

Title	Conduct a safety inspection of suspended scaffolding before use and respond to findings of inspection		
Level	3	Credits	3

Purpose	<p>This unit standard is intended primarily for non-professional scaffolders to assure the safe use of suspended scaffolding from which they normally work. It does not replace the legal requirement for inspections to be completed by a certificated scaffolder where necessary.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: conduct visual and physical inspections of suspended scaffolding before use, and respond to the findings of a suspended scaffold inspection.</p>
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Classification	Lifting Equipment > Rigging and Scaffolding Safety
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Available grade	Achieved
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Explanatory notes

- 1 All tasks must be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the scaffold design and workplace procedures in:
 - a the most up-to-date version of the Best Practice Guidelines for Scaffolding in New Zealand (BPGFS), Scaffolding and Rigging New Zealand Incorporated, PO Box 31067, Lower Hutt 5040, telephone 04 589 0253. This is also available for purchase through Scaffolding and Rigging New Zealand at www.sarnz.org.nz
 - b health and safety requirements and guidelines relating to scaffolds;
 - c manufacturers' operating instructions; and
 - d government and local government legislation, regulations, and bylaws.
- 2 This unit standard is intended for use with both boatswain's chairs and swinging stages. It specifically excludes hanging scaffolds.
- 3 Definitions

Before use refers to before starting work at the beginning of the day and before restarting work after halting for extraordinary external reasons such as high winds, heavy rain, or an incident involving the suspended scaffold. All notifiable scaffolding must be rechecked before it is used again by a certificated scaffolder after adverse weather conditions, or incidents, have affected it.

A *boatswain's chair* is defined in the BPGFS as a suspended scaffold of which the platform is a chair or similar device suitable for one person. It can be raised or lowered mechanically or by hand haulage.

A *limited fall test* is a physical test where a suspended scaffold is lowered or raised to a position slightly above its resting position. The suspended scaffold is then shock loaded by applying a force equal to the full safe working load of the entire suspended scaffold being applied at each end of the suspended scaffold. The suspended scaffold is rechecked in this way prior to use. This is also referred to as a 'load test'.

Suspended scaffolding is defined in the BPGFS and additionally in the Health and Safety in Employment Regulations 1995. 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.

A *swinging stage* is defined in the BPGFS as a suspended scaffold platform that can be raised or lowered.

Workplace procedures refer to procedures and/or practices used and recommended by an organisation involved in the scaffolding industry. Workplace procedures may cover quality assurance, documentation, security, communication, health and safety, and personal behaviour, and may include time and cost constraints.

Outcomes and evidence requirements

Outcome 1

Conduct a visual inspection of suspended scaffolding before use.

Evidence requirements

1.1 Potential hazards are identified.

Range may include but are not limited to – insecure support structures, faulty plant or components.

1.2 The structural integrity of the scaffold is examined.

Range may include but is not limited to – stability, structural integrity of the boatswain's chair or swinging stage anchorage and bracing, fittings and ties, clamps, condition of wire rope, harnesses, hoists, pulleys.

1.3 The scaffold register is checked to ensure currency.

Range Pullout tag system, scafftag or other as appropriate.

Outcome 2

Conduct a physical inspection of suspended scaffolding before use.

Range may include but is not limited to – manual or mechanical testing of component tightness, strength, fit, stability, integrity.

Evidence requirements

2.1 Potential hazards are identified.

Range may include but is not limited to – insecure support structures, faulty plant or components.

2.2 The structural integrity of the scaffold is tested.

Range may include but is not limited to – stability, structural integrity of the boatswain's chair or swinging stage, anchorage and bracing, fittings and ties, clamps, condition of wire rope, harnesses, hoists, pulleys.

2.3 A limited fall test is completed.

Outcome 3

Respond to the findings of a suspended scaffold inspection.

Evidence requirements

3.1 The integrity of the scaffold and scaffold site is maintained.

Range includes – securing loose elements, consultation with a certificated scaffolder holding the appropriate Certificate of Competence, not using unsafe scaffolding and securing suspect scaffolding against access.

3.2 Findings are recorded and reported appropriately.

Range may include but is not limited to – completion of BPGFS or workplace report forms, notifying the workplace supervisor and/or a certificated scaffolder holding the appropriate Certificate of Competence.

Planned review date	31 December 2016
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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	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0183
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Please note

Providers must be granted consent to assess against standards (accredited) by NZQA, before they can report credits from assessment against unit standards or deliver courses of study leading to that assessment.

Industry Training Organisations must be granted consent to assess against standards by NZQA before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards.

Providers and Industry Training Organisations, which have been granted consent and which are assessing against unit standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those standards.

Requirements for consent to assess and an outline of the moderation system that applies to this standard are outlined in the Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMRs). The CMR also includes useful information about special requirements for organisations wishing to develop education and training programmes, such as minimum qualifications for tutors and assessors, and special resource requirements.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact The Skills Organisation at reviewcomments@skills.org.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.