



Kansas RTAP Fact Sheet

A Service of The University of Kansas Transportation Center for Rural Transit Providers

Safety Precautions For Operating a Lift

Tips to keep in mind when using a wheelchair on a lift.



- Deploying the lift when vehicle is on sloped ground is hazardous. Operate the lift with the vehicle parked on level ground.
- The vehicle must be safely parked with parking brake ON before using lift.
- Verify that the front roll stop is up before raising or lowering platform.
- When exiting the vehicle, the attendant must verify that platform is at vehicle floor

level and the front roll stop is up and locked.

- The raised front roll stop prevents slow and unintentional rolling off of the platform. It is NOT intended to stop a fast-moving wheelchair, which might tip forward if the small front wheels collide with the roll stop.
- Be certain the wheelchair fits safely on the platform and does not extend over the platform edges or interfere with operation of the roll stop.

- Do not allow arms, legs, or clothing near moving parts.
- The lift is designed to transport ONE wheelchair and its occupant, or a single standee. Do not overload it.
- Do not stand in front of the lift while deploying platform.
- Keep others clear while operating the lift.
- Do not allow an untrained person to operate the lift.
- Do not allow anyone to stand or walk on the bridge plate when it is unsupported. A bent bridge plate can cause interference with the platform as its rises or lowers.
- Lock wheelchair brakes before the lift is operated. Powered wheelchairs should have the power turned off, which will set the brake.
- Use extreme care in wet conditions. Wheelchair brakes are less effective if the platform or wheels are wet.
- Never leave the platform extended outside of the vehicle. Always return the platform to its stowed position after use.

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Source: Ricon Service Manual. Accessed February 12, 2014. <http://www.riconcorp.com/pdfs/32dss102/32dss102/D.1.pdf>