Toolbox Talk Training: Scaffold Safety – Mobile Scaffolds: Manually Moved Scaffolds

Mobile scaffolds are wheel or caster mounted supported scaffolds (1926.450(b)). This talk summarizes OSHA's mobile scaffold rules in 29 CFR 1926.452(w). Federal scaffold rules are in OSHA 29 CFR 1926 Subpart L (1926.450-.454) for construction; general industry scaffold work is covered by 29 CFR 1910.27 and 1910.28. Follow the manufacturer's instructions and your employer's rules.

Setup

- Brace the scaffold with cross, horizontal, or diagonal braces, or a combination, to prevent racking or collapse. It must be plumb, level, and squared, and all brace connections must be secured (1926.452(w)(1)).
- Platforms may not extend beyond the base supports unless outrigger frames or equivalent devices ensure stability (1926.452(w)(7)).
- Where leveling is needed, use screw jacks or equivalent means (1926.452(w)(8)). Caster and wheel stems must be pinned or otherwise secured in the scaffold legs or adjustment screws (1926.452(w)(9)).
- Lock casters and wheels with positive wheel and/or wheel and swivel locks, or equivalent means, while the scaffold is used in a stationary manner (1926.452(w)(2)).

Moving

- Apply manual force as close to the base as practicable, and not more than 5 feet above the supporting surface (1926.452(w)(3)).
- Stabilize the scaffold to prevent tipping during movement, and make each employee on the scaffold aware before it is moved (1926.452(w)(5), (10)).
- Forklifts, trucks, similar vehicles, or add-on motors may not be used to propel a scaffold unless it is designed for that propulsion (1926.452(w)(4)).

Employees may not ride on a scaffold being moved unless all of these conditions exist (1926.452(w)(6)):

- The surface is within 3 degrees of level and free of pits, holes, and obstructions.
- The height to base width ratio during movement is 2:1 or less, unless the scaffold is designed and built to meet or exceed nationally recognized stability test requirements.
- Outrigger frames, when used, are installed on both sides.
- When power systems are used, the propelling force is applied directly to the wheels and speed does not exceed 1 foot per second.
- No employee is on any part of the scaffold that extends outward beyond the wheels, casters, or other supports.

Can anyone share experiences moving mobile scaffolds that we should discuss? Thank you for participating. Please sign the sign-in form before leaving so your attendance is recorded. Signatures record attendance only, not certification or completion of required training.

General safety information only. This material does not replace required training, a site-specific hazard assessment, or professional safety advice. Before using it, verify current requirements with OSHA (osha.gov) and your employer. Follow applicable regulations, equipment manufacturers' instructions, and your employer's safety procedures.

Sources: OSHA 29 CFR 1926.452(w)(1)-(10); 1926.450(b). Discussion aid.

Free toolbox talk from Toolboxtalk.com. Do not sell, modify, or use on commercial websites for profit.

TOOLBOX TALK TRAINING SIGN-IN FORM

Topic discussed: Scaffold Safety - Mobile Scaffolds: Manually Moved Scaffolds

Company Name:_____ Date:_____

Discussion led by:_____

PRINT NAME	SIGNATURE
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Signatures record attendance only, not certification or completion of required training.

General safety information only. This material does not replace required training, a site-specific hazard assessment, or professional safety advice. Before using it, verify current requirements with OSHA (osha.gov) and your employer. Follow applicable regulations, equipment manufacturers' instructions, and your employer's safety procedures.

Free toolbox talk from Toolboxtalk.com. Do not sell, modify, or use on commercial websites for profit.