



SCAFFOLDING

Scope and Applicability Statement

This document provides general safety procedures and regulatory guidance for employers and workers in accordance with U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards under 29 CFR 1910.28 and 29 CFR 1926.451. These procedures apply to all workplaces where they are implemented as part of a comprehensive safety program.

Customization and Compliance Statement

Employers are responsible for ensuring compliance with all applicable local, state, and federal safety regulations. Workers must adhere to established safety protocols to maintain a safe and healthy work environment.



Purpose

The purpose of this program is to define the requirements for the safe use, erection, and dismantling of scaffolding.

Scope

This program applies to all scaffolding used in workplaces where employees work at elevated heights. Contractors working on-site must follow their own written scaffolding safety procedures or adopt this procedure.

Definitions

- **Bearer:** A horizontal scaffold member upon which the platform rests.
- **Brace:** A structural tie that holds scaffold components in a fixed position.
- **Guardrail:** A rail erected along exposed sides and ends of platforms to prevent falls.
- **Maximum Intended Load:** The total of all loads including workers, materials, and equipment.
- **Toe Board:** A barrier secured along the edges of a platform to prevent materials from falling.
- **Scaffold:** Any temporary elevated platform and its supporting structure used for supporting workers or materials.
- **Competent Person:** An individual capable of identifying hazards and authorized to take corrective actions.

Responsibilities

Managers and Supervisors:

- Ensure scaffolds are erected by a qualified person and inspected before use.
- Ensure workers using scaffolds are trained and understand inspection methods.
- Prevent the use of scaffolds identified as defective until repairs are completed.

Employees:

- Inspect scaffolds daily before use.
- Report any scaffold damage or unsafe conditions.
- Follow all safety protocols when working on scaffolds.

Scaffold Erection and Use Requirements

- Scaffolds must be erected in accordance with OSHA 29 CFR 1910.28 and 29 CFR 1926.451.
- Scaffolds must be erected on a sound, rigid footing capable of supporting the intended load.
- Unstable objects such as barrels, boxes, or loose boards must not be used to support scaffolds.



- Scaffolds and components must be capable of supporting at least four times the maximum intended load.
- Scaffold planks must be cross-supported every 8 feet and secured to prevent displacement.
- Platforms must be fully decked except for ladder access openings.
- Scaffolds must not be moved while occupied.
- Damaged scaffolds must be repaired before use.
- Bolts must be of adequate size and number to develop the scaffold's intended strength.
- Access ladders must be provided.
- Scaffold planks must extend over their end supports between 6 and 18 inches.
- Scaffolds must be braced to prevent movement or tipping.
- Workers must use tag lines when hoisting materials onto scaffolds.
- Overhead protection must be provided for workers when exposed to falling objects.
- Work must not be performed on scaffolds during storms, high winds, or when covered with ice or snow.

Inspection Requirements

- A competent person must inspect scaffolds before each shift and after any event that may impact structural integrity.
- Inspections must include footing stability, cross braces, walking surfaces, and overall scaffold stability.
- Any defective scaffold must be tagged as unsafe and removed from service until repaired.

Fall Protection Requirements

- Guardrails, toe boards, and midrails must be installed on scaffolds over six feet in height.
- Personal fall arrest systems must be used when guardrails are not feasible.
- Scaffold areas where workers or materials may fall onto personnel below must have protective screens or barricades.

Training Requirements

- Employees must be trained before working on scaffolds.
- Training must cover scaffold use, fall protection, electrical hazards, and maximum load capacity.
- Employees must be retrained if they change scaffold types or if a deficiency in safe work practices is observed.



- Only trained personnel may erect, disassemble, or modify scaffolds.

Tube And Coupler Scaffolds - Light Duty

Uniformly distributed load		Not to exceed 25 p.s.f.
Post Spacing (longitudinal)		10 ft. 0 in.
Post Spacing (transverse)		6 ft. 0 in.
Working Levels	Additional Planked Levels	Maximum Height
1	8	125 ft.
2	4	125 ft.
3	0	91 ft. 0 in.

Tube And Coupler Scaffolds - Medium Duty

Uniformly distributed load		Not to exceed 50 p.s.f
Post spacing (longitudinal)		8 ft. 0 in.
Post spacing (transverse)		6 ft. 0 in.
Working Levels	Additional Planked Levels	Maximum Height
1	6	125 ft.
2	0	78 ft. 0 in.