SAFE Work Practice
Scaffolding (General)
CSAM # _7_

A scaffold is a very effective means to provide a temporary safe work platform. However, care must be taken to ensure scaffolds are erected, maintained, and used in a manner to ensure worker safety. Serious accidents and fatalities have resulted from improper design, erection and use of scaffold systems.

Hazards: -cuts and amputations, high noise levels resulting in hearing loss, contusions, flying objects/particles, -repetitive strain injuries, -electrocution

Do

- Install, use, maintain and dismantle scaffolds in accordance with manufacturer's and/or engineer's specifications.
- Inspect the scaffold prior to each use.
- Provide a stable and level foundation
- Ensure all bracing, base plates and guardrails are in place and secure.
- Provide a safe means of access to the working deck.

Do Not

- Load a scaffold in excess of its rated load.
- Erect scaffolds in proximity to energized electrical lines.
- Move scaffolds with workers on the platforms.
- Do not climb or stand on cross braces or guardrails.
- Do not work on scaffolds during storms or high winds.

General Safe Work Practices

1. Ensure that you understand and follow the engineer and/or manufacturer's specifications and instructions on the installation, use, maintenance, and dismantling of a scaffold.
2. Identify competent persons to supervise and inspect the scaffold.
3. Determine a suitable fall protection system to be used for workers erecting and dismantling scaffolds.
4. Conduct an inspection of all scaffold components to ensure they are undamaged and in proper working condition, prior to the erection of the scaffold
5. An open access scaffold more than 10 m high, or an enclosed or hoarded access scaffold more than 7.5 m in height, must be designed by an engineer:
6. If the scaffold platform is 3 m or more above the level a worker may fall, it must be equipped with a guardrail.
7. If a scaffold system is 6 m in height, it is equipped with a suitable hoisting device for hoisting materials.
8. If a scaffold is more than 9 m in height it must be equipped with an internal stairway or ladders, and if any ladder exceeds 3 m in height, the ladder must be equipped with fall protection attachments.
9. A scaffold must be anchored and securely guyed or tied back to the building or structure at vertical and horizontal intervals of no more than 3 times the minimum lateral dimension of the scaffold;
10. Scaffold platforms must be secured and have a minimum platform width of 500 mm, or 1.5m if used by bricklayers, or similar trades people, for holding their immediate supply of building materials.
11. Protect all planked or working levels with proper guardrails, mid rails and toe boards along all open sides and at the ends of scaffold platforms.

Regulatory Reference:
Manitoba Regulation 217/2006 Part 28 Scaffolds and Other Elevated Work Platforms
Additional Standards: CAN/CSA S269.2-M87 (R2003) *Access Scaffolding for Construction Purposes; ANSI StandardA10.8-2001, Safety Requirements for Scaffolding – American National Standard for Construction and Demolition Operations*