Cherry Hill Glass
20 ELM ST
BRANFORD CT 06405

CONSTRUCTION SS
Safety Services Company

Worksite: _____ Instructor: _____ Date/Time: _____

Topic C002: Scaffolds (A)

Introduction: A scaffold is simply an elevated platform that supports workers and materials. Lay a board across a couple of tall buckets and you have a supported scaffold — but not a safe one. Most scaffolds used for construction work are complex structures and workers need to know how to erect them, dismantle them, and work from them safely. Unsafe scaffolds endanger workers in many ways. Learning scaffold rules will help identify what workers and employers need to know to use all types of scaffolds safely, so that a temporary work platform "won't let you down'.

The following guidelines pertain to OSHA's requirements for the scaffolds used in construction, alteration, repair, and demolition work. a competent person must be present for almost all scaffold operations. A competent person has primary responsibility for supervising and directing all scaffolding work and must:

- Know requirements applicable to the types of scaffolds used.
- Be able to identify and correct hazards encountered in scaffold work.
- Determine feasible safe access for persons erecting and dismantling scaffolds.
- Inspect scaffolds and components for hazards before each work shift.
- Supervise all scaffold erection, dismantling, and altering work.
- Determine the fall protection requirements for scaffold erection and dismantling operations.
- Determine whether it is safe to work on scaffolds during storms or high winds.

A Scaffold "safe practices" checklist should cover the following topics:

Access:

- Maintain a safe access to scaffolds and scaffold platforms.
- Do not climb cross-braces to reach a scaffold platform.
- Use ladders or stairways to reach platforms more than 2 feet above or below the access point.

Components and connections:

- Never use damaged scaffold components.
- Repair or replace them immediately.
- Do not modify components.
- Do not mix components from different manufacturers.

Environment:

- Watch for electrical hazards, slippery platforms, and strong winds.

Erecting, dismantling, and moving:

- Have only trained and experienced workers erect scaffolds.
- Never roll a scaffold by yourself while you are on it.
- Never use wood outrigger systems.

Fall protection and falling objects:

- Match appropriate fall-protection systems with scaffold type.
- Make sure platforms are properly guarded to keep workers and equipment from falling.
- Do not drop anything from a scaffold.

Inspection:

- Regularly inspect scaffold components for hazards.

Leveling:

- Keep the scaffold level, plumb, and square.
- Do not use bricks, blocks, barrels or other unstable objects to level a scaffold.

Platforms:

- Do not work on slippery platforms.
- Never use a stage that is too long or too short for the job.
- Planking must be sound and meet OSHA requirements.
- Do not use makeshift methods to increase the height of a scaffold.

Conclusion: Scaffolds are important equipment on many constructions sites. The nature of scaffolds causes them to be the leading OSHA violation and one of the primary causes of falling injuries. Becoming familiar with the scope, application, and definitions will help workers design, construct, and use scaffolds safely. **(See Scaffolds Part B)**

Employee Attendance: *(Names or signatures of personnel who are attending this meeting)*

_____ _____ _____
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These guidelines do not supersede local, state, or federal regulations and must not be construed as a substitute for, or legal interpretation of, any OSHA regulations.