

TOOLBOX TALK #51

Tube and fitting scaffolding

Prepare: Quiet location? No distractions? Talk aids ready?

Reason: Falls from heights over 2 metres account for over 50% of deaths in the construction industry.

Why: If you do not follow the guidance in this talk you may end up as a statistic or at best in hospital.

Outline: This talk will cover access, loading, hazards, inspection and security.



Access

- Do not climb up or down scaffolding tubes, use ladders or stairs provided.
- Make sure the ladder is at the correct angle, one unit out to four units up.
- Ensure ladders are tied in at both styles, not the rungs, and extend a safe distance above landing stage.
- At the end of work remove access ladders or board them up to prevent children playing on them.

Q: What angle should the access ladder be at?
Loading

- Do not overload scaffolding, position heavy loads adjacent to the standards as they are the load bearing members, not in the centre of bays.
- When stacking materials always leave a passageway at least 600 mm wide for other people to pass.
- Ensure materials are stacked correctly and cannot fall, use brick guards or netting where required.
- Do not leave tools or materials lying about on the platform.

Q: Where would you stack materials on scaffolding and why?

NOTES

[illegible]

For more information

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Inspection

- Carry out a visual inspection at the start of each shift prior to use.
- Report all faults or defects immediately.
- Scaffolding should be inspected every 7 days by a competent person and details of the inspection recorded.

Q: What action would you carry out on noticing defective scaffolding?

Do you have any questions for me?

Questions for you

Q: How would you dispose of material from heights?

Q: State two things you must consider when loading scaffolding?

REMEMBER

Scaffolding provides you with a safe working platform - do not abuse it

Sources: [Tower scaffolds - HSE](#) [Scaffolds - HSE](#) [Scaffolding - HSE](#)

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