- Understand limitations related to **wind, slope, and load capacity**. Students will gain an understanding of the different limitations of MEWPs in different areas in Modules, 2 and 3. Module 2 covers different hazards including capacity, travel and slopes.

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5. Load Handling & Capacity Interpretation

- Module 2 notes that operators must be aware of the information on **capacity plates**, load charts, and manufacturer instructions.
- The course reinforces conditions that can cause **overloading or instability** throughout it.
- The course reinforces adherence to OEM manuals and specifications.

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6. Emergency Preparedness & Incident Response

- Module 2 provides a good overview of emergency lowering procedures, rescue planning, and response to mechanical failure.
- It also discusses the need for plans to be in place especially if fall arrest is used.

- Module 2 discuses self-rescue, assisted rescue, and technical rescues.

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7. Documentation, Record-Keeping & Competency Verification

- Module 1 discuses the CSA B354.8 requirements for **training documentation**, evaluation, and familiarization and the three phases of competency.
- The course covers employer obligations for **site-specific training** and **hands-on evaluation** in Module 1 under the owner responsibilities.
- The course covers mandatory documentation and retention requirements that are based on the CSA Standard.

Technical Points

1. Quiz in Module 1 question 2 has a misspelling, it should read fibreglass.
2. It might be a good idea to provide a definition for slew controls or what slew means.
3. ~~Slide 11 in Module 2 talks about a boom lift and a scissor lift is pictured.~~ **This slide has been corrected with a new image.**
4. ~~Slide 49 in Module 2 talks about fall protection harnesses, lanyards with a shock absorber or using an SRL but shows a fellow wearing a positioning belt and a chain with a hook. This is not permitted in Canada.~~ **This slide has been corrected with a new image.**

Conclusion

The eSafetyFirst online Elevating Work Platform (MEWP) course satisfies the requirements for the theory portion of MEWP training as outlined in the CSA Standard. It is important to note that the course goes above the standard as it adds in extra points that are not required for the standard such as noting that fall protection training may be required depending on jurisdiction and that inspections must follow minimum documentation standards.



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