

MJR Masonry Inc.

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USE OF METAL SCAFFOLDS

General

These are various types of metal scaffolds and they all have a right and wrong way to be erected.

The misuse of scaffolding is the cause of numerous serious injuries. Every worker who designs or constructs a scaffold should be competent and know what the manufacturer's specifications are for that type of scaffold.

The scaffold type which will be best suited for the job and capable of withstanding the loads to be imposed on it must be determined before the job begins.

Ensure that:

1. The scaffold you intend to use is the correct one for the job;
2. The location in which the scaffold is to be constructed is level or is capable of presenting secure footing by use of mudsills or some other device;
3. The scaffold will be erected by a competent worker;
4. Legislative and manufacturer's requirements have been complied with;
5. Safe access and egress to both the scaffold and the general work area has been provided;
6. Levelling adjustment screws have not been over extended;
7. Tower scaffolds have outriggers or are guyed and have all component parts secured in place (i.e. cross braces, pins, lateral braces);

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8. Scaffold work platforms have perimeter guardrail:
 - Horizontal rail - 0.92 metres to 1.07 metres above the platform;
 - Intermediate rail - Horizontal rail midway between scaffold platform and top rail;
 - Toe board - Horizontal member at platform level no less than 140 mm in height above the platform level;

9. Scaffold planks are of number one grade materials with maximum spans of 3.1 metres on light duty and 2.3 metres on heavy duty with a maximum projection beyond the ledger of no more than 300 mm.