



Scaffolding

Intent: To eliminate or minimise the risks of fatalities, injuries and events arising from erecting, altering, dismantling and using scaffolding.

Engineered Safety in Practice (examples):

- Eliminate the need for scaffolding by incorporating permanent or temporary access systems (e.g. stairs, walkways, platforms) from the ground or allow access of elevated work platforms (EWPs)
- Agree preliminary scaffolding arrangement and make spatial allowances
- Use modular engineered scaffold systems with built-in safety features
- Incorporate scaffold layout into the planning and sequencing to prevent clashes and unsafe modifications

FSR Controls

1. Obtain an approved temporary works design before erecting any scaffold (unless the scaffold is a proprietary modular scaffold less than 4m high).
2. Scaffold design must be approved by the Temporary Works Coordinator and specify type, ground bearing capacity, wind loading, tie-in requirements and access/egress.
3. Persons erecting, altering or dismantling scaffolding must have the applicable high-risk work licence.
4. Use scaffold erection, alteration and dismantling methods that minimise fall risk, such as 1m lifts, only resorting to fall restraint or fall arrest systems where the fall risk cannot be engineered out.
5. A work at height permit must be in place where fall arrest or restraint systems are the primary fall prevention control.
6. Install physical barriers or separation controls to protect scaffolds from mobile plant and equipment impact.
7. Tag incomplete scaffolds with signage and block access using physical barricades.
8. Obtain a scaffold handover certificate upon completion, detailing scaffold type, load rating, tie-in points, access/egress, and compliance with the approved design.
9. A certified scaffolder must conduct formal inspections before first use and at least every 30 days.
10. Re-inspect scaffolds after any event that may affect stability, such as a severe weather or physical impact.
11. Obtain approval from the Temporary Works Coordinator before making any modifications to scaffold design.

DEFINITIONS

Complex scaffolds: scaffolding that is hanging, suspended, swinging and/or cantilevered

