

# Toolbox Talk

## Scaffolding



Scaffolding should be monitored by a competent person, to ensure it will have adequate strength, rigidity and stability while it is erected, used and dismantled. The person erecting the scaffolding should be competent for the type of scaffolding work they are undertaking and should have received appropriate training relevant to the type and complexity of scaffolding they are working on.

### The Planning Process:

Important things to take into consideration before erecting your scaffolding:

- Site location
- period of time the scaffold is required to be in place
- intended use
- height and length and any critical dimensions which may affect the scaffold
- maximum working loads to be imposed and maximum number of people using the scaffold at any one time
- type of access onto the scaffold eg staircase, ladder bay, external ladders
- whether there is a requirement for sheeting, netting or brickguards
- any specific requirements or provisions eg pedestrian walkway, restriction on tie locations, inclusion/provision for mechanical handling plant eg hoist)
- nature of the ground conditions or supporting structure
- information on the structure/building the scaffold will be erected against together with any relevant dimensions and drawings
- any restrictions that may affect the erection, alteration or dismantling process.

### Types of Scaffolding:

Choosing the most appropriate form of scaffold structure is an important stage in the project that you are undertaking.

- Supported scaffolding
- suspended scaffolding
- aerial lifts
- rolling scaffolding
- mobile scaffolding.

### Health and Safety:

- It must be erected by a competent person.
- It must have a thorough inspection on a daily basis.
- If you are unsure about the scaffolding do not use it.
- The scaffold must display an inspection tag, Scafftag.

### Scaffolding Inspection:

It is the scaffold users/hirers responsibility to ensure that all scaffolding has been inspected as follows:

- Following installation/before first use.
- At an interval of no more than every 7 days thereafter.
- Following any circumstances liable to jeopardise the safety of the installation eg high winds.

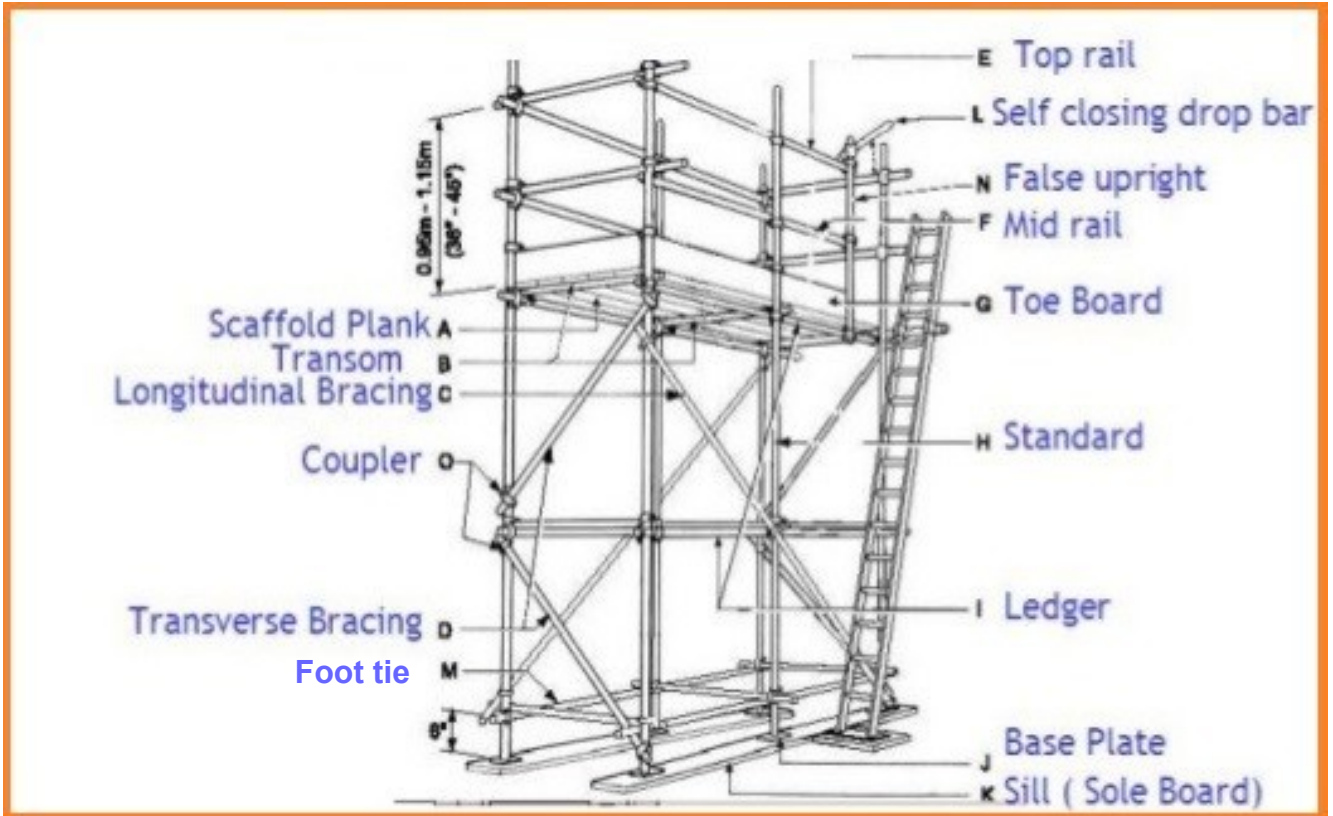
All scaffolding inspection should be carried out by a competent person whose combination of knowledge, training and experience is appropriate for the type and complexity of the scaffold. The Scafftag must be signed after each inspection.

### As a volunteer you should:

- Be alert to unsafe scaffolding e.g. missing boards and guardrails and report them.
- Look for signs and tags that the scaffolding is safe to use.
- Do not alter scaffolding or move boards unless you have been told to do so by a competent authorised person.
- Always ensure that access ladders are secured properly.

# Toolbox Talk

## Scaffolding (contd)



### Scaffolding terminology

Typical Scafftag in use;

