

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

Reason: Mobile towers must be erected in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions by competent persons.

Why: Use a mobile tower correctly or you could find yourself seriously injured or even worse.

Outline: This talk will cover erection, use, stability and hazards.



Before Erection

- Check all components are in a good condition.
- Check wheels for effective rotation.
- Check brakes and locking devices work correctly.
- Prior to erecting towers on suspended floors, ensure bearing capacity of floor is sufficient for the planned load.

Q: What must be checked before erecting a tower on a suspended floor?

Before Use

- Ensure the tower is vertical and square.
- Towers must not be used unless the wheels are locked.
- Check that outriggers are set correctly and secured.
- Ensure the platform is fully boarded out and guardrails and toe boards are fitted if working platform is over 2 metres high.

Q: When should toe boards and guardrails be fitted?

Stability

- Never climb up the outside of a tower – use the stairway or ladder on the inside.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions on base to height ratio.
- Hoist materials up from the inside of the tower.
- Tie the tower to a permanent structure where possible.
- Do not move the tower if persons or materials are still on the platform.

NOTES

[illegible]

For more information

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TOOLBOX TALK #50

Mobile scaffolding towers

NOTES

- Do not pull the tower along while standing on it.

Q: How would you hoist materials on to a working platform?

Hazards

- Do not exceed manufacturer's SWL for the tower.
- When moving towers ensure there are no potholes, obstructions or overhead power lines in the way.
- When working ensure access hatch is closed on platform.
- Never use ladders or steps on a scaffold platform as this will cause the tower to turn over.
- Towers must only be used on firm surfaces. Where the ground is soft, adequate support must be provided.

Q: What hazards must be considered when moving a tower?

Do you have any questions for me?

Questions for you

Q: Name one pre-erection and one pre-use check.

Q: Name one stability consideration and one hazard.

REMEMBER:

After moving a tower and before use wheels must be locked

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

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