

## **Scaffold Safety Plan – Appendix A: Definitions**

**Bearer (putlog)** means a horizontal transverse scaffold member (which may be supported by ledgers or runners) upon which the scaffold platform rests and which joins scaffold uprights, posts, poles, and similar members.

**Brace** means a rigid connection that holds one scaffold member in a fixed position with respect to another member, or to a building or structure.

**Cleat** means a structural block used at the end of a platform to prevent the platform from slipping off its supports. Cleats are also used to provide footing on sloped surfaces such as crawling boards.

**Competent Person** means one who is capable of identifying existing and predictable hazards in the surroundings or working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous to employees, and who has authorization to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate them.

**Coupler** means a device for locking together the tubes of a tube and coupler scaffold.

**Equivalent** means alternative designs, materials or methods to protect against a hazard which the employer can demonstrate will provide an equal or greater degree of safety for employees than the methods, materials or designs specified in the standard.

**Exposed power lines** means electrical power lines which are accessible to employees and which are not shielded from contact. Such lines do not include extension cords or power tool cords.

**Fabricated decking and planking** means manufactured platforms made of wood (including laminated wood, and solid sawn wood planks), metal or other materials.

**Fabricated frame scaffold (tubular welded frame scaffold)** means a scaffold consisting of a platform(s) supported on fabricated end frames with integral posts, horizontal bearers, and intermediate members.

**Failure** means load refusal, breakage, or separation of component parts. Load refusal is the point where the ultimate strength is exceeded.

**Guardrail system** means a vertical barrier, consisting of, but not limited to, toprails, midrails, and posts, erected to prevent employees from falling off a scaffold platform or walkway to lower levels.

**Guywire** means a cable that connects a free-standing scaffold to either the ground or a structure.

**Landing** means a platform at the end of a flight of stairs.

**Large area scaffold** means a pole scaffold, tube and coupler scaffold, systems scaffold, or fabricated frame scaffold erected over substantially the entire work area. For example: a scaffold erected over the entire floor area of a room.

**Lower levels** means areas below the level where the employee is located and to which an employee can fall. Such areas include, but are not limited to, ground levels, floors, roofs, ramps, runways, excavations, pits, tanks, materials, water, and equipment.

**Maximum intended load** means the total load of all persons, equipment, tools, materials, transmitted loads, and other loads reasonably anticipated to be applied to a scaffold or scaffold component at any one time.

**Mobile scaffold** means a powered or unpowered, portable, caster or wheel-mounted supported scaffold.

**Open sides and ends** means the edges of a platform that are more than 14 inches (36 cm) away horizontally from a sturdy, continuous, vertical surface (such as a building wall) or a sturdy, continuous horizontal surface (such as a floor), or a point of access. Exception: For plastering and lathing operations the horizontal threshold distance is 18 inches (46 cm).

**Outrigger** means the structural member of a supported scaffold used to increase the base width of a scaffold in order to provide support for and increased stability of the scaffold.

**Overhand bricklaying** means the process of laying bricks and masonry units such that the surface of the wall to be jointed is on the opposite side of the wall from the mason, requiring the mason to lean over the wall to complete the work. It includes mason tending and electrical installation incorporated into the brick wall during the overhand bricklaying process.

**Personal fall arrest system** means a system used to arrest an employee's fall. It consists of an anchorage, connectors, a body belt or body harness and may include a lanyard, deceleration device, lifeline, or combinations of these.

**Platform** means a work surface elevated above lower levels. Platforms can be constructed using individual wood planks, fabricated planks, fabricated decks, and fabricated platforms.

**Qualified** means one who, by possession of a recognized degree, certificate, or professional standing, or who by extensive knowledge, training, and experience, has successfully demonstrated his/her ability to solve or resolve problems related to the subject matter, the work, or the project.

**Rated load** means the manufacturer's specified maximum load to be lifted by a hoist or to be applied to a scaffold or scaffold component.

**SAIA** Scaffold & Access Industry Association.

**SSFI** Scaffolding, Shoring & Forming Institute, Inc.

**Scaffold** means any temporary elevated platform (supported or suspended) and its supporting structure (including points of anchorage), used for supporting employees or materials or both.

**Stair tower (Scaffold stairway/tower)** means a tower comprised of scaffold components and which contains internal stairway units and rest platforms. These towers are used to provide access to scaffold platforms and other elevated points such as floors and roofs.

**Supported scaffold** means one or more platforms supported by outrigger beams, or brackets, poles, legs, uprights, posts, frames or similar rigid support.

**Tie** means a connection (usually wire or cable) to a scaffold to an adjacent structure in order to increase the stability of the scaffold.

**Tubular welded frame scaffold** (see “Fabricated frame scaffold”).

**Unstable objects** means items whose strength, configuration, or lack of stability may allow them to become dislocated and shift and therefore may not properly support the loads imposed on them. Unstable objects do not constitute a safe base support for scaffolds, platforms, or employees. Examples include, but are not limited to, barrels, boxes, loose brick, and concrete blocks.

**Walkway** means a portion of a scaffold platform used only for access and not as a work level.