Non-Stop SCAFFOLDING

1314 Hoadley Street • Shreveport, LA 71104
Phone: 318-222-0702 • 800-845-0845
Fax: 318-222-0707
nonstopscaffolding.com

November 14, 2011

SAFETY FAQ

Non-Stop Scaffolding is designed and built to meet or exceed all applicable OSHA standards for steel scaffolding for masonry construction. Non-Stop Scaffolding exceeds the ANSI A10.8 (2011) Scaffold Standard; Section 24; Adjustable Scaffolding, which is the standard currently enforced by OSHA. Non-Stop is also approved by the Ontario Ministry of Labour and other Canadian provinces when used according to the Assembly and Use Manual. Erection and use of the scaffolding to meet those standards is the responsibility of the contractor. Non-Stop Scaffolding provides detailed Assembly and Use Manuals for job site use. The following points of information answer the most-asked questions:

RAISING THE SCAFFOLD

As per our Assembly and Use Manual, start at one end of the scaffold and crank each winch about 10 turns. Continuously check to be sure that the planks maintain their required lap over the center of their supports. Each time this process is completed, the scaffold will be raised about 8". The bricklayers and laborers can continue to work while the scaffold is being raised. If a winch ever becomes hard to crank, STOP AND FIND OUT WHY. Usually a level, or a piece of material, has become caught under a tower rung or an x-brace.

LOWERING THE SCAFFOLD

Reverse the winch by continuously holding up the anti-reverse dog as the winch is reversed. DO NOT remove, or attempt to defeat the anti-reverse dog. Attempting to free-spin the winch handle is dangerous and can cause damage not covered by the Lifetime Warranty. Before shifting gears, the load must be removed from the winch by lowering the platform onto the safety catch.

STRAIGHT BRACES

The scaffolding is set up in independent pairs of towers to yield a braced bay, then an open bay, a braced bay, then an open bay, and so on. The pairs should be connected together with a straight brace at the bottom of the open bays. For scaffolds over 36 feet high, an adjustable straight brace is installed in the open bay every 36 feet of height, after the work platform passes the 36-foot increments. Adjustable straight braces are not required on towers less than 37 feet high.

TYING THE SCAFFOLD TO THE BUILDING

The need for, and location of, wall ties is determined by the height of the work platform, not the tower height. The scaffold is tied in as the working platform passes 20' to 26' vertical increments. The actual tower structure may be up to 45' high free-standing because there is no load at that height to cause the scaffold to tip over as there could be with conventional frames. We recommend that no more than 45' of vertical tower sections be installed above the working platform unless they are secured to the building every 45' vertically, and every 14' horizontally. When tying to the building structure, the structure must be capable of supporting four times the intended load. Use Non-Stop's tie-in bracket or equivalent means. For more information, request or download the Tie-In Requirements document.

MAXIMUM WORKING HEIGHT

The maximum working height is 552 feet. Unlike conventional scaffolding which requires special engineering, no special engineering, or drawings, are required for Non-Stop structures up to 270 feet high. Anything higher than that simply requires our review of the job site lay-out. Non-Stop is "pre-engineered" up to the maximum height.

LOAD CAPACITY

Full pallets of materials up to 4,000 pounds may be landed on any part of the material platform. The ultimate load capacity of a braced pair of towers is over 33,000 pounds. Therefore, assuming average 3000-pound pallets, the user

is working with an 11:1 structural safety factor. The material landing and stocking platform is rated heavy duty. In all cases, do not exceed the maximum allowable capacity of the planks for the span used.

WINCH CABLES
The winch cables are 1/4" 7x19 (7 strands of 19 wires) galvanized aircraft cables. The safe working load is 5000 pounds per pair of towers with a 6:1 safety factor. At times, a spot in a cable will become flattened due to cross-wrapping. This is not unusual because galvanized aircraft cable is much more flexible than plain steel cable. A flat spot will not reduce the load-carrying ability of the cable. In this application, a flat spot is only a dimensional, rather than a structural, imperfection. Replace a cable only if it is flattened to less than one-half of its original diameter, or if it contains three or more broken wires in any one strand. Use only genuine Non-Stop cables. Plain steel cables will rust and are not approved for this application.

PLANKING
Non-Stop Scaffolding is rated heavy-duty. Standard 2x10 scaffold planks 9' or 16' long are recommended. In all cases, do not exceed the maximum load for the span used.
All plank ends must extend 6 to 12 inches past the center of the support, except where restrained, such as cut-boards. Continuously check to be sure that planks are correctly lapped over their supports, and each other, as required. Cleat the planks only where longitudinal sliding is deemed likely. Do not create trip hazards when cleating. Do not tie the boards down with tie wire, as cranking the scaffold continuously flexes the boards counter to plank suppliers' recommendations.

CUT PLANKS
The cut planks between towers (set on the standard 7-foot spacing) are 80.5 inches long. In bays that are greater than or less than 7 feet, special length cut boards must be used. Cut boards must have no more than 1 inch of longitudinal "play" between the end stops.

PLATFORM X-BRACE OPENING
As part of the normal functioning of all elevating scaffolding, the x-braces pass through the work platform as the scaffolding is raised and lowered on the tower. To allow this, a 10" opening is built into the work platform. This opening is permitted under OSHA and ANSI standards. In the ANSI A10.8 (2011) scaffold standards, this slot is specifically addressed. If desired, the width of the opening can be reduced to 6" if 12" wide scaffold-grade cut-boards are used. We do not recommend trying to temporarily fill the opening when a brace is not in it. Damage invariably results.

MUD SILLS
Where required, use the same mud sills as used for conventional frame scaffolding.

TOWER SPACING
Normally, Non-Stop is set up on 7-foot centers down the length of a wall. Some wall configurations call for a shorter or longer spacing. We have seen towers set as close as 2 feet, and as far apart as 10 feet. The plank length will have to be adjusted to meet planking requirements. In all cases, do not exceed the maximum allowable capacity of the planks for the span used.

X-BRACES
X-braces must be installed at the very bottom and very top of braced pairs. It is allowable to skip one x-brace, but not two. For example, a 45' high tower with every other x-brace installed is permissible as long as the topmost and bottommost braces are in place. The Assembly and Use Manual drawings show almost all braces in place, but that is not mandatory. X-braces may be used if bent as long as they are not buckled or torn at the bend. X-braces may be straightened if bent, as long as no heat is applied, and the straightening does not result in fracture.

TYING OFF
Workers may tie off to the scaffold on any tower rung.

For any additional information or clarification please call 1-800-845-0845.