
**CONSTRUCTION HEALTH AND SAFETY,
AND INJURY PREVENTION**
**Prevent hazards associated with
working with scaffolding and false work
on construction sites**

level:	4
credit:	4
planned review date:	December 2003
sub-field:	Construction
purpose:	<p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: identify different types of scaffolding and false work for building and construction sites, and apply the appropriate controls for compliance with the Site Safety Plan, Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 (HSE) and relevant legislation; and identify and apply procedures to monitor controls of working at scaffolding and falsework hazards</p> <p>This unit standard is for people who wish to act as Safety Supervisors or become involved in health and safety and injury prevention over a wide range of building and construction activities and environments.</p>
entry information:	Open.
accreditation option:	Evaluation of documentation and visit by NZQA and industry.
moderation option:	A centrally established national moderation system has been set up by the Building and Construction Industry Training Organisation.

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special notes:

- 1 *Compliance* is required with the hierarchy of controls outlined in the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 (HSE), i.e: elimination of significant hazards; isolation of significant hazards when elimination is not practicable; and minimisation of significant hazards where elimination and isolation are not practicable.
- 2 *All practical steps* means all steps to achieve the result that it is reasonably practicable to take in the circumstances, having due regard to: nature and severity of the harm; current state of knowledge about that harm; current state of knowledge about the means available to achieve the result and availability and cost of each of those means.
- 3 *Hazards* refer to those occurrences, processes, substances or situations as determined by the supervisor that are an actual or potential cause or source of harm associated with, but not limited to: process, activities, environment, equipment, materials, work organisation, site and facilities. Contributing factors may include noise, vibration, temperature, pressure and mechanical, ergonomic stressors, and chemical agents.
- 4 *Codes of Practice* refer to any issued code of practice approved by the Minister of Labour under Section 20 of the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 (HSE), and any work carried out in accordance with that code. Specific publication – Approved Code of Practice for the Safe Erection and Use of Scaffolding, issued by the Occupational Safety and Health Service of the Department of Labour, September 1995.

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- 5 *Standards* refer to any New Zealand or other Standards that provide technical guidance and specifications. Standards may also be specified in Regulations.
- 6 *Guidelines* refer to any information on health and safety produced by the Occupation Safety and Health Service of the Department of Labour or Accident Compensation Corporation for the provision of health, safety and injury prevention in the building and construction industry. The guidelines are referenced to Regulations, situations or hazards, and may be based on relevant sections of the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, Health and Safety in Employment Regulations 1995, Standards contained in former legislation, or accepted good practice and supportive information.
Specific publication – Guidelines for the Provision of Facilities and General Safety in the Construction Industry, issued Occupational Safety and Health Service of the Department of Labour, April 1996.
- 7 *Legislation* relevant to this unit standard includes, but is not limited to: the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 (HSE) and Health and Safety in Employment Regulations 1995, specifically, the definitions referring to Construction Work and Notifiable Work; Human Rights Act 1993; Privacy Act 1993; Local Government Act 1974; Resource Management Act 1991; Building Act 1991.
- 8 *Safety Supervisor* is defined as a person recognised as a health and safety practitioner pertaining to the building and construction industry or trades.

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- 9 *Organisation* may refer to any business engaging, controlling, or employing people in a building and construction environment.
- 10 *Site Safety Plan* is defined as a building and construction site specific document that demonstrates an organisation's means of compliance with the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, and includes but is not limited to the following:
- assignment of responsibilities for on site implementation;
 - hazard identification methods;
 - accident investigation and report methods;
 - site emergency procedures;
 - site communication strategy;
 - strategy for the coordination of on site trade activities;
 - site audit procedures.
- 11 *Scaffolding* means any advanced, basic or suspended scaffolding, or any framework or structure of a temporary nature, used or intended to be used:
- for the support or protection of persons carrying out construction work or work connected with construction work, for the purpose of carrying out that work;
 - for the support of materials used in connection with any such work;
 - includes any scaffolding constructed as such and not dismantled, whether or not is being used as scaffolding;
 - includes any coupling, device, fastening, fitting or plank used in connection with the construction, erection or use of scaffolding.

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- 12 *Falsework* means any temporary structure or framework used in construction work to support the permanent structure and its components, materials and equipment until it becomes self supporting. Falsework does not include scaffolding or formwork or the use of cranes for supporting structures.
- 13 This unit standard requires assessment in a practical work situation, on site. *On site* refers to a wide range of building and construction environments within which trade skills are required.

