



O. Heap & Son (Derby) Limited

Risk Assessment for



Mobile Scaffold Towers

This Risk Assessment covers the safe use of scaffold towers at client sites.

Note: our current tower is out of use; in the event that a tower is required this should be hired in from our nominated equipment hire company, Total Hire.

Reference number	MD080/.2026
Assessor	Ioan Ilie
Date completed	27/04/26
Review Schedule	Annually
Review date	27/04/27
Approved date	27/04/26
Approved by	Ioan Ilie
Affected site(s)	All sites where scaffold tower may be required








Hazards and controls











 Hazard: Overhead Cables.		
Danger of electric shock through contact or flashover.		
Who can be harmed/how?	Controls in place	Risk rating
<p>Contractors, Members of the Public, Operators</p> <p>Contact with a source of electricity may lead to electrocution causing cardiac arrest, death and severe burns.</p>	<p>Isolate power</p> <p>Can the Electrical Supply to the power line be isolated At Mains/Breaker by contacting the owner of the power line. or cutting internal power from a fuse board. The providers of external power line services may be distinguished from a services map.</p> <p>Overhead services checked</p> <p>A survey is carried to identify the presence of overhead services to ensure that they do not impede safe lifting operations</p> <p>Power Line Exclusion Zone(s) Set Up</p> <p>Exclusion zones are set up around power lines signed & employees notified accordingly.</p> <p>Towers are not used in the vicinity of overhead power lines.</p> <p>Construction of any scaffolding structure must not be undertaken near any overhead power lines (i.e. no closer than 50 meters) unless a permit to work is in force.</p> <p>Workers trained on working near power lines</p> <p>Workers are trained and advised of appropriate distances from power lines and to follow information on local signage</p>	<p> Medium Risk: 18</p> <p>Likelihood: 2/9 Severity: 9/9</p>















Hazard: Use Of Mobile Scaffold By Unauthorised Person(s)









If left unattended and without supervision, the unauthorised use of the mobile tower may lead to falls from height or collapse of scaffold.








Who can be harmed/how?	Controls in place	Risk rating
<p>All Staff</p> <p>If left unattended and without supervision, the unauthorised use of the mobile tower may lead to falls from height or collapse of scaffold.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>  Authorised Users Only Authorised Users Only <li>  Barriers In Place To Prevent Unauthorised Access Barriers In Place To Prevent Unauthorised Access <li>  CCTV installed CCTV installed for training, supervision & security purposes <li>  Controlled Entry To Authorised Persons Controls are in place so only authorised persons can enter the area <li> <p>Remove Access Ladders Or Fit Ladder Guards To The Access Ladders</p>  Access ladders to tower scaffolds must have the ladder removed or be fitted with ladder guards to prevent unauthorised access and use of the scaffold if the scaffold remains in position whilst unattended. <li>  Warning & Information Signage Displayed Relevant warning & information signage displayed relative to the work activity, hazard & risks 	<div style="border: 1px solid orange; border-radius: 15px; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">  Medium Risk: 18 </div> <p>Likelihood: 2/9 Severity: 9/9</p>





 Hazard: Manual Handling.		
Tall, awkward & unwieldy loads that are difficult to lift, transport and handle.		
Who can be harmed/how?	Controls in place	Risk rating
<p>Operators</p> <p>May cause musculoskeletal injuries such as work-related upper limb and lower back disorders. Other injuries may be acute such as sprains and strains.</p>	<p>A Manual Handling Assessment Has Been Carried Out.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Manual handling risk assessments are slightly different to other assessments and require assessors to consider the following while considering the hazards, risks and control measures : - Task -Individual -Load - Environment  Avoid Any Unnecessary Manual Handling Unnecessary manual handling activities are avoided by the use of lifting equipment.  Manual Handling - Team Lifting Team lifting will be applied as required  Manual Handling - Trolley Truck Provided & Used Manual Handling - Trolley Truck Provided & Used  Manual Handling Training Given All relevant employees have received training on correct manual handling techniques  No Throwing of Materials/Items From The Scaffold Throwing of materials/items from the scaffold (a.k.a. "bombing") is prohibited  Protective Footwear Worn Whilst Manual Handling Suitable protective footwear is worn whilst carrying out manual handling activity.  Split Loads To Reduce The Manual Handling Risks Loads are split into lighter load weights to reduce manual handling risks 	<div style="border: 1px solid orange; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">  Medium Risk: 14 </div> <p>Likelihood: 2/9 Severity: 7/9</p>








