



TAILGATE SAFETY

SCAFFOLD SAFETY

Scaffolds are a useful tool as long as they are erected, maintained, and used properly (according to all Cal/OSHA regulations). There are several common causes of scaffold injuries and deaths including: The scaffold planking or support gave way, the employee slipped, the employee was hit by a falling object, or guardrails were removed.

The following are some basic scaffold safety tips that will help you stay safe on scaffolds:

Electrical Safety

- Adhere to the safe clearance distances when working near exposed power lines (minimum of 10 feet).
- Use the proper insulation and grounding protection while welding.

Fall Protection

- When you are on a scaffold more than ten feet above a lower level, you must follow the fall protection provisions for the type of scaffold you are using. The two types of fall protection are personal fall arrest systems or guardrail systems.

Falling Objects

- Know when people are walking or working under the scaffold.
- Avoid letting debris accumulate on a scaffold platform and keep only the materials you need on it.
- Keep tools and materials away from the scaffold platform edge.
- Remove all materials from the scaffold at the end of the day.
- Installation of toeboards, screens, guardrail systems, debris nets, catch platforms, or canopy structures and use of hard hats will protect workers from falling objects.

Scaffold Access

- Access to and between scaffold platforms more than two feet above or below the access point must be made using ladders, stairways, ramps, walkways, etc.
- Crossbraces must not be used for access.
- Portable, hook-on, and attachable ladders must be positioned so as not to tip the scaffold.
- When hook-on and attachable ladders are used on a supported scaffold more than 35 feet high, they must have rest platforms every 35 feet.

Scaffold Use

- Scaffolds and components must be inspected for visible defects by your competent person before each work shift, and after any occurrence which could affect a scaffold's structural integrity.
- Scaffolds must be erected, moved, dismantled, or altered only under the supervision and direction of your qualified competent person.
- Keep platform closely boarded. The space between scaffold planks should not exceed a half inch.
- Never overload scaffolds. Pile materials being worked over ledger and bearer points to minimize platform loading.
- Don't work on scaffolds during storms or high winds, and clear platforms of all ice and snow before using. Sand wet platforms to prevent slipping.
- Protect scaffolds. Prevent bumps or strikes against scaffolds with vehicles or materials. Control hoisted material from the ground with tag lines.
- Prior to moving portable scaffolds, make sure platform planks are securely fastened or remove them.
- Keep platforms and the area around scaffolds cleared of debris, unneeded equipment, material, and other hazards that will cause trips or falls.
- Makeshift devices, such as (but not limited to) boxes, barrels, and ladders may not be used to increase the working level height.

Don't take chances. A fall from a scaffold can be deadly. If you have any questions about equipment, procedures, weather conditions, or other safety issues, ask.

Training Tips: a) Have a scaffold nearby while discussing this topic. b) Identify your qualified person(s). c) Discuss specific company rules regarding scaffolding. d) Detail job specific hazards such as location of power lines.



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