

Title	Erect, operate, and dismantle swinging stages		
Level	4	Credits	10

Purpose	<p>People credited with this unit standard are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – plan and prepare for the suspension of swinging stages; – erect overhead structures and associated safety systems for the suspension of swinging stages; – assemble and suspend swinging stages and associated safety systems from suspension points on overhead scaffolding; – check the structure is compliant and complete the GPG inspection report; – operate swinging stages; and – dismantle swinging stages.
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Classification	Lifting Equipment > Suspended Scaffolding
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Available grade	Achieved
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Prerequisites	Unit 26592, <i>Plan and prepare for the erection of proprietary suspended scaffolding</i> ; or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.
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Guidance Information

- 1 This unit standard has been developed for learning and assessment on-job or off-job in a simulated environment. Design, erection, and dismantlement of scaffolds and scaffolding structures must take place under the supervision of a certified scaffolder who holds a current Certificate of Competence for the scaffolding concerned.
- 2 All tasks are to be carried out in accordance with:
 - a quality management systems;
 - b designer requirements and manufacturer operating instructions; legislation, regulations, bylaws, Health and Safety at Work Act 2015, and Health and Safety in Employment Regulations 1995;
 - c the most up to date version of the *Good Practice Guidelines - Scaffolding in New Zealand (GPG)*, 2016 available from <https://www.worksafe.govt.nz/topic-and-industry/working-at-height/scaffolding-in-new-zealand/>; and all subsequent amendments and replacements.

3 Definitions

Client refers to an individual or representative of a company who commissions a particular scaffold or scaffolding structure to be erected, or is an end user of the scaffold or scaffolding structure.

Limited fall situation refers to an environment in which a suspended scaffold is physically tested in a position raised slightly above its resting position.

Parapet hook refers to a clamp or bracket placed over a parapet from which a scaffold is suspended.

Proprietary needle refers to a pre-engineered cantilevered structural member that supports a scaffold.

Scaffold plan refers to a key design document prepared by the candidate and used as a basis for the erection of a particular scaffold.

Scaffolding is as defined in the GPG and in the Health and Safety in Employment Regulations 1995.

Suspended scaffolding is as defined in the GPG and in the Health and Safety in Employment Regulations 1995. Note that a suspended scaffold is capable of being raised or lowered. A working platform that cannot be raised or lowered is classified as a hanging scaffold, not a suspended scaffold.

Swinging stage refers to a suspended scaffold platform that can be raised or lowered.

4 Training and assessment

This unit standard must be assessed against using proprietary suspended scaffolding systems and components. Evidence is required for at least two swinging stages and must include structures with both single and double rope suspension systems.

Assessment must not be conducted using scaffolding which requires a registered engineer to certify the adequacy of the design prior to its erection.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Plan and prepare for the suspension of swinging stages.

Performance criteria

1.1 Confirm erection requirements with the supervisor or client.

Range includes but is not limited to – load calculation, establishing maximum load, determining fulcrum points.

1.2 Check the supporting structure for its capacity to support the suspended scaffold and its associated components.

Range includes but is not limited to – confirmation of structural integrity, identification of viable parapet hook or proprietary needle attachment points, possible counterweight placement positions, tie back and/or bracing points.

1.3 Draw a scaffold plan.

- 1.4 Determine and source the necessary equipment in accordance with the scaffold plan.

Outcome 2

Erect overhead structures and associated safety systems for the suspension of swinging stages.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Lift and assemble components to the assembly point for construction of the overhead structure.
- 2.2 Erect overhead structures and construct proprietary needles or parapet hooks with accompanying safety systems.
- Range may include but is not limited to – tying parapet hooks or needles together or construction of independent tying system around the supporting structure, wire and shackle restraints, counterweights, bolted supports, packing, bracing against lateral movement.
- 2.3 Attach fittings necessary for the operation of the swinging stage to the parapet hook outriggers or proprietary needles.
- Range includes but is not limited to – use of safety harness for protection while connecting wires to the parapet hook or needle.
- 2.4 Check inboard and outboard components for safety and operational stability against the scaffold plan.
- Range includes but is not limited to – minimum safety factor of 3 on combined loading, minimum safety factor of 3 against overturning and uplift, all brackets moused correctly.

Outcome 3

Assemble and suspend swinging stages and associated safety systems from suspension points on overhead scaffolding.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Move the suspension system, including safety equipment, to the correct location in accordance with the scaffold plan.
- 3.2 Secure the suspension system, including safety equipment to the overhead suspension points, and rig in accordance with the scaffold plan.

3.3 Assemble, suspend, and check the swinging stages and associated control and safety equipment.

Range associated control and safety equipment includes but is not limited to – a transformer or other Residual Current Device (RCD).

3.4 Test the safety systems.

Range includes but is not limited to – visual examination, physical test in a limited fall situation.

Outcome 4

Check the structure is compliant and complete the GPG inspection report.

Performance criteria

4.1 Check the structure for compliance with the GPG inspection report and the scaffold plan.

4.2 Complete the GPG inspection report.

4.3 Make changes where structure is not compliant to ensure compliance and amend the GPG inspection report accordingly.

Outcome 5

Operate swinging stages.

Performance criteria

5.1 Position the scaffolder on swinging stages safely.

Range includes but is not limited to – traversing the stage, hooking safety harness lanyard to an independently secured anchorage point (single rope system), hooking safety harness lanyard to the stage (double rope system).

5.2 Operate swinging stages.

5.3 Carry out safety drills in response to possible emergency situations.

Range includes but is not limited to – rope jams, faulty tilt switches, cut cables, emergency descent procedure.

Outcome 6

Dismantle swinging stages.

Performance criteria

- 6.1 Bring outboard components inboard, and detach and disassemble outboard components.
- Range may include but is not limited to – stage, tackle and gears, fittings, wire rope.
- 6.2 Dismantle the overhead structure beginning with the parapet outriggers or proprietary needles.
- Range may include but is not limited to – wire and shackle restraints, counterweights, bolted supports, packing, lateral bracing.
- 6.3 Lower components to the ground and prepare for transportation off-site.

Replacement information	This unit standard, unit standard 26591, unit standard 26592, and unit standard 26593 replaced unit standard 4204, unit standard 4205, and unit standard 4207.
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Planned review date	31 December 2026
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	21 July 2011	31 December 2016
Review	2	16 July 2015	31 December 2019
Review	3	29 March 2018	31 December 2025
Review	4	24 February 2022	N/A
Revision	5	24 August 2023	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0003
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact the Waihanga Ara Rau Construction and Infrastructure Workforce Development Council qualifications@waihangaararau.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.