 Hazard: People Movement (Risk Of Slips, Trips & Falls)		
Can occur if there is poor housekeeping within the workplace, also areas that are inadequately lit.		
Who can be harmed/how?	Controls in place	Risk rating
<p>Contractors, Members of the Public, Operators</p> <p>May cause broken bones, head and spinal injuries, strains, sprains and bruising.</p>	<p> All Staff Trained In Good Housekeeping Techniques All staff are trained in good housekeeping techniques & the standards expected in the workplace</p> <p> Equipment Suitably Contained. Scaffolding materials are not to be stored across public access areas.</p> <p>Exit Clear & Unobstructed  Exit & exit route is kept clear and unobstructed in the event of an emergency evacuation situation.</p> <p>Good Housekeeping Observed During The Task  Good housekeeping standards observed & maintained by operatives throughout the duration of the task</p> <p>Non-Slip Foot Protection Worn  Non-Slip Foot Protection supplied & worn to BS EN 20345 relevant to the work activity hazard</p> <p>Regular Housekeeping Inspections Are Carried Out  Regular housekeeping inspections are carried out in the workplace.</p>	<p> Medium Risk: 14</p> <p>Likelihood: 2/9 Severity: 7/9</p>

 Hazard: Work at Height (Risk Of Falling Tools/Materials)		
Due to un-secured items.		
Who can be harmed/how?	Controls in place	Risk rating
<p>All Staff, Contractors, Members of the Public</p> <p>May cause a fatality, head and spinal injuries, unconsciousness, broken bones and severe bruising.</p>	<p> Controlled Entry To Authorised Persons Controls are in place so only authorised persons can enter the area</p> <p>Employee trained in safe procedures Where there is likely to be debris falling, fans will be erected to protect third parties, or chutes or full enclosure will be used. All operatives working below overhead operations will wear safety helmets. Training and instruction must be provided to all operatives and supervisory staff involved in the use of lines and harnesses, and in inspection and assessment of PPE before use.</p> <p>Exclusion Zone Around Scaffold Area  Exclusion Zones Must Be Established With Barriers Around A Hazardous Drop Area On The Ground.</p>	<p> Medium Risk: 14</p> <p>Likelihood: 2/9 Severity: 7/9</p>

Who can be harmed/how?	Controls in place	Risk rating
	<p>Hard Hats are Provided and Worn  Hard hats are provided and worn by employees to protect them from falling objects.</p> <p>Movement of Scaffold Tower Controlled Never Move A Tower Whilst People Are On The Tower, Or  In Windy Conditions. Height of mobile towers to be reduced to below 4 metres by a competent PASMA trained employee before being moved.</p> <p>Procedure for carrying tools in place  Light tools are carried in a shoulder bag or holster attached to a belt so that both hands are free for climbing</p> <p>Suitable Guard Rails Provided & Used along with Brick Guards  Suitable Guard Rails Provided & Used along with Brick Guards to prevent stacked items on the scaffold from falling onto persons below.</p> <p>Supervision Provided For The Task  Supervision provided for the task</p> <p>Toe Boards Provided On The Working Platform  Toe Boards provided to prevent items falling from the working platform.</p> <p>Tool Tethers/Lanyards In Use  Tool tethers/lanyards are in use to prevent tools falling, whilst in use, onto critical areas</p> <p>Warning & Information Signage Displayed  Relevant warning & information signage displayed relative to the work activity, hazard & risks to inform persons that work at height activities are taking place.</p>	

 Hazard: Adverse Weather.		
Caution - lightning strikes, high winds/heavy rain, snow and ice.		
Who can be harmed/how?	Controls in place	Risk rating
<p>Contractors, Members of the Public, Operators, Visitors</p> <p>May increase the risk of scaffold collapse falls from height, slips, trips and falls, and health conditions associated with hot and cold environments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Mobile Scaffold Erected on Suitable Ground Mobile scaffolding erected on firm and suitable ground by trained and competent persons (e.g. PASMA)  Scaffold Inspected After Adverse Weather Scaffolding inspections will be carried out only by those trained and competent to do so and need to be carried out after adverse weather which has affected the stability of the scaffold structure  Thermal Comfort Provided In Cold Conditions (PPE) Thermal comfort provided to include appropriate gloves, jacket, trousers, boots as required  Weather Conditions Checked & Planned For Weather conditions are considered, planned for and suitable clothing and equipment are provided.  Work Is Postponed In Adverse Weather Conditions Work shall be postponed if weather conditions endanger health or safety 	<p> Low Risk: 9</p> <p>Likelihood: 1/9 Severity: 9/9</p>




