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Select Edition

All Sealants, Inc.

Week of 12/6/2021

Safe Scaffolding

12/8/21

A scaffold is an elevated, temporary platform that allows workers to conduct various tasks during the construction process. Suspended scaffolds are platforms suspended by ropes; supported scaffolds consist of platforms supported by poles, legs, or tubing. You should be aware of the hazards associated with scaffolds including collapse, instability, being struck by falling objects, electrocution due to contact with overhead power lines, and falls.

A scaffold should never be erected, moved, dismantled, or altered unless it is done under the supervision of a competent person. OSHA requires that scaffolds be designed by a qualified person and be inspected at least once each work shift by a competent person. Stationary scaffolds over 125 feet in height and rolling scaffolds over 60 feet in height must be designed by a professional engineer.

Setting Up: Check the jobsite to assess ground and wind conditions, and to locate electric power lines and overhead obstructions. Scaffolding should be plumb, level, and stable during the erection process. Mudsills must be large enough to distribute the loads to the soil or supporting structure. Cinder blocks, loose brick, and pallets should not be used as mudsills. Ties and bracing may be needed to assure safe scaffold assembly. Never force members into place. Protection from falling objects is required. It can take different forms, but **it is required.**

During Use: When accessing a scaffold, be sure that you climb slowly and safely. Clean up slippery rungs. Face the rungs as you climb up or down. Always use both hands; don't carry tools or materials in your hands. Tools, equipment, and materials should be hoisted up rather than carried up by hand. When you work on scaffolds that are 10 feet or higher, OSHA requires that you use fall protection; guardrails and personal fall arrest systems are used most commonly. Eliminate tripping hazards and falling objects by putting away or securing tools and materials. Never use makeshift devices like boxes or crates to increase your working height on a scaffold. You should not be on a scaffold during storms, high winds, lightning, or snow.

You can learn more about scaffold safety by reading OSHA's scaffolding standard beginning at 29 CFR 1926.450. If you are using aerial lifts, some of the requirements are different; check 29 CFR 1926.453.

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SAFETY REMINDER
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Wear your hard hat!

Whether you're working on the ground or on a scaffold, everyone must wear hard hats.

NOTES:

SPECIAL TOPICS /EMPLOYEE SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS/NOTES:

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S.A.F.E. CARDS® PLANNED FOR THIS WEEK:

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REVIEWED SDS #

SUBJECT:

MEETING DOCUMENTATION:

JOB NAME:

MEETING DATE:

SUPERVISOR:

ATTENDEES:

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