

Issue 7 – March 2026

Welcome to Issue 7.

A shorter issue this month focussing on lifting and lowering activities, our legal obligations and best practice. It also includes a reminder about not sharing safety critical equipment with other trades.

Thanks for taking the time to read this bulletin.

What are Lifting and Lowering Activities?

Lifting and lowering activities are any work activities involving the raising or lowering of a load using equipment.

Under LOLER (The Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998), a “lifting operation” means an operation concerned with the lifting or lowering of a load.

In health and safety terms, a load can mean materials, equipment, or people. Lifting and lowering isn’t just about cranes or large plant. It also includes smaller, routine tasks where equipment is used to raise or lower items or people during work.

For our work as electricians, lifting and lowering activities happen in many day-to-day situations. The most obvious example in our business is the use of scissor lifts. These are MEWPs and are used to lift people, tools and light materials to a safe working position for tasks such as installing containment, wiring, luminaires, fire detectors, CCTV cameras etc.. However, lifting and lowering activities can also include using hoists, chain blocks, lever hoists, pulley systems, lifting accessories, material lifts, or any other equipment used to raise or lower loads as part of the job.

Legal Duties under LOLER

LOLER places duties on people and companies who own, operate or control lifting equipment. It applies to lifting equipment used at work, whether the equipment is owned by the company or hired in. Lifting equipment must be:

- Strong and stable enough for its intended use
- Positioned and installed to reduce risk
- Marked where appropriate
- Used in a way that is properly planned, appropriately supervised and carried out safely.
- Every operation involving lifting equipment must be properly planned by a competent person, appropriately supervised, and carried out in a safe manner.

SAFETY BULLETIN

Our Lifting Equipment

At John Noble, we own two pieces of lifting equipment, our Genie scissor lifts.



Genie GS-1932m E-Drive

Our brand new, fully electric Genie scissor lift. This machine replaces our old Skyjack SJ16 which has now been scrapped.

Details:

Max working height: 7.55m

Platform capacity/safe working load: 227kg

Width: 0.81m

Length: 1.4m

Weight: 1.179Kg



Genie GS-1932

Our older, slightly larger Genie lift. This one has a bigger working space but it otherwise very similar.

Max working height: 7.64m

Platform capacity/safe working load: 227kg

Width: 0.81m

Length: 1.88m

Weight: 1.179Kg

SAFETY BULLETIN

Statutory Checks on Lifting Equipment

As part of our commitment to keep our workers safe, and comply with the law, at John Noble we have routine statutory checks carried out on our scissor lifts. These checks are a systematic and detailed examination of the equipment and its safety-critical parts, carried out by a competent person at specified intervals, followed by a written report.

Servicing alone does not satisfy LOLER. Even if a machine appears to be working normally and has been maintained, the employer must still ensure that the required thorough examinations are carried out and that the reports are available. The report is known as a **Certificate of Thorough Examination**. When equipment is new, it may not need a thorough examination immediately. All new equipment is supplied with a **Declaration of Conformity**, which essentially provides the same assurance as a certificate of thorough examination.

For equipment that lifts people, typically an inspection is done every 6 months. For other equipment it can be every 12 months. Our scissor lifts get checked every 6 months. Here is what a report looks like, and how to read it:

1. Check the machine details match the machine you intend to use.

2. Check the date which the machine was last inspected, and when it should next be checked. Make sure the report is in date.

3. Verify that the machine obtained a pass at the inspection.

If you can't verify all of this information, stop work and contact the office.

26-Feb-26

Report Of Thorough Examination

Employer/Owner: Lombard North Central PLC
Address of Owner: PO Box 520, Rotherham, South Yorkshire, S63 3BR

Report Ref: 82475
Address of Exam: Redgate House, Warke Flatt, Willow Farm Business Park, Castle Donington, DE74 2UD



Machine Details
Equip No: 25225
Serial No: GS32MV-133
Make: Genie
Year: 2025
Model: GS19-32M
SWL: 227kg

Exam Details
Date Last: 25-Feb-26
Date Next: 24-Aug-26

Legend: ✓ = Checked, x = Defective, o = If not applicable, r = rectified, 30 = 30 Day Notice

1. POWER UNIT	2. DRIVE & STEERING	3. CHASSIS	4. ELEVATING SYSTEM STRUCTURE	5. PLATFORM	6. HYDRAULICS	7. DECALS	8. FUNCTIONAL	9. CONTROLS
A. OIL LEVEL	A. TYRES/PRESSURE	A. STRUCTURAL CRACKS/WELDS	A. SCISSOR ARM DISTORTION	A. GUARD RAILS & LOCKING PINS	A. OIL LEVEL	A. S.W.L.	A. CHARGERS & PLUGS 115V/240V	A. PLATFORM ELEVATE
B. COOLANT	B. STEERING LINKAGE	B. SCISSOR GUARDS	B. PIVOT PINS/BUSHES	B. GATE/SPRING LATCH	B. LEAKS	B. ID. PLATE	B. TILT SENSOR	B. PLATFORM DESCENT
C. FAN BELT TENSION	C. KING PINS/BUSHES/BEARINGS	C. OUTRIGGER INTERLOCK SYSTEM	C. PIVOT PINS/BUSHES	C. EXTENSION PLATFORM	C. HOSES	C. WARNING SIGNS	C. EMERGENCY STOP BUTTONS	C. DRIVE SPEED STOWED
D. ENGINE MOUNTS	D. WHEEL NUTS TORQUED	D. POTHOLE PROTECTION SYSTEM		D. OPERATORS MANUAL	D. RELIEF VALVE PRESSURE	D. INSTRUCTIONAL		D. DRIVE SPEED ELEVATED
E. EXHAUST SYSTEM	E. PARKING BRAKES			E. GRIP TAPE/DECK FLOOR		E. WIND SPEED		E. SOFTWARE PARAMETERS
F. BATTERIES / CHARGE S.G.	F. PARKING BRAKE RELEASE PUMP					F. CONTROLS		
G. CONNECTION SECURITY								
H. GENERATOR VOLTAGE								
I. CONNECTION SECURITY								
J. BATTERY/MOTOR CABLES								
K. DC MOTOR CONNECTIONS								

