Scaffold Safety

# Company Policy

Company Name is dedicated to the protection of its employees from occupational injuries and illnesses. Company Name is responsible for providing a safe working environment, and the employees have and assume the responsibility of working safely.

The objective of this program is to supplement the safety policy by providing specific standards regarding Scaffold Safety, and to ensure that each employee is adequately trained and fully aware of safety procedures associated with Scaffold Safety.

Elimination of injuries and illnesses improves employee morale, improves customer service, improves product quality, and reduces Workers’ Compensation costs.

Job Title/Specific Name will conduct routine safety inspections of jobsites to ensure compliance with this program. Job Title/Specific Name has the authority to enforce the Scaffold Safety program in accordance to any and all Company Name safety rules and applicable OSHA regulations.

Employees are required to comply with the guidelines set forth, and to comply with the instruction of Job Title/Specific Name. In the event an unsafe condition arises in the absence of Job Title/Specific Name, employees shall alert the lead person on the jobsite immediately. Employees shall alert coworkers of any unsafe conditions that arise.

Any Company Name employee who disobeys and/or disregards the guidelines set forth in this program or the company’s safety program shall be subject to disciplinary action.

### Scaffold Requirements

1. Company Name ensures safe means of access for each employee erecting or dismantling scaffold.
2. Job Title/Specific Name is designated the competent person for scaffold erecting and dismantling.
3. Scaffolds and scaffold components shall not be loaded in excess of their maximum intended loads or rated capacities, whichever is less.
4. Job Title/Specific Name (competent person) shall inspect scaffold and scaffold components for visible defects before each work shift, and after any occurrence which could affect a scaffold's structural integrity.
5. Any part of a scaffold damaged or weakened shall be immediately repaired or replaced, braced, or removed from service until repaired.
6. Scaffolds shall not be erected, used, dismantled, altered, or moved so they or any conductive material handled on them might come closer to exposed and energized power lines than as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Insulated Lines** | | |
| Voltage | Minimum Distance | Alternatives |
| Less than 300 volts  300 volts to 50 kv  More than 50 kv . . . | 3 feet (0.9m)  10 feet (3.1m)  10 feet (3.1m) plus  0.4 inches (1.0 cm)  for each 1 kv over 50 kv | 2 times the length of the line insulator, but never less than 10 feet (3.1m). |
| **Uninsulated Lines** | | |
| Voltage | Minimum Distance | Alternatives |
| Less than 50 kv . . .  More than 50 kv . . . | 10 feet (3.1m)  10 feet (3.1m) plus  0.4 inches (1.0 cm)  for each kv over 50 kv | 2 times the length of the line insulator, but never less than 10 feet (3.1m) |

Exception to this is as follows: Scaffolds and materials may be closer to power lines than specified above where such clearance is necessary for performance of work, and only after the utility company, or electrical system operator, has been notified of the need to work closer and the utility company, or electrical system operator, has deenergized the lines, relocated the lines, or installed protective coverings to prevent accidental contact with the lines.

1. Only under the supervision of Job Title/Specific Name (competent person) shall scaffold be erected, moved, dismantled, or altered. Only properly trained and experienced Company Name employees shall be selected for such work by the competent person.
2. All scaffolds shall be assembled and utilized in accordance with manufacturer’s recommendations and in compliance with OSHA requirements. This would include utilization of fall protection, via guardrail systems whenever the platform height is 10’ or more, fully decking the working surface of the scaffold, installation of adequate mud sills and use of base plates, leveling the scaffold to plumb, providing proper access, and forbidding climbing of the scaffold structure (unless designated by the manufacturer for such use and properly erected).
3. Company Name employees shall be prohibited from working on scaffolds covered with snow, ice, or other slippery material except as necessary for removal of such materials.
4. Tag lines shall be used to control swinging loads being hoisted onto or near scaffold or equivalent measures to control the loads shall be used to prevent the loads from contacting scaffold.
5. Company Name employees shall not work on or from scaffold during storms or high winds unless Job Title/Specific Name (competent person) has determined that it is safe for employees to be on the scaffold and those employees are protected by a personal fall arrest system or wind screens.

Note: Wind screens shall not be used unless the scaffold is secured against the anticipated wind forces imposed.

1. Debris shall not be allowed to accumulate on platforms.
2. Makeshift devices shall not be used on top of scaffolds to increase employee working height.
3. Employees shall not use ladders on scaffolds to increase the working level height of employees unless the following criteria are satisfied by Company Name:
4. When the ladder is placed against a structure that is not a part of the scaffold, the scaffold shall be secured against the sideways thrust exerted by the ladder;
5. The platform units shall be secured to the scaffold to prevent their movement;
6. The ladder legs shall be on the same platform or other means shall be provided to stabilize the ladder against unequal platform deflection, and
7. The ladder legs shall be secured to prevent them from slipping or being pushed off the platform.

### Training

Company Name shall have each employee who performs work while on a scaffold trained by a person qualified in the subject matter to recognize the hazards associated with the type of scaffold being used and to understand the procedures to control or minimize those hazards. The training shall include the following areas:

1. Identifying and understanding electrical hazards, fall hazards and falling object hazards in the work area.
2. Utilizing the correct procedures for dealing with electrical hazards and for erecting, maintaining, and disassembling the fall protection systems and falling object protection systems being used.
3. Proper scaffold access.
4. Proper use of scaffold, and proper handling of materials on scaffold.
5. Understanding and identifying the maximum intended load and the load-carrying capacities of the scaffolds used.
6. Company name employees who are involved in erecting, disassembling, moving, operating, repairing, maintaining, or inspecting a scaffold shall be trained by Job Title/Specific Name (competent person) to recognize any hazards associated with scaffold.
7. Training topics shall include the following:
8. The nature of scaffold hazards.
9. Correct procedures for erecting, disassembling, moving, operating, repairing, inspecting, and maintaining scaffold.
10. The maximum intended load-carrying capacity and intended use of the scaffold;
11. When Company Name has reason to believe that an employee lacks the skill or understanding needed for safe work involving the erection, use or dismantling of scaffolds, the employee shall be retrained. Retraining is required in the following situations:
12. When changes at the worksite present a hazard that the employee has not been previously trained.
13. When changes in the types of scaffolds, fall protection, falling object protection, or other equipment present a hazard that the employee has not been previously trained.
14. When inadequacies are identified in the employee's work involving scaffolds, which show the employee lacks retention of proficiency.
15. Company Name employees shall receive training on scaffold safety on an annual basis.
16. Employees shall demonstrate knowledge and understanding of scaffold safety under the guidance of Job Title/Specific Name (competent person).
17. Upon completion of scaffold safety training, Company Name shall certify in writing that each employee has received and understands requirements of scaffold safety. Certification shall include the employee’s name, date of training, and subject of certification.

### Conclusion

All employees of Company Name are required to comply with the rules set forth in this written program. This program is intended to provide the maximum protection for employees of Company Name.

Reference 29CFR1926 Subpart L