Elements and Performance Criteria

element 1

Identify different types of scaffolding work for building and construction sites, and apply the appropriate controls for compliance with the Site Safety Plan, Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 (HSE) and relevant legislation.

Range: the erection, use of, alteration or dismantling of scaffolding and falsework.

performance criteria

- 1.1 Hazards are identified in terms of each type of scaffold to identify the controls required for health and safety compliance.

Range: hazard factors include but not limited to - stability of the base plates, bearing capacity of ground and foundation conditions, height factors, proximity of underground and overhead services, access and egress restrictions, access to the working platform, load limitations, effective barriers and warnings, securing support and bracing systems, safety of persons; unimpaired components e.g. planks, platform decking, guard-rails, toeboards, bracing, ties, and anchorage.

- 1.2 Hazards are identified in terms of each type of scaffold to identify the controls required for health and safety compliance.

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Range: stability of the base plates, bearing capacity of ground and foundation conditions, proximity of underground and overhead services, access and egress restrictions, load limitations, effective barriers and warnings, securing support and bracing systems, anchorage to, structure/s, adherence to engineering designs and manufacturer's instructions, protection methods, safety of persons.

1.3 Controls required when carrying out scaffolding are applied to ensure that all practical steps are taken to maintain health and safety compliance.

Range: areas to be considered but not limited to - prior planning, certification and competency of workers, the design of the scaffold including engineer's design certificate, manufacturer's specifications, limitations of the scaffold, work procedures which include erection, alterations and dismantling of the scaffold, supervision, inspections and records, access for employees, separation of traffic, screening, working space, handling of equipment and supplies, danger to others, protection and maintenance.

1.4 Controls required when carrying out false work are applied to ensure that all practical steps are taken to maintain health and safety compliance.

Range: areas to be considered but not limited to - prior planning, certification and competency of workers, the design of the falsework including engineer's design certificate, manufacturer's specifications, limitations of the falsework, work procedures which include erection, alterations and dismantling of the falsework, supervision, inspections and records, access for employees, separation of traffic, screening, working space, handling of equipment and supplies, danger to others, protection and maintenance.

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element 2

Identify and apply procedures to monitor controls of scaffolding and false work hazards.

performance criteria

- 2.1 Identified hazards and related control measures are documented in accordance with the Site Safety Plan and where relevant, the Scaffold Register.
- 2.2 Scaffolding is inspected for compliance against Site Safety Plan, the on site Scaffold Register, relevant legislation and the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 (HSE).
- Range: inspected prior to use, daily, weekly whilst in use, after any structural modification, after bad weather, any damaging incident or any other occurrence that could affect its stability or safety, monthly while the scaffold is set up but not in use;
Inspection record must include - date, name of inspector, and be signed off;
Scaffold Register must record - project name, address, main contractor, clear location of scaffold, reason for scaffold, scaffold subcontractor, other subcontractors who are to use the scaffold, overall dimensions (length, height, width), number of working platforms, duty of scaffold (light, medium, heavy, special), limitations, the inspection record.
- 2.3 False work is inspected for compliance against Site Safety Plan engineering and manufacturing design specifications, relevant legislation and the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 (HSE).
- Range: inspected prior to use, daily, weekly whilst in use, after any structural modification, after bad weather, any damaging incident or any other occurrence that could affect its stability or safety, monthly while the scaffold is set up but not in use, or as required by engineering and/or manufacturer's specifications.
- 2.4 Corrective action is taken to meet provisions of controls required for compliance with health and safety legislation and the site safety plan.
- 2.5 Results of all inspections are recorded in accordance with the requirements of the site safety plan.

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Comments on this unit standard

Please contact the Building and Construction Industry Training Organisation bcitocs@xtra.co.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.

Please Note

Providers must be accredited by the Qualifications Authority or a delegated inter-institutional body before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards or deliver courses of study leading to that assessment.

Industry Training Organisations must be accredited by the Qualifications Authority before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards.

Accredited providers and Industry Training Organisations assessing against unit standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those standards.

Accreditation requirements and an outline of the moderation system that applies to this standard are outlined in the Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP). The AMAP also includes useful information about special requirements for providers wishing to develop education and training programmes, such as minimum qualifications for tutors and assessors, and special resource requirements.

This unit standard is covered by AMAP 0048 which can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.