



## SCAFFOLD SAFETY PROGRAM

Scaffolds are temporary elevated work platforms designed to provide safe access and working surface. Scaffolds must be erected by a scaffold company in accordance within the standards set by the scaffold manufacturer and OSHA. Only trained employees are allowed to use the scaffold. Designated authorized competent person must perform a visual inspection and found scaffold to be in good repair before each use. Unsafe equipment or conditions must be immediately tagged out by authorized competent person, and must be complied with by all employees on site.

### Training

- Before being authorized and designated competent to use scaffold Tate Engineering Systems employees must:
- Understand all hazards associated with scaffold (fall, electrical, falling objects)
- Understand the fall protection limitations, use and load capacity of the scaffold.
- Be trained to perform an inspection of the scaffold before first use to ensure the base is firm, vertical members are plumb, horizontal members are level, braces are in place, working level is fully decked, guardrail systems are installed, and verify with erector that the scaffold will support 4 times the maximum intended load.

Retraining will be required when:

- changes at the worksite present a hazard about which an employee has not been previously trained; or
- where changes in the types of scaffolds, fall protection, falling object protection, or other equipment present a hazard about which an employee has not been previously trained; or
- where inadequacies in an affected employee's work involving scaffolds indicate that the employee has not retained the requisite proficiency.

### System Design & Support

Each scaffold and scaffold component must be capable of supporting, without failure, its own weight and at least 4 times the maximum intended load applied or transmitted to it.

Scaffold components manufactured by different manufacturers must not be intermixed unless the components fit together without force and the scaffold's structural integrity is maintained by the user. Scaffold components manufactured by different manufacturers must not be modified in order to intermix them unless a competent person determines the resulting scaffold is structurally sound.

Scaffold components made of dissimilar metals must not be used together unless a competent person has determined that galvanic action will not reduce the strength of any component.

Scaffolds with a height to base width (including outrigger supports, if used) ratio of more than four to one (4:1) must be restrained from tipping by guying, tying, bracing, or equivalent means, as follows:



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- Guys, ties, and braces must be installed at locations where horizontal members support both inner and outer legs.
- Guys, ties, and braces must be installed according to the scaffold manufacturer's recommendations or at the closest horizontal member to the 4:1 height and be repeated vertically at locations of horizontal members every 20 feet or less thereafter for scaffolds 3 feet wide or less, and every 26 feet or less thereafter for scaffolds greater than 3 feet wide. The top guy, tie or brace of completed scaffolds must be placed no further than the 4:1 height from the top. Such guys, ties and braces must be installed at each end of the scaffold and at horizontal intervals not to exceed 30 feet (measured from one end [not both] towards the other).
- Ties, guys, braces, or outriggers must be used to prevent the tipping of supported scaffolds in all circumstances where an eccentric load, such as a cantilevered work platform, is applied or is transmitted to the scaffold.
- Supported scaffold poles, legs, posts, frames, and uprights must bear on base plates and mud sills or other adequate firm foundation.
- Footings must be level, sound, rigid, and capable of supporting the loaded scaffold without settling or displacement.
- Supported scaffold poles, legs, posts, frames, and uprights must be plumb and braced to prevent swaying and displacement.
- Scaffold cannot be erected within 10 feet of electrical power source (wire, etc.)
- Scaffold must be erected 14 inch from face of work to be accesses.
- If scaffold turns a corner angel boards must be laid first.

### Working Surface

Each platform on all working levels of scaffolds must be fully planked or decked between the front uprights and the guardrail supports as follows:

Each platform unit (e.g., scaffold plank, fabricated plank, fabricated deck, or fabricated platform) must be installed so that the space between adjacent units and the space between the platform and the uprights is no more than 1 inch wide, except where the employer can demonstrate that a wider space is necessary (for example, to fit around uprights when side brackets are used to extend the width of the platform).

Each scaffold platform and walkway must be at least 18 inches wide or employees must be protected from fall hazards by the use of guardrails and/or personal fall arrest systems.

End of a platform, unless cleated or otherwise restrained by hooks or equivalent means, must extend over the centerline of its support at least 6 inches.

On scaffolds where scaffold planks are abutted to create a long platform, each abutted end must rest on a separate support surface. This provision does not preclude the use of common support members, such as "T" sections, to support abutting planks, or hook on platforms designed to rest on common support.



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On scaffolds where platforms are overlapped to create a long platform, the overlap must occur only over supports, and must not be less than 12 inches unless the platforms are nailed together or otherwise restrained to prevent movement.

Wood platforms must not be covered with opaque finishes, except that platform edges may be covered or marked for identification. Platforms may be coated periodically with wood preservatives, fire-retardant finishes, and slip-resistant finishes; however, the coating may not obscure the top or bottom wood surfaces.

Ladders cannot be used on a scaffold to gain height, scaffold support member cannot be climbed on to gain height or to access scaffold unless specifically designed to do so.

### Access

When scaffold platforms are more than 2 feet above or below a point of access, portable ladders, hook-on ladders, attachable ladders, stair towers (scaffold stairways/towers), stairway-type ladders (such as ladder stands), ramps, walkways, integral prefabricated scaffold access, or direct access from another scaffold, structure, personnel hoist, or similar surface must be used. Crossbraces must not be used as a means of access.

When hook-on and attachable ladders are used on a supported scaffold more than 35 feet high, they must have rest platforms at 35-foot maximum vertical intervals.

Hook-on and attachable ladders must be specifically designed for use with the type of scaffold used and have a minimum rung length of 11 1/2 inches; and have uniformly spaced rungs with a maximum spacing between rungs of 16 3/4 inches.

Treads and landings must have slip-resistant surfaces.

### Use

Scaffolds and scaffold components must not be loaded in excess of their maximum intended loads or rated capacities, whichever is less.

Scaffolds and scaffold components must be inspected for visible defects by the Site Superintendent, who is a competent person before each work shift, and after any occurrence which could affect a scaffold's structural integrity.

Any part of a scaffold damaged or weakened such that its strength is less than that required by paragraph (a) of this section must be immediately repaired or replaced, braced to meet those provisions, or removed from service until repaired.

Scaffolds must be erected, moved, dismantled, or altered only under the supervision and direction of a competent person qualified in scaffold erection, moving, dismantling or alteration. Such activities must be performed only by experienced and trained employees selected for such work by the competent person.



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Where swinging loads are being hoisted onto or near scaffolds such that the loads might contact the scaffold, tag lines or equivalent measures to control the loads must be used.

Debris must not be allowed to accumulate on platforms.

Makeshift devices, such as but not limited to boxes and barrels, must not be used on top of scaffold platforms to increase the working level height of employees.

### Fall protection

Each employee on a scaffold more than 4 feet above a lower level must be protected from falling to that lower level with guard rails. When guard rails need to be removed, PFAS must be used with an anchor point such as one in concrete or a vertical life line. Tying off to the scaffold is prohibited.

Guardrail systems must be installed along all open sides and ends of platforms. Guardrail systems must be installed before the scaffold is released for use by employees other than erection/dismantling crews.

The top edge height of toprails or equivalent member on scaffolds must be between 38 inches and 45 inches above the platform surface. Midrails must be installed at a height approximately midway between the top edge of the guardrail system and the platform surface. Toeboards must be at least 4" high or be a nominal 2x4.