

Vision Painting Inc. Safety Management System

SCAFFOLDING

1. INTRODUCTION

This program is designed for the safety of Vision Painting Inc. employees when working on or around scaffolding. This program complies with CFR 29. 1926.450 to 1926.454.

2. IMPORTANCE OF THE PROGRAM

Over 10,000 accidents per year occur on or around scaffolding. This number represents more accidents than any other work area. Nine percent of all work place fatalities, and 72% of all work place injuries, occur on or around scaffolding. As a result, OSHA has been focusing much of their attention on scaffolding safety. It is important that Vision Painting Inc. employees understand the potential hazards associated with erecting, dismantling, and working on or around scaffolds.

3. TRAINING

Vision Painting Inc. trains every employee to scaffold USER certification level who performs work while on a scaffold. The training is conducted by a "competent person" so designated by Vision Painting Inc., and qualified in the subject matter to recognize the hazards associated with the type of scaffold being used and to understand the procedures to control or minimize those hazards. The class length is a minimum of 2-hours in length using the curriculum of The Houston Scaffolding Institute. Each employee is given a competency test and must pass with an 80% before being allowed to use a scaffold. The training includes the following areas, as applicable:

1. The nature of any electrical hazards, fall hazards and falling object hazards in the work area;
2. The correct procedures for dealing with electrical hazards and for erecting, maintaining, and disassembling the fall protection systems and falling object protection systems being used;
3. The proper use of the scaffold, and the proper handling of materials on the scaffold;
4. The maximum intended load and the load-carrying capacities of the scaffolds used; and
5. Any other pertinent requirements of this subpart.

4. RECOGNITION OF HAZARD TRAINING

Vision Painting Inc. trains every employee who is involved in erecting, dismantling, moving, operating, repairing, maintaining, or inspecting a scaffold. All employees performing this type of work will be trained to the level of competent person. This training will be a minimum of 10-hours of training using the scaffold institute curriculum and pass a competency test by a score of 80% or better. Employees are trained by a "competent person" to recognize any hazards associated with the work in question. The training includes the following topics, as applicable:

1. The nature of scaffold hazards;
2. The correct procedures for erecting, disassembling, moving, operating, repairing, inspecting, and maintaining the type of scaffold in question;
3. The design criteria, maximum intended load-carrying capacity and intended use of the scaffold;
4. Any other pertinent requirements of this subpart

5. INSPECTION

Only a Vision Painting Inc, employee who is designated, as a "competent person" will insure

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scaffolds are safe prior to and during their use. A scaffold is a precise structure and even small miscalculations can result in serious injury. Preplanning and site evaluation are important. A "competent person" should first inspect the ground where the scaffold will be erected and ask the following questions. Is the surface level? Are there holes or other open areas? Will power lines under the scaffold create a problem? What is the needed weight capacity?

The scaffold should be level and plumb. A base or a mud seal should support scaffold legs. If a mud seal is used, it should extend all the way across the scaffold, extend 9 inches beyond the centerline, and be attached to the scaffold leg. Blocks, bricks, or boards should never be used to elevate a scaffold leg. A "competent person" should always inspect all parts of the scaffold before using them. Clamps, bolts, and planks should be examined. Planks that are warped, coated with a slippery substance, cracked, splintered, or otherwise defective should not be used. Only stamped scaffold grade boards should be used. Mixing different types of scaffold beams and braces should be avoided unless prior approval by a "competent person" is obtained.

6. TAGS

Any defective part(s) of a scaffold should be conspicuously tagged and set-aside by or per the directions of a "competent person". Vision Painting Inc. employees are instructed in the identification and compliance of tags. Examples of mandatory tags are provided to all employees. Tags shall be placed at eye level on the scaffold latter.

Tags will include the following information:

1. Competent person approved by
2. Date
3. Built by
4. Specification of duty light, medium, heavy
5. Removal authorization & date
6. Special precaution
7. Comments

NO employee shall use a scaffold that is tagged DO NOT USE. The lower portion is red (DO NOT USE) section can only be removed and put in service by a competent person.

7. MODIFICATIONS

Alterations or modifications to a scaffold should not be performed except by a "competent person". Modifications by non-qualified employees or scaffold user qualified may create a hazard. Disciplinary action up to and including termination may be taken against non-certified employees and scaffold users making modifications to scaffolding.

8. RETRAINING

When Vision Painting Inc. has reason to believe that an employee lacks the skill or understanding needed for safe work involving the erection, use or dismantling of scaffolds, Vision Painting Inc. retrains the employee so that the requisite proficiency is regained.

Retraining is required in at least the following situations:

1. Where changes at the worksite present a hazard about which an employee has not been previously trained; or
2. Where changes in the types of scaffolds, fall protection, falling object protection, or other equipment present a hazard about which an employee has not been previously trained; or

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3. Where inadequacies in an affected employee's work involving scaffolds indicate that the employee has not retained the requisite proficiency.

