



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

www.OSHA.gov

A-Z Index: [A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

Search OSHA



eTOOLS

eTools Home : Construction

[Users Guide](#) | [Glossary](#) | [Bibliography](#) | [Viewing / Printing Inst.](#) | [Credits](#)

OSHA CONSTRUCTION eTOOL

Electrical

Falls

Struck-By

Trenching

Scope

SH Program

Falls:

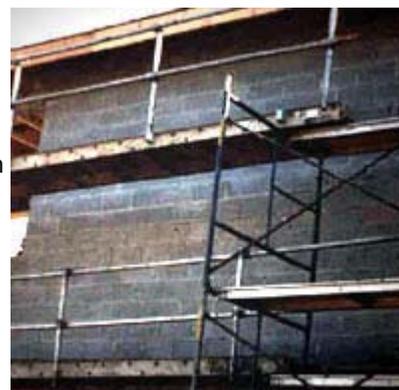
Improper Scaffold Construction

Am I In Danger?

Working with heavy equipment and building materials on the limited space of a scaffold is difficult. Without fall protection or safe access, it becomes hazardous. Falls from such improperly constructed scaffolds can result in injuries ranging from sprains to death.

How Do I Avoid Hazards?

- Construct all scaffolds according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Install guardrail systems along all open sides and ends of platforms.
- Use at least one of the following for scaffolds more than 10 feet above a lower level:
 - [Guardrail Systems](#)
 - [Personal Fall Arrest Systems](#)
- Provide safe access to scaffold platforms [*For additional information, see [Scaffold Access](#)*].
- Do not use climb cross-bracing as a means of access.



This scaffold is not in compliance with the regulations because it mixes several different scaffold components in the same scaffold. The guardrails are also improper because they are not complete.



[Improper Guardrails on Tubular Welded-Frame Scaffolds](#)



Additional Information:

- [29 CFR 1926 Subpart L](#), Scaffolds. OSHA Standard.
 - [1926.451](#), General requirements
 - [1926.451\(g\)\(1\)](#)
- [Scaffolding](#). OSHA eTool.
- [Worker Deaths by Falls: A Summary of Surveillance Findings and Investigative Case](#)

[Reports](#). US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Publication 2000-116, (2000, September).

eTools Home : [Construction](#)

[Users Guide](#) | [Glossary](#) | [Bibliography](#) | [Viewing / Printing Inst.](#) | [Credits](#)

 [Back to Top](#)

www.osha.gov

www.dol.gov

[Contact Us](#) | [Freedom of Information Act](#) | [Customer Survey](#)
[Privacy and Security Statement](#) | [Disclaimers](#)

Occupational Safety & Health Administrations
200 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20210

Page last updated: 03/03/2009