§1926.450 - SUBPART L
SCAFFOLDS
§1926.450 - SUBPART L

Purpose

- Updates the existing standard to include types of scaffolds such as catenary and step and trestle.
- Allows flexibility in the use of fall protection systems to protect employees.
- Simplifies language, eliminates duplicative, outdated provisions, consolidates overlapping requirements.
- Allows employers compliance flexibility.
Organization of Standard

- 1926.450 Scope, application and definitions applicable to this subpart
- 1926.451 General requirements
- 1926.452 Additional requirements applicable to specific types of scaffolds
- 1926.453 Aerial lifts
- 1926.454 Training
- Appendix A - Scaffold Specifications

- Appendix B -(Reserved) Criteria for Determining the Feasibility of Providing Safe Access and Fall Protection for Scaffold Erectors and Dismantlers
- Appendix C - List of National Consensus Standards
- Appendix D - List of Training Topics for Scaffold Erectors and Dismantlers
- Appendix E - Drawings and Illustrations
§1926.450 - SUBPART L
Effective Dates

- Effective on November 29, 1996, except for §1926.453(a)(2).

- Paragraphs (e)(9) and (g)(2) of §1926.451, which address safe access and fall protection for employees erecting and dismantling supported scaffolds is effective September 2, 1997.
§1926.450 - SUBPART L

**Major issues resolved:**

- 10 foot trigger height for fall protection on scaffolds.
- 38 inch minimum guardrail height where guardrail is primary fall protection.
- 36 inch minimum guardrail height where fall arrest systems are primary fall protection.
Major issues resolved:

- Requires, after 1 year, that the competent person determines feasibility of providing fall protection for built-up scaffold erectors and dismantlers.

- Provides for use of crossbracing as guardrail, under certain conditions, in lieu of either a midrail or a toprail.
§1926.450 Scope, Application

- Covers all scaffolds used in workplaces.
- Does not apply to crane or derrick suspended personnel platforms, which are covered by §1926.550(g).
- Aerial lifts are covered §1926.453.
§1926.451 General Requirements For All Scaffolds

● (a) Capacity
  – support own weight and 4 X the maximum intended load.
  – suspension rope & hardware, 6 X the maximum intended load.
  – stall load of scaffold hoist not to exceed 3 times its rated load.
  – designed by a qualified person and built and loaded to design.
§1926.451 General Requirements
For All Scaffolds (con’t)

● (b) Scaffold platform construction
  – Platforms fully planked or decked
    ● no more than 1” gaps
    ● maximum openings of 9½”
  – scaffold platforms and walkways 18” wide
  – ladder jack, top plate bracket, roof bracket, and pump jack scaffold at least 12” wide
  – guardrails and/or personal fall arrest systems for platforms and runways not 18” wide
§1926.451  General Requirements
For All Scaffolds (con’t)

● (b) Scaffold platform construction (con’t)
  - Front edge of all platforms
    ● No more than 14” from the face of the work
    ● 3” from the face for outrigger scaffolds
    ● 18” from the face for plastering and lathing operations
  - Platforms 10’ and less to extend at least 6” but not more than 12” past support unless designed and installed and/or guarded properly
  - Platforms greater than 10’ no more than 18” past support unless designed and installed and/or guarded properly
§1926.451 General Requirements For All Scaffolds (con’t)

● (b) Scaffold platform construction (con’t)
  – Each abutted end of plank shall rest on a separate support surface.
  – Overlap platforms not less than 12” only over supports, unless restrained to prevent movement.
  – On direction changes, any platform on a bearer at other than a right angle shall be laid first, and platforms which rest at right angles over the same bearer laid second.
§1926.451 General Requirements
For All Scaffolds (con’t)

- (b) Scaffold Platform Construction (con’t)
  - No paint on wood platforms, except edges that may be marked for identification
  - Fully planked between front upright and guardrail support
  - No mixed scaffold components used unless compatible and integrity maintained
  - No modification of mixed scaffold components unless a competent person approves
  - No components of dissimilar metals unless approved by competent person
§1926.451 General Requirements

(c) Criteria for supported scaffolds

» Higher than 4:1 ratio restrained from tipping by guys, ties, or equivalent.
» Guys, ties, installed per recommendations or at the closest horizontal member to the 4:1 height
» Bear on adequate foundations
» Plumbed and braced
§1926.451 General Requirements (con’t)

(d) Criteria for Suspension Scaffolds

- Support devices, 4 X the imposed load.
- Outrigger beams; metal or equal and restrained
- Stabilize outrigger beams
- Direct connections evaluated by competent person

- Counterweights
- Construction requirements for outrigger beams
- Minimum lengths for suspension ropes on hoists
- No repaired wire rope
§1926.451 General Requirements (con’t)

(d) Criteria for Suspension Scaffolds (con’t)

- Proper sized eye splice thimbles required
- Ropes inspected by competent person
- No swaged attachments unless approved
- No gasoline powered equipment
- Automatic brakes
- Positive crank force to descend
- Tied to prevent swaying
- Safety devices not used as platforms
§1926.451 General Requirements (con’t)

(e) Access

- Must have safe access
- No access by cross braces
- Bottom rung not more than 24” high
- Rest platforms at 35’ intervals
- Sets access requirements for erectors and dismantlers (September 2, 1997)
- Can use some end frames for access
§1926.451  General Requirements (con’t)

(f) Use

- Never overload
- No shore or lean-to scaffolds
- Inspected by competent person

- Immediately removed or repaired, braced if found substandard
- No horizontal movement with employees unless approved
- Maintain clearance near powerlines
§1926.451 General Requirements (con’t)

(f) Use (con’t)

- Erected, moved, dismantled or altered only under supervision of competent person
- No work on snow, ice covered platforms
- Tag lines on swinging loads
- Protect suspension ropes from heat, acid
- No work during storms or high winds
(g) Fall protection (PFAS or guardrails)
  » Required at 10 foot
  » PFAS in lieu of guardrails on some scaffolds
  » PFAS & guardrails on suspension scaffolds
  » PFAS required for erectors and dismantlers were feasible after September 2, 1997.
  » Toprails after 1-1-2000, 38” to 45” high
  » Use crossbracing in lieu of top or midrails in some cases
§1926.451  General Requirements (con’t)

● (h) falling object protection
  – Hardhats required
  – Protect employees below
  – Barricades to exclude working below
  – Toe boards at edges of platforms
  – Allows panels and screens
  – Canopies allowed
Section 1926.454
Training Requirements

● Five training areas
  - Nature of electrical, fall, and falling object hazards
  - Correct procedures for protection of above
  - Proper use the scaffold
  - Load capacities of scaffolds
  - Requirements of Subpart L

● Retraining as necessary to restore proficiency