A. Identification of any part found to have a defect which is or could become a danger to persons and a description of the defect

B. Particulars of any repair, renewal or alteration required to remedy a defect found to be a danger to persons;

C. In the case of a defect which is not yet but could become a danger to persons, particulars of any repair, renewal or alteration which requires to be rectified within 30 days;

Observations and Recommendations

PASS ☒ **PASS WITH RECOMMENDATIONS** ☐ **30 DAY NOTICE** ☐ **FAIL** ☐

I hereby confirm that the equipment described in this record was thoroughly examined in accordance with the appropriate provisions.

Signature: _____ Name: Tony Whitby Date: 25-Feb-26

Certificate of competence number: 002846

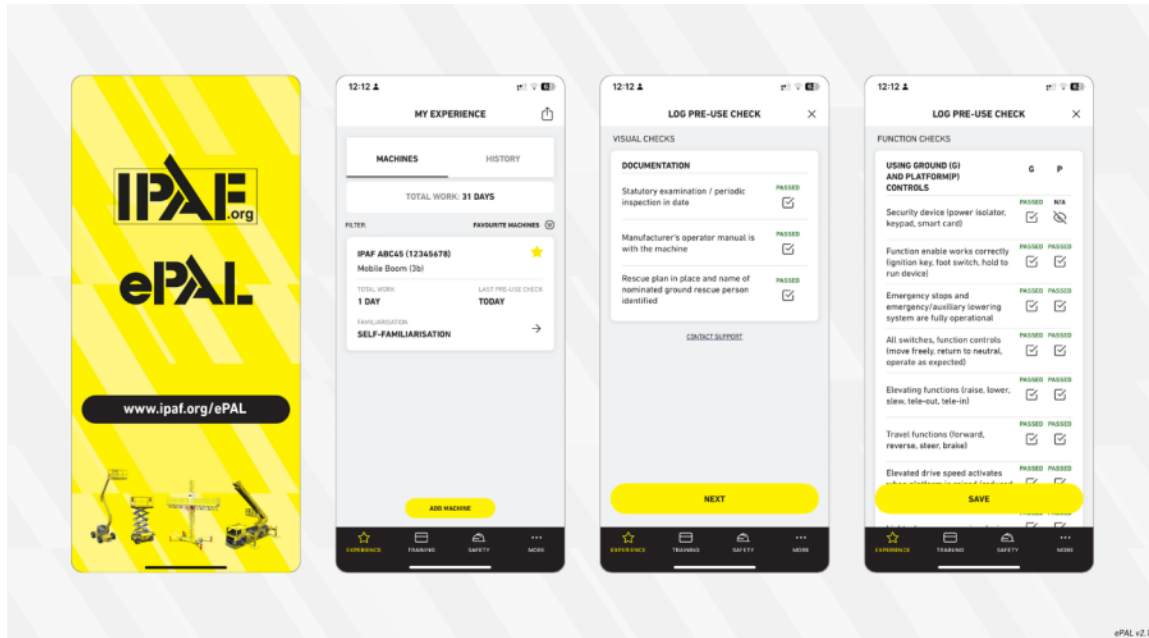
Registered Office: Redgate House Warke Flatt Willow Farm Business Park Castle Donington Derby DE74 2UD Company Reg No: 06598369



Pre-Use Checks

Before use of any machine, you need to carry out the pre-use checks. All operators at John Noble are trained to use the equipment, and receive a digital PAL (powered access license) card as demonstration of competence.

You can show your PAL card to anyone who requests it in the ePAL app.



Every time you use one of these machines, you must log the pre-use check in your ePAL app. This ensures that:

1. The pre-use check was carried out to industry best practice, and in accordance with our training.
2. We have a documented, traceable record of when the machines were used, and what condition they were in.
3. You have a demonstrable log of your hours using the machine which can be presented to IPAF, or another interested party, to demonstrate your ongoing competence with our lifting equipment.

If you are unsure how to use the ePAL app, or how to carry out the pre-use checks, speak to your supervisor who can help you.

IPAF provide a paper checklist version for reference on their website here:

<https://www.ipaf.org/sites/default/files/2025-02/MEWP%20Pre-Use%20Inspection%20Check%20List%20TE-1049-EN--V4.0-20250206.pdf>

Sharing of Equipment with Other Trades

During recent site visits, an issue noted was damage and deterioration to equipment, particularly ladders and other safety-critical access equipment. A contributing factor appears to be equipment being borrowed or shared with other trades.

We understand this usually comes from a good place. People want to help others on site get the job done, and cooperation between trades is important. However, there are practical and safety reasons why equipment should not be lent out.

Our risk assessments, inspections, and insurance arrangements cover our employees using our equipment. They do not cover other trades using it. When equipment leaves our control, we cannot be sure it is being used correctly or looked after properly, and damage or defects may go unnoticed until someone gets hurt.

This absolutely applies to our lifting equipment. We could be in breach of the law if you allow persons outside of our company to use any of the Genie lifts.

If another trade asks to borrow equipment, the correct approach is to politely decline and direct them to their own supervisor or site management. If access equipment is required for the project, it should be provided through agreed project arrangements, not informally borrowed.

If you feel uncomfortable refusing, or if there is pressure on site, speak to your supervisor. You will be supported in doing the right thing. Protecting safety-critical equipment protects everyone on site, including your own team.