

The consequences of operating AWP's on inclines, soft ground and unsupported surfaces.



The Consequences to the operator and persons in the vicinity of an AWP overturning, or becoming unstable, include the operator becoming trapped in the platform, life threatening injuries and fatalities.

Manufacturers develop **systems in AWP**s to indicate, alarm, limit and/or prevent operation on inclines. Manufacturers cannot control the site conditions or the transport procedures for the many varieties of AWP

s.

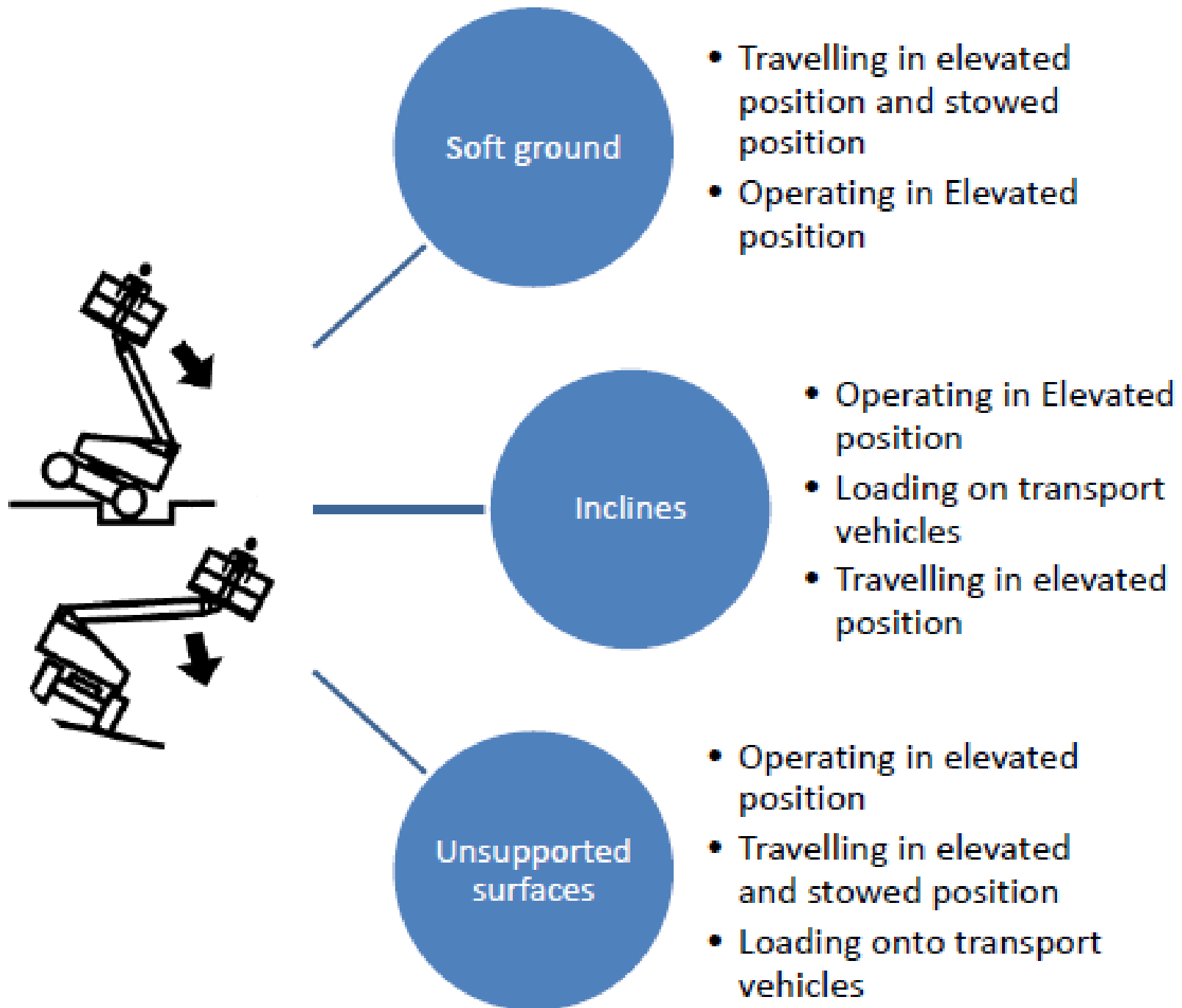
The site conditions and capacity of the support surface, to support the wheel loading of the AWP is an **important process required of the controller of the site**. This may result in exclusion zones and the requirements for a structural engineer to assess and report on the ability of the surface to support the load on tyres and where applicable, on outriggers.

Each AWP has a wheel loading identification near each wheel. If these are not visible, consult the manufacturer with the model and serial number of the AWP to obtain its wheel loading. Do NOT make an educated guess, as the load on the wheel/outrigger increases as the boom extends out past that wheel or outrigger tipping line.

Transport procedures and loading onto tilt trucks and low bed loader ramps introduces a new set of risks that needs to be addressed by reference to the Manufacturers transport instructions.

OSHA and Manufacturers want the persons using AWP

s to go home safe at the end of each working day. The OSHA recommends that you take notice of manufacturers instructions and your organization can use this enclosed information, **provided from information available in the public domain**, as a reference document indicating what can go wrong. A list of WEB Links to the **Vertikal.net** site is shown on the last page of this presentation.



Soft Ground. Fatality . Europe.



<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/14808/>

<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/15844/>

Unsupported surface.
Wheel into void.
Rescued operator.
Europe.



Broke through underground void. one fatality from catapult effect, other operator rescued. Australia.



<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/11356/>

The boom's wheels then sank into the soft ground, the machine overturned and the platform was thrust under water, giving the operators a soft landing, but potentially trapping them with their lanyards.

The two were ignoring most safety advice and training not to use a harness and lanyard while working over water, and to use a life vest, **but they did manage to unclip themselves and swim to safety.**

<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/14971/>



Excessive backward incline. Tip over backwards. Rolled over sideways into driveway. One Fatality. Australia.



<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/11561/>



The consequences of operating AWP's on inclines, soft ground and unsupported surfaces.

Floor load exceeded. Structural collapse of carpark. USA.



<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/10406>



The consequences of operating AWP's on inclines, soft ground and unsupported surfaces.

Soft ground.
Catapult.
Fatality.
USA.



<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/14894/>

Soft Ground.
Catapult
effect.
Injuries.
Europe.



<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/14857/>

While we do not know what caused the machine to overturn, the fact that it was being used in fairly deep snow which hides the ground conditions - including slopes and voids - is possibly a clue.

Operator rescued from dangling in harness.

USA.



<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/22003/>

Unsupported surface.
Electric culvert cover
collapsed.



Operator rescued.
Australia.



<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/17163>

These are the included reference links from **Vertikal.net**

<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/10406/>

<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/17174/>

<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/16418/>

<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/17163/>

<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/15844/>

<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/11561/>

<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/14894/>

<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/17510/>

<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/11356/>

<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/14971/>

<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/14857/>

<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/14808/>

<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/16921/>

<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/10828/>

<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/15695/>

<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/17510/>

<http://www.vertikal.net/en/news/story/9384/>

Samples of symbols used in operators manuals to indicate instability on soft ground and on inclines.

