**Worksite Safety 06: OSHA Scaffolds (RV-10454) – 1 hour course**

**Course Description**

An estimated 2.3 million construction workers, or 65 percent of the construction industry, work on scaffolds frequently. In 1996, when OSHA issued the revised Scaffold Standard for construction, the agency estimated that by protecting these millions of workers from scaffold falls, 4,500 injuries and 50 deaths from scaffold-related accidents would be prevented every year. This module will familiarize you with the facts you need to know to be in compliance with OSHA 1926.451, Subpart L, and keep yourself safe during scaffold work.

**Course Objectives**

Upon completion of the lesson, participants will be able to:

* Name the three types of scaffolds and describe their main characteristics
* List at least three of the four main hazards to which persons working on a scaffold are exposed, and describe at least one method of hazard prevention for each of the hazards.
* Identify the three essential elements of safe scaffold construction, and give at least three examples of incorporating each of the elements.

**Course Outline**

**Introduction – 10 minutes**

By definition a scaffold is a temporary, elevated platform that construction workers use for working safely at elevations. The OSHA standard - 1926.451 Subpart L - sets performance-based criteria to protect employees from scaffold-related hazards such as falls, falling objects, structural instability, electrocution, or overloading.

* Course Overview

**Scaffold Construction – 5 minutes**

The first step in building a scaffold includes a site inspection to: Identify site-specific hazards not identified in the preplanning stage, and Ensure that the specific characteristics of the site are considered in the scaffold design.

* Platform Ends

**Safe Use of Scaffolds – 5 minutes**

The employer shall have each employee who performs work while on a scaffold trained by a person qualified in the subject matter to recognize the hazards associated with the type of scaffold being used and to understand the procedures to control or minimize those hazards.

* Examples of Scaffolding Rules

**Removing Scaffolds – 5 minutes**

Dismantling is the reverse of the building process with the same potential exposures to falls, electrocution, and other hazards. All work should be conducted from the top down.

**Types of Scaffolding – 15 minutes**

There are three basic types of scaffolds, from which many other formulations are derived. The three main scaffold types are supported scaffolds, suspended scaffolds, and aerial lifts.

* Fabricated Metal Frame Scaffolding
* Tube and Coupler Scaffold
* System Scaffold
* Suspended Scaffold
* Pump Jack Scaffold
* Ladder Jack Scaffold
* Pole or Wood Pole Scaffold

**Case Studies – 5 minutes**

The NIOSH Fatal Accident Circumstances and Epidemiology (FACE) Program began investigating fall-related fatalities among workers in October 1988. Their findings included five case reports of falls from suspension scaffolds that resulted in the deaths of six workers between October or 1988 and November of 1989. A look at the facts from three of cases is done in this section.

* Case #1
* Case #2
* Case #3
* Conclusions

**Scaffold Fall Protection – 10 minutes**

Falls from scaffolding most often occur when employees are climbing onto or off of a scaffold, when working on an unguarded scaffold platform, or when a scaffold platform or one of its planks breaks..

* What Fall Protection Will I Need for Scaffold Work?
* The Cold, Hard Facts
* Overhead Power Lines

**Conclusion – 5 minutes**

Scaffolds have provided workers with an ingenious way to work on things when they otherwise wouldn’t be able to get there from here.” However, as you’ve learned in this course, proper scaffolding is an art that takes practice, training and discipline, not just a “makeshift” climbing mechanism..

* Fact Sheet
* Glossary