 Hazard: Erection Activity (Risk of Collapse Of Scaffold)		
Incomplete, unstable, inadequately constructed/checked or subjected to adverse weather conditions.		
Who can be harmed/how?	Controls in place	Risk rating
<p>All Staff, Contractors, Members of the Public</p> <p>May cause multiple fatalities, head and spinal injuries, unconsciousness, broken bones and severe bruising.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Ensure Stability Of Mobile Scaffolds Ensure the tower is resting on firm, level ground with the locked castors or base plates properly supported. Never use bricks or building blocks to take the weight of any part of the tower. Stabilisers or outriggers are installed when required by the instruction manual and that a tower is never erected to a height above that recommended by the manufacturer.  Inspection of Scaffold Parts /section before Assembly Scaffold Parts/sections should be inspected before assembly and defective or damaged sections/parts should not be used and the scaffold tower should not be constructed until the part(s) are replaced. <p>Only Competent Persons Can Erect, Alter or</p>	<p> Low Risk: 9</p> <p>Likelihood: 1/9 Severity: 9/9</p>

Who can be harmed/how?	Controls in place	Risk rating
	<p> Dismantle Scaffolding Only personnel with sufficient information, instruction and training can carry out the task e.g. PASMA trained staff.</p> <p> Scaffold Assembly, Use & Dismantle Plan (AUD) The systematic process required to complete the activity denoting the steps in the sequential order</p> <p> Scaffold Conforms to BS EN1004 Tower Scaffolds must Conform to BS EN1004</p> <p> Scaffold Inspected Every 7 Days Scaffolding inspections will be carried out only by those trained and competent to do so</p> <p> Scaffold Loads Clearly Displayed Scaffold loading weight limits are displayed to control overload issues from personnel & materials</p> <p> Scaffold Regularly Inspected Scaffolding inspections will be carried out only by those trained and competent to do so</p> <p>Scaffold Use Procedures In Place & Training Given. Only authorised personnel will erect, modify or dismantle scaffolding towers. Towers should not be specified for use in the vicinity of overhead power lines. Specification for use of tower scaffolds will take into account the site ground conditions expected, height restrictions and obstructions.</p> <p> Work will be tendered for taking into account relevant standards. Towers will be erected by training personnel in accordance with relevant standards and manufacturer's instructions. Ladder access should be internal and fixed to the narrowest side. Maximum height to base ratios will not be exceeded: 3.5:1 inside use and 3:1 external use without ties.</p>	



Hazard: Repositioning Of Mobile Scaffold.

The repositioning of a mobile scaffold creates a risk of overturning if not carried out correctly


Who can be harmed/how?	Controls in place	Risk rating
<p>All Staff, Contractors, Members of the Public</p> <p>This may cause impact or crushing injuries such as death, head and spinal injuries, broken bones and severe bruising.</p>	<p> All Employees Receive Induction Training All employees receive induction training upon commencement with the Company and All staff are competent.</p> <p> Do Not Climb On The Outside Of The Scaffolding. Employees or other persons must not be allowed to climb up the outside of the scaffold</p>	<p> Low Risk: 9</p> <p>Likelihood: 1/9 Severity: 9/9</p>