9. GENERAL RULES FOR SCAFFOLDING

The potential hazards associated with scaffolds are numerous. They range from a worker falling off the scaffolding, to equipment or tools falling and injuring someone below. By following the rules listed below, many of these hazards can be eliminated.

1. Concentrate. Focus on your safety and the safety of others. Fooling around can result in injury.
2. Practice good housekeeping. Tools or other debris left in the walkway could be a trip hazard or be accidentally kicked off of the scaffold, fall, and injure someone below.
3. Keep both feet on the scaffolding when working.
4. Do not use ladders or other elevation devices on a scaffold. Also, do not lean a ladder against the scaffold. This puts unnecessary pressure on the scaffold.
5. Do not lean over the guardrails or put undue pressure on them.
6. Do not work on a scaffold that has ice or other slippery substance on it.
7. Always wear hard hats when working around scaffolding. Objects could fall from above and cause an injury.
8. Do not climb cross braces or jump from scaffold to scaffold.
9. Do not drop items from the scaffold. Use a hoist to raise or lower them.
10. Keep your hands free of tools, etc. when climbing a scaffold. Always maintain three points of contact.
11. When a scaffold is more than 10-feet high and no guardrails are present, use a harness. Always inspect the harness first for undue wear and tear. A harness must limit the fall to 6 feet. Also, check the hook and lanyard in the back. When tying off, pick an anchor that is solid_ Conduit, venting, and small piping are not acceptable anchors. An anchor must be able to support 5000 lbs. per worker. Do not use part of the scaffold as an anchor point unless the scaffold is tied down or has independent support lines.
12. Do not alter the scaffold unless the supervisor or other "competent person" gives prior approval.
13. Always be aware of the scaffold's load capacity. Tools and equipment should be evenly distributed on a scaffold. When offloading an item from a crane, always do it over a vertical support.
14. If you notice damaged planks, other structural defects, or anything that will affect the integrity of the scaffold, report them immediately to your supervisor or other "competent person".
15. Exit the scaffold in the event of high winds or an electrical storm.

10. ERECTING

Only "competent person" certified employees are permitted to erect scaffolding.

Caution should be exercised when erecting and dismantling a scaffold. Additional caution should be taken because not all of the safeguards and controls will be in place. This makes the scaffold less stable than when completed. Scaffold safety begins from the ground level. If mistakes are made at lower levels of a scaffold they will compound each time an additional level is added.

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Size and spacing are important factors when building a scaffold. The following should apply to all scaffolding projects.

1. A scaffold must be greater than 10-feet away from an uninsulated power line or an insulated power line having 50,000 volts or more.
2. A scaffold must be built within 14 inches of the work area unless front guardrails or proper fall protection is used.
3. When the height to width ratio is greater than 1:4, gyses or ties must be in place. Gyses and ties must be placed when horizontal members support both inner and outer legs. They must also be at each end and no more than 30 feet apart.
4. Do not attach ties to small piping, conduit, etc. Attach only to solid, stable structures.
5. Walkways must be fully planked unless they are only being used as a walk way or during erecting and dismantling the scaffold.
6. Spacing between planks and between planks and uprights cannot exceed 1 inch.
7. Planks on the walkway should overlap 12-inches and the overlap should occur over a vertical support.
8. Scaffolds more than 2-feet apart must be accessible by a ladder or other proper device.
9. The bottom rung on a ladder cannot be more than 24-inches in height.
10. If scaffold is taller than 35-feet, rest intervals must be in *place* every 30-feet
11. Guardrails must be in place if the scaffold height is greater than 10-feet unless workers are using fall protection. The top guardrail must be between 38 and 45 inches in height. The mid railing should be $\frac{1}{2}$ the height of the top rail. The posts must be placed at least every 10-feet.
12. If a scaffold is enclosed, tie wire must be in place every 13-feet vertically and every 15-feet horizontally. The ties must be able to withstand 1500 lbs. of pressure and tension.

11. DISMANTLING

Only "competent person" certified employees are permitted to dismantle scaffolding. Safely dismantling a scaffold is also important. The following rules should always be applied when dismantling:

1. Scaffolds should always be dismantled from the top down.
2. When removing a particular piece, be sure that it will not cause another piece to fall.
3. Lower scaffolding components with a hoist or by hand to hand contact.
4. If a scaffold is partially dismantled, barricade off all point of entry so that persons will not be able to access the scaffold.

12. CONCLUSION

If a 180-pound worker fell from a 12-foot high scaffold, it would take less than 1 second to impact with the ground. Upon impact, the worker is traveling at a speed of 20-mph and land with a force of 3600 lbs. It is easy to see from this example how serious injuries can occur when working on or around scaffolds. Scaffolds are useful and common at the workplace. Vision Painting Inc. employees are required to be aware of the associated potential hazards. Only when workers understand and respect the dangers associated with scaffolds can injuries be eliminated and this is the intended purpose of this program. Non-compliance by any Vision Painting Inc. employee with any part of this described program will result in disciplinary action as outlined in the Company's / Disciplinary Program found in this manual.