

COMPETENT PERSON DEFINED

Extract from the
Australian Standard 2550.10.2025
(Part 10: Safe Use : Mobile Elevating Work Platforms (MEWPs))

1.4. Competent Person

1.4.1 General

All activities required to be carried out in this document shall be carried out by a competent person(s).

1.4.2 Competent person

A competent person is a person who has acquired, through education, training, qualification or experience or a combination of these, the knowledge and skill enabling that person to correctly perform the task required.

A competent person should —

- (a) be able to safely and correctly perform the tasks required of them;
- (b) be able to identify when they cannot perform a task due to insufficient knowledge or skill;
- (c) be able to effectively communicate;
- (d) be able to provide appropriate records of training, qualification and experience;
- (e) be physically able to undertake the appointed tasks;
- (f) be able to identify and manage the risks of a task;
- (g) be able to recognize unsafe practices;
- (h) have the knowledge to assess a task and follow a work plan.

1.4.3 Competent person for supervision

In addition to the requirements of Clause 1.4.2.1, a competent person for supervision should —

- (a) understand how the MEWP and its equipment are to be used safely;
- (b) know the risks of using a MEWP and the possible incidents that could occur;

- (c) know that the MEWP should not be used as a crane or personnel hoistlift unless specifically designed for that purpose;
- (d) be able to develop and implement the work plan and the rescue plan;
- (e) know the training and familiarisation required for the operator to use the MEWP;
- (f) know the inspection and maintenance requirements to ensure the MEWP is in a suitable working condition, including pre-operational use checks;
- (g) know how to access the inspection and maintenance documentation, for example in the logbook;
- (h) be able to implement exclusion zones as necessary to keep the MEWP separate from pedestrians, machinery and vehicles;
- (i) know the requirements to operate near hazards, including power lines; and
- (j) know and understand the planning, set-up and operation requirements provided in this document.

1.4.4 Competent person for conducting inspection and maintenance

In addition to the requirements of Clause 1.4.2.1, a competent person for conducting inspection and maintenance should —

- (a) be familiar with the MEWP (its controls, functionality and operating limits) and able to verify if it is functioning correctly;
- (b) be able to operate the equipment safely;
- (c) be able to understand the manufacturer's service and maintenance information;
- (d) be able to identify and rectify faults and defects;
- (e) be able to conduct functional checks and maintenance as defined by the manufacturer;
- (f) be able to verify if the MEWP is in a safe working condition; and
- (g) know and understand the inspection requirements provided in this document.

1.4.5 Competent person(s) for major inspections

In addition to the requirements of Clause 1.4.2.1, the competent persons planning, conducting and certifying major inspections should collectively satisfy the following criteria:

- (a) Be familiar with the MEWP (its controls, functionality and operating limits) and able to verify if it is functioning correctly.
- (b) Be able to operate the equipment safely.
- (c) Be able to understand the manufacturer's service and maintenance information.

- (d) Be able to either conduct or manage the major inspection, including co-ordinating appropriate trades and specialist services.
- (e) Be able to identify faults and defects or to engage professional services to do so.
- (f) Be able to assess and interpret specialized reports, such as a non-destructive examination testing (NDT) report.
- (g) Be able to verify if the MEWP is in a safe working condition.
- (h) Know and understand the inspection requirements provided in this document.
- (i) Be able to conduct a risk assessment in accordance with AS/NZS 4024.1201 and AS/NZS 4024.1303.

1.4.6 Competent person(s) for rescue [rescuer(s)]

In addition to the requirements of Clause 1.4.2.1, a competent person to conduct a rescue should —

- (a) be familiar with the MEWP (its controls, functionality and operating limits);
- (b) be able to understand the manufacturer's instructions;
- (c) be able to read and follow the documented rescue plan;
- (d) be able to operate the equipment safely; and
- (e) be able to identify and avoid foreseeable hazards and to determine an appropriate action to recover the platform.

1.4.7 Competent person(s) for modifications

In addition to the requirements of Clause 1.4.2.1, a competent person to conduct a modification should —

- (a) be familiar with the requirements of AS/NZS 1418.10;
- (b) have the ability to specify and conduct applicable testing;
- (c) have knowledge and practical experience of the operational risks associated with MEWPs; and
- (d) have relevant qualifications for the task.

1.4.8 Competent person(s) for loading and unloading from vehicles

In addition to the requirements of Clause 1.4.2.1, a competent person to operate the MEWP in order to load or unload it from a vehicle should —

- (a) be familiar with the MEWP (its controls, functionality and operating limits) and able to verify if it is functioning correctly;
- (b) be able to operate truck auxiliary equipment where necessary, used for loading the MEWP as appropriate;

- (c) be able to select and operate equipment used for securing the MEWP as appropriate;
- (d) be able to operate the MEWP safely;
- (e) be able to verify if the MEWP is in a safe working condition;
- (f) be familiar with the NHVR Load Restraint requirements;
- (g) have knowledge of the operational risks associated with MEWPs; and
- (h) be able to implement exclusion zones as necessary to keep the MEWP separate from pedestrians, machinery and vehicles.

NOTE: Operation of MEWP boom type 11 metres and above will require regulators licence to operate high risk plant.