

TOOLBOX SAFETY TRAINING

Company _____ Location _____ Date _____

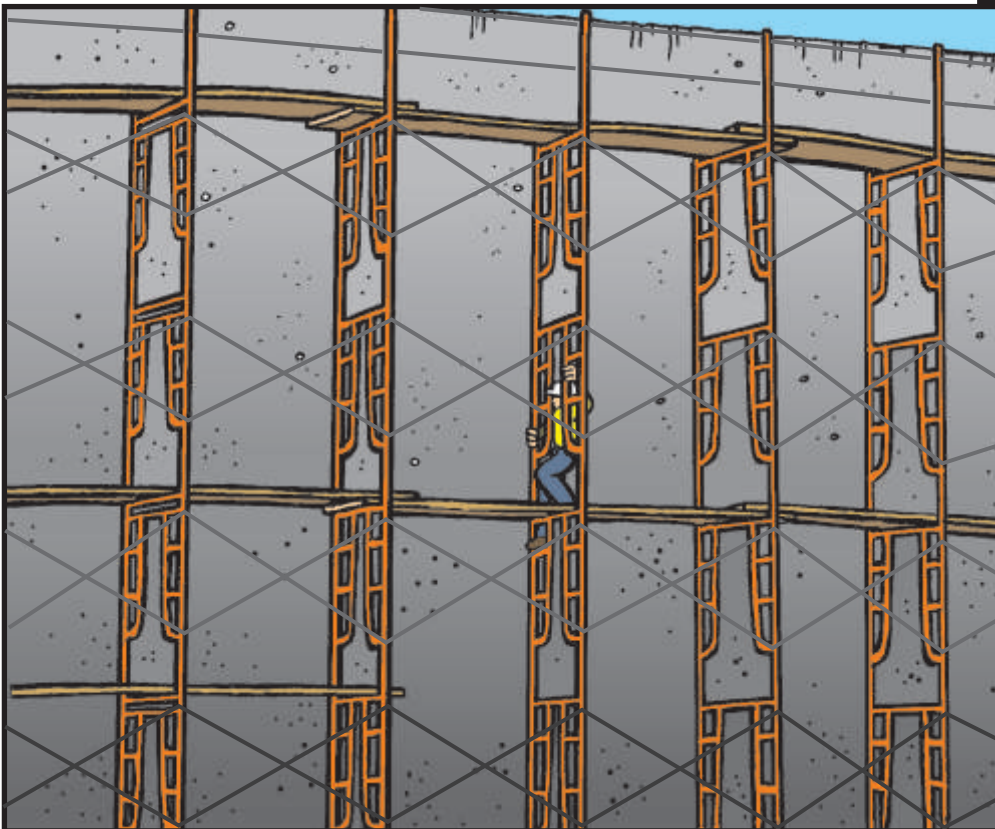
Vol 14 - No 50 SCAFFOLD SAFETY

Scaffolds are common place on most constructions job sites. If OSHA regulations dealing with the erection, disassembly, and use of scaffolds are not strictly enforced, injuries and/or fatalities could occur. When they are not constructed correctly, scaffolds can cause falls, as well as injuries from falling objects.

In the picture below, there are a number of things wrong with the scaffold.

1. The scaffold is not secured to the building. This makes it unstable and makes the possibility of failure much more likely. If a worker is on the scaffold when it tips, the fall could be deadly.
2. The scaffold was not completed when it was set up. It is missing all of the cross bracing on the building side of the scaffold thus rendering it unstable and incapable of supporting the maximum intended load.
3. The scaffold is not fully planked. There is great danger when walking on a single plank of wood in a space where a complete platform should be located within the guardrail system.
4. There is no proper ladder for the employee to safely access the scaffold. Using the supports and or cross bracing to access the scaffold should not be allowed. The employee could lose his grip/ balance and fall.

As useful as scaffolds can be if correctly implemented into the work area, they can also be an accident waiting to happen if they are not constructed and used correctly. Be safe and follow the OSHA regulations found in 1926.450, that are applicable to the type of scaffold that you are working with, and follow all manufacturers's recommendations as required.



1926.451(c)(1) Supported scaffolds with a height to base width (including outrigger supports, if used) ratio of more than four to one (4:1) shall be restrained from tipping by guying, tying, bracing, or equivalent means.

1926.451(e)(1) When scaffold platforms are more than 2 feet above or below a point of access, portable ladders, hook-on ladders, attachable ladders, or stair towers shall be used. Crossbraces shall not be used as a means of access.

1926.452(c)(2) Frames and panels shall be braced by cross, horizontal or diagonal braces or combination there of, which secured vertical member together laterally. The cross braces shall be of such length as will automatically square and align vertical member together so that the erected scaffold is plumb, level and square. All brace connections shall be secured.

INCORRECT- Proper planking not in place and no ladder for climbing

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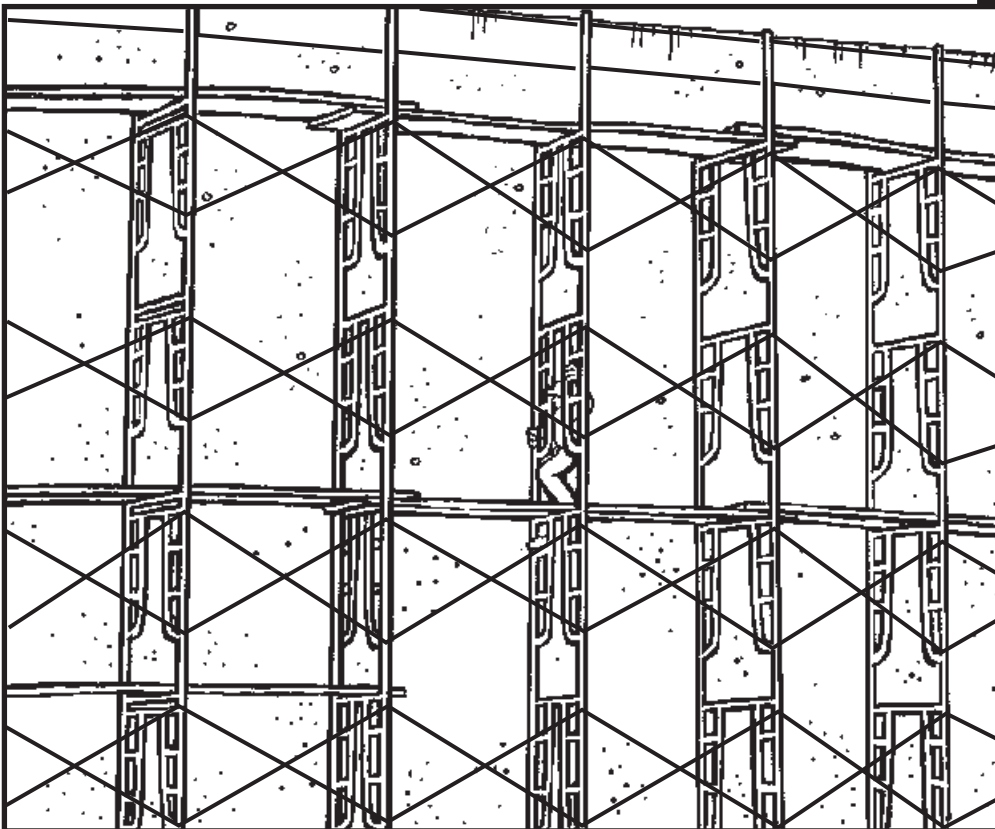
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