Scaffolds and its usage by Apsarabanu

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Scaffold is a temporary structure for holding workers and materials during the erection, repair, or decoration of a building. Scaffold is a necessary part of nearly every construction site it provides access egress and a safe working platform. Since various trades all use scaffold it is imperative that the scaffold is correctly erected maintained and signed off.

Scaffolding standard defines a competent person as "one who is capable of identifying existing and predictable hazards in the surroundings or working conditions, which are unsanitary, hazardous to employees, and who has authorization to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate them." Scaffolding can provide an efficient and safe means to perform work. However, unsafe scaffolding procedures can lead to accidents, serious injuries and death.

Suspended scaffolds:

Suspended scaffolds are platforms suspended by ropes, or other non-rigid means, from an overhead structure. Because two-point scaffolds are the most common type of suspended scaffold, this eTool uses the Two-Point module to describe requirements that apply to all suspended scaffolds. The various types of suspended scaffold are as follows

â€¢ Two-point (swing stage)

â€¢ Single-point Adjustable

â€¢ Catenary

â€¢ Multi-point Adjustable

â€¢ Interior Hung

â€¢ Needle Beam

â€¢ Multi- level

â€¢ Float(Ship)

Supported scaffolds:

â€¢ Supported scaffolds consist of one or more platforms supported by outrigger beams, brackets, poles, legs, uprights, posts, frames, or similar rigid support. Because frame scaffolds are the most common type of supported scaffold, this eTool uses the Frame module to describe requirements that are common to all supported scaffolds.

â€¢ Frame or Fabricated

â€¢ Mobile

â€¢ Pump Jack

â€¢ Ladder Jack

â€¢ Tube and Coupler

â€¢ Pole

â€¢ Specialty

Safety Measures:

There are 4 conditions which effect the safe use of scaffold towers.

â€¢ Stability

â€¢ Safe loading

â€¢ Moving towers

â€¢ Fall protection

The main reason for selection of alloy over different systems is its lightness and ease of assembly. The lightness of the structure means that care has to be taken to ensure the stability of the tower. The manufactureâ€™s manual will show the safe height to which various configurations can be erected.

100% fall protection is mandatory. If for some reason 100% cannot be achieved with toe boards, midrails and handrails then full body harnesses come into play.

Harnesses must then be worn and tied off using a lanyard with a shock absorber or a retractable device. As an alloy tower is lightweight, its components will not hold from the shock of an operative falling over the side, so tie off points or static lines will need to be provided.

Scaffolds must not be used if not first checked and tagged by a competent person. Any prospective users should check a tower before using it. Any prospective user is obliged to check the tag and comply with the tagging requirements before use.

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Apsarabanu - About Author:
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