	ANC Foster Pty Ltd Safety Management System	Doc No:	SCAFFOLDS
		Initial Issue Date:	27 Apr 2010
SCAFFOLDING		Revision Date:	Initial Version
		Revision No.:	0
		Next Revision Date:	27 Apr 2011
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Purpose

The purpose of this program is to prevent injuries do to falls from elevated work areas and ensure employees and contractors are able to inspect scaffolding materials and erected scaffolds.

Scope

This program is applicable at every work area where scaffolding is erected. When work is performed on a non-owned or operated site, the operator's program shall take precedence, however, this document covers Company employees and contractors and shall be used on owned premises, or when an operator's program doesn't exist or is less stringent.

Key Responsibilities

Managers and Supervisors

- Responsible for ensuring that scaffolds are erected by a qualified person, that set up inspections are performed, and all daily inspections are performed before work starts for the day.
- Responsible for ensuring that all employees, and/or contractors have been trained in the use and inspection methods for scaffolds.
- Responsible for ensuring that all employees and contractors are aware that if an inspection discovers a defect, the scaffold cannot be used until repairs are made.

Employees

- Responsible for following this program by inspecting the scaffolds daily and report any damages or repairs that may be needed to their supervisor.

Procedure


General Requirements

It is a requirement that the erection and dismantling of scaffolds and temporarily erected structures, intended or used to support sheetings, hoardings, guard rails, means of access or egress and entertainment equipment is carried out in compliance with AS/NZS 1576.1:1995 Scaffolding Part 1: General requirements.

It is a requirement that a scaffold from which a person or object could fall more than 4 metres, and its supporting structure, is inspected by a competent person:

- Before its first use; and
- As soon as practicable, and before its next use.

The footing or anchorage for scaffolds shall be sound, rigid, and capable of carrying the maximum intended load without settling or displacement. Unstable objects such as barrels, boxes, loose boards shall not be used to support scaffolds or planks.

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It is a requirement that if a scaffold is incomplete and left unattended, appropriate controls, including the use of danger tags or warning signs are used to prevent unauthorised access to it.

Scaffold deck boards shall be cleated, wired or nailed into place.

All working levels of scaffolds will be floored completely except where internal ladders require space for ladder openings.

Scaffolds and other devices mentioned or described in this program shall be maintained in safe condition. Scaffolds shall not be altered or moved horizontally while they are occupied.

Any scaffold damaged or weakened from any cause shall be immediately repaired and shall not be used until repairs have been completed.

Scaffolds shall not be loaded in excess of the working loads for which they are intended.

Bolts used in the construction of scaffolds shall be of adequate size and in sufficient numbers at each connection to develop the designed strength of the scaffold.

An access ladder or equivalent safe access shall be provided.

Scaffold planks shall extend over their end supports not less than 6 inches or more than 18 inches.

The poles, legs, or uprights of scaffolds shall be plumb, and securely and rigidly braced to prevent swaying and displacement.

Materials being hoisted onto a scaffold shall have a tag line.

Overhead protection shall be provided for workers on a scaffold exposed to overhead hazards.

Work shall not be performed on a scaffold during storms or high winds.


Work shall not be performed on scaffolds that are covered with snow or ice, unless all snow and ice has been removed and all planking has been sanded to prevent slipping.

Tools, material, and debris shall not be allowed to accumulate in quantities to cause a hazard.

Inspections

It is a requirement that if an inspection of a scaffold or its supporting structure indicates an unsafe condition, appropriate repairs, alterations or additions are carried out and the scaffold and its supporting structure are re-inspected by a competent person.

- At a minimum, the following shall be inspected after erection, before the start of the day or beginning of a shift change:

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- Ground or surface footing shall be inspected to ensure that there is no settling.
 - All main supports and cross braces shall be inspected for any signs of damage, missing pins, bolts and any locks and/or safety keepers.
 - All walking surfaces and/or planks shall be inspected for damage and proper placements and any possible movement.
 - All walkways and planks must be secure to prevent any movement.
- Inspection shall be made to ensure that the scaffold is stable and any movement is prevented.
 - If during the inspection, a defect or damage to the scaffold is discovered, the scaffold shall be tagged out and use prohibited until needed repairs are made.

Mandatory Signs and Tags

Signs and tags shall be visible at all times when work is being performed, and shall be removed or covered promptly when the hazards no longer exist.

Defective or unsafe equipment or conditions shall be tagged out by the competent person using a weather resistant tag secured to the scaffolding structure on all four sides and must be complied with.

Danger signs shall be used only where an immediate hazard exists. Danger signs must be posted around the immediate area of the scaffold, to alert other workers of possible danger from falling objects from the scaffold.

Caution Signs and/or barricade tape shall be used to mark off a larger area around scaffolding warning other workers to use caution.

Modifications

Modification and repairs shall be performed by a qualified person, who is competent to certify the scaffolding safe to use.

Employees shall not perform any modifications or repairs, unless they have been trained and certified, failure to comply may result in disciplinary action and or termination.

Training Requirements

The supervisor shall have each employee who performs work while on a scaffold trained by a person qualified in the subject matter to recognize the hazards associated with the type of scaffold being used and to understand the procedures to control or minimize those hazards. The training shall occur before use and include the following areas, as applicable:

- Basic safety information.
- The nature of any electrical hazards, fall hazards and falling object hazards in the work area.
- The proper use of the scaffold, and the proper handling of materials on the scaffold.
- The correct procedures for dealing with electrical hazards and for erecting, maintaining, and disassembling the fall protection systems and falling object protection systems being used.
- The maximum intended load and the load-carrying capacities of the scaffolds used.