

Suspended Scaffold Safety

Suspended scaffolds are essential for NCC T&D's maintenance and construction activities. These temporary elevated platforms require strict safety measures due to their unique risks, especially around electrical infrastructure.

Types of Suspended Scaffolds

- Two-Point Suspended Scaffolds (Swing Stages):
 - Most commonly used type
 - Suspended by two ropes from overhead support
 - Equipped with vertical movement capability
 - Ideal for substation wall work
- Single-Point Suspended Scaffolds (Boatswain Chairs):
 - Single rope suspension system
 - Minimum 600mm length, 250mm width
 - 9mm wire rope required for hot work
 - Used for limited access areas
- Multi-Point Suspended Platforms:
 - Over 750mm width
 - Minimum three support points
 - Engineer-designed systems
 - Used for complex installations

Structural Requirements

All suspended scaffolds must:

- Support 4x maximum intended load
- Maintain 75mm maximum wall clearance
- Use certified counterweight systems
- Have secondary safety systems
- Include proper tie-back mechanisms
- Meet engineering design criteria
- Have documented load calculations

NCC T&D Project Leaders Key Responsibilities

Project Leaders must ensure:

- Professional engineer review when required
- Verification of design documentation
- Implementation of safety systems
- Proper worker training
- Regular equipment inspection
- Emergency rescue planning
- Coordination with electrical operations

Worker Responsibilities

Workers must:

- Inspect all components before use
- Use required fall protection
- Report any defects immediately
- Follow safe work procedures
- Maintain proper communication
- Know emergency procedures
- Use appropriate PPE

Special Considerations for Electrical Work

- Maintain minimum approach distances
- Use non-conductive materials where required
- Implement proper grounding
- Monitor weather conditions
- Coordinate with live equipment
- Have emergency shutdown procedures
- Use appropriate insulation methods

Inspection Requirements

Daily checks of:

- Support systems and connections
- Wire ropes and attachments
- Hoisting mechanisms
- Fall protection equipment
- Platform integrity
- Emergency systems
- Weather conditions

Documentation Requirements

Maintain records of:

- Engineering designs
- Load calculations
- Inspection reports
- Worker certifications
- Maintenance records
- Incident reports
- Modification approvals

Key Takeaways

- Engineering design is critical
- Regular inspection is mandatory
- Fall protection is required
- Worker training is essential
- Emergency planning is crucial
- Documentation must be maintained
- Electrical hazards require special attention

For more information, refer to NCC T&D's relevant IMS procedures or consult our HSE Department for expert guidance and training resources.

