

CHAPTER OVERVIEW

11: Scaffold Safety

[11.1: Introduction to Scaffold Safety](#)

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“At the end of the day, the goals are simple: safety and security.” – Jodi Rell

Overview

Scaffolds are temporary structures used to support a work crew and materials to aid in the construction, maintenance and repair of buildings, bridges and all other man-made structures. Scaffolds are widely used on site to get access to heights and areas that would be otherwise difficult to reach. One of the primary differences between a scaffold system and ladders is that the scaffold allows for focused (performance work) attention to a task with both hands on the task, with materials readily accessible. Ladders typically used for access restrict a workers ability to work with some fall risk with both hands on the task.

There are many types of scaffolds and there is archeological evidence showing scaffolds were used in antiquity i.e. Great Wall of China. There are five main types of scaffolding used worldwide today. These are tube and coupler (fitting) components, prefabricated modular systems, H-frame / facade modular system scaffolds, timber scaffolds and bamboo scaffolds (particularly in China and India).

No matter the type of scaffold, proper construction by competent and trained individuals is paramount. Scaffolds are engineered structures and safety equipment and must meet safety standards for construction and use.

Chapter Objective:

1. Determine the Proper Type of Scaffolding for the Job.
2. Identify the purpose of Guardrails, Toeboards, Braces, Planks Platforms and Cleats.
3. Understand the Requirements of Subpart L- Scaffolding.
4. Understand the Application of OSHA Requirements for Scaffolding on Construction Sites.

Learning Outcome:

1. Identify safety protocols for accessing a scaffold.
2. Describe the role of the scaffold competent person.

Standards: 1926 Subpart I-Scaffolds, 1910 Subpart D Walking-Working Surfaces, 1910 Subpart F Powered Platforms, Man lifts, Vehicle-Mounted Work Platforms

Key Terms:

banding, cross-bracing, competent person, platform, registered professional engineer, suspension

Mini-Lecture: Scaffold Safety

Topic Required Time: 1 hrs; Independent Study and reflection 3/4 hour.

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