Who can be harmed/how?	Controls in place	Risk rating
	<p>Extra Caution When Moving Tower scaffold.</p> <p>When moving a tower you should always: -Reduce the height to a maximum of 4m . - check that there are no power lines or other obstructions overhead. -check that the ground is firm, level and free from potholes -push or pull using manual effort from the base only</p> <p> Scaffold Assembly, Use & Dismantle Plan (AUD)</p> <p> The systematic process required to complete the activity denoting the steps in the sequential order</p> <p>Scaffold Tower set up on firm, level ground</p> <p> The Scaffold Tower must only be set up on firm, level ground with outriggers fully extended for the planned duty</p> <p>Tower Scaffold Outriggers</p> <p> Mobile scaffolding erected, positioned & used by trained and competent persons (e.g. PASMA). Scaffold outriggers must be correctly used and positioned as per manufacturers instructions.</p> <p>Work shall Be Postponed If Weather Conditions Endanger Health Or Safety.</p> <p>Ties will be used in exposed or windy conditions. All tower platforms will be fully boarded and fitted with toe boards and guardrails. Wheels will be braked or locked when the tower is in use. Personnel and materials will be removed before a tower is moved. Manufacturer's advices on maximum loadings will be adhered to. All scaffolding will be inspected on handover to or from other contractors. After alteration or adverse weather conditions scaffolds must be inspected by management. Towers over 2m in height must be inspected every seven days and the results entered into Form F91 Part 1 Section A. all scaffold inspections will be carried out by a competent person. Scaffolds will be checked regularly to ensure their correct use and that unauthorised adaptations have not been made. Persons erecting scaffolding must be adequately trained.</p> <p></p>	










Hazard: Work At Height.

Due to unstable platform/ladders.

Who can be harmed/how?	Controls in place	Risk rating
Contractors, Members of the Public, Operators, Visitors	"Through The Trap" (3T) Assembly Process Employed	 Low Risk: 9

Who can be harmed/how?	Controls in place	Risk rating
<p>May cause a fatality, head and spinal injuries, unconsciousness, broken bones and severe bruising.</p>	<p> Workers undertake the task from within the frame of the tower where there are guard rails to prevent persons or items falling from height.</p> <p>Advance Guardrail Systems (Scaffolding)</p> <p> Use of Advance Guardrail Systems (AGS) to reduce the risk of falls</p> <p>All operatives are competent and follow the safe system of work</p> <p> All operatives are trained, competent and follow the safe system of work</p> <p>Appropriate First Aid Provided</p> <p> Casualties treated by first aider until emergency help arrives</p> <p>Barriers In Place To Prevent Unauthorised Access</p> <p> Barriers In Place To Prevent Unauthorised Access</p> <p>E-Learning Training Undertaken</p> <p> Suitable e-Learning training is undertaken from the Atlas Platform such as working at height training and use of ladders.</p> <p>Emergency Plan/Procedures Are In Place</p> <p> An emergency rescue plan must be in place to which operatives onsite must be familiar with the procedure. The plan should not rely on the emergency services.</p> <p>Employee Medically Fit To Work At Height</p> <p> Employees have been medically passed fit (at the required intervals) to work at height</p> <p>Fall Arrest/Restraint Equipment Training Given</p> <p> All users are suitably trained and competent in the use of Personal Fall Protection Systems.</p> <p>First Aid Needs Assessment Carried Out</p> <p> Appropriate first aid facilities & personnel provided as a result of a First Aid Needs Assessment.</p> <p>Integral Access Ladders Provided.</p> <p> Acces ladders are provided with or built into the scaffold tower. These ladders should be checked as part of the scaffold inspection.</p> <p>Lifting equipment is thoroughly examined (LOLER)</p> <p> Lifting equipment is thoroughly examined in line with the statutory requirements & marked to confirm. Safety harnesses and accessories to receive a thorough examination every 6 months by a competent engineer.</p>	<p>Likelihood: 1/9 Severity: 9/9</p>

Who can be harmed/how?	Controls in place	Risk rating
	<p>Movement Of Mobile Towers Controlled Never Move A Tower Whilst People Are On The Tower, Or  In Windy Conditions. Height of mobile towers to be reduced to below 4 metres by a competent PASMA trained employee before being moved.</p> <p>No Lone Working Permitted At least two members of staff present at all times </p> <p>Only Authorised Employees Work At Height Only persons that have received adequate training are authorised to work at height </p> <p>Safety Harness Provided and Worn Safety Harness Provided, Worn, and anchored to suitable points. </p> <p>Scaffold Assembly, Use & Dismantle Plan (AUD) The systematic process required to complete the activity denoting the steps in the sequential order </p> <p>Scaffold Regularly Inspected Scaffolding inspections will be carried out only by those trained and competent to do so </p> <p>Scaffold use procedures in place & training given Safe Use of Scaffold Procedures in place & training given to those using working platforms. </p>	

Supporting documents



[Selecting and using a tower scaffold.pdf](#)

Assessor's signature: Ioan Ilie

Approved by signature: Ioan Ilie