

# THE SPARK PLUG

Virginia Automotive Association's Twice Monthly Member Update

## *Automotive Lift Inspection: What's Required?*

Auto lifts are an essential piece of equipment needed in the automotive industry. As required with any equipment, auto lifts must be inspected and maintained. OSHA recognizes the importance of maintaining lifts to prevent accidents and injuries.

To accomplish this, OSHA follows the Standard for Automotive Lifts – Safety Requirements for Operation, Inspection and Maintenance established by the American National Standard Institute. The standard is referred as ANSI/ALI ALOIM: 2020, which was developed in conjunction with Automotive Lift Institute, Inc. The Automotive Lift Institute is involved in certifying manufactured automotive lifts, training users of automotive lifts, and training personnel to become qualified automotive lift inspectors. ANSI requires auto lifts to be inspected by a qualified lift inspector at least annually as a minimal requirement.

Who's considered a qualified lift inspector? As required by ANSI, a qualified lift inspector will have:

1. Knowledge of personal safety practices necessary to perform automotive lift inspections of newly-installed or existing equipment
2. Familiarity with industry terminology, including the terms defined and used in ANSI/ALI ALCTV (automotive lift construction, testing, and validation).
3. The ability to read and understand equipment manuals, drawings, and parts lists
4. Knowledge of the purpose and function of all components, devices, and accessories commonly employed on automotive lifts
5. Working knowledge of electrical and electronic control circuit principles as applied to the operation of pumps, motors, valves, and switches
6. Working knowledge of mechanical principles as applied to structures, machines, mechanisms, and the effects of traction on wire rope, chains, and sheaves
7. Working knowledge of hydraulic principles as applied to the operation of valves, pumps, cylinders (or plungers), and piping
8. Working knowledge of pneumatic principles as applied to the operations of valves, compressors, cylinders (or plunges), pressure vessels, airbags, bellows, and piping
9. Knowledge of the many and varied types and styles of automotive lifts, their uses, and any limitations or restricted applications pertaining thereto

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Contact Us:



[www.VaAuto.org](http://www.VaAuto.org)



P.O. Box 29069  
Henrico, Va 23243



[Office@VaAuto.org](mailto:Office@VaAuto.org)



(804) 739-1400