

	WESTERN MILLCRAFT INC. 12506 – 128 STREET EDMONTON, AB, T5L 1C8	Effective Date: 1 OCTOBER, 2011	Revised by: JFK
	OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY MANUAL COMPANY RULES AND REGULATIONS SCAFFOLDING	Page 1 of 1	HSE: 7.7 Revision: 00

SCAFFOLDING:

Scaffolding enables workers to reach areas that would otherwise be inaccessible; however, it can become a workplace hazard if not maintained and used properly. Regardless of whether your scaffolding is a simple set-up or quite complex, this guide will give you some basic maintenance requirements.

KEEP LUBRICATED:

Part of the proper maintenance of your metal or aluminum scaffolding includes keeping the parts lubricated. This is especially true if your set-up includes crossbar pieces. Keeping the parts well-oiled will prevent rust from occurring. Using regular machine oil will be sufficient.

CLEAN REGULARLY:

You will need to keep your scaffolding clean in order to preserve its safety and extend its life, no matter how simple or extravagant your set-up is. If you get a lot of use out of your scaffolding, do a wipe down after each use.

Due to the nature of the equipment it would be unreasonable to try to keep it sparkling clean but you'll want to prevent the buildup of dirt and other substances. Do not use a pressure washer on your scaffolding if it is metal or aluminum unless you plan to wipe it down thoroughly afterward. Any kind of spray washing will cause rusting: it can also cause rotting of any wooden plank boards. Using a rag to wipe down the exposed parts of the scaffolding will work great.

REPAIR IMMEDIATELY:

Prompt repair of any broken or missing parts is absolutely vital in the maintenance of your scaffolding. From plank boards, to piping, to bolts; every piece must be in good repair. If you continue to work on your scaffolding while it is in disrepair, you are putting your life in danger, particularly the higher your scaffolding goes.

Making a habit or policy of checking the scaffolding after each use is good practice. Immediately replace any missing bolts. Repair or replace any planks that are soft, bent, or broken. Replace any piping that is bent. Use crossbars where appropriate. Proper upkeep will increase the longevity of your scaffolding and will increase safety in the workplace.

STORE PROPERLY:

Your scaffolding must be stored a manner that keeps the unit safe for future use. To prevent damage from the elements keep the scaffolding under cover when not in use. Exposure to excessive rain will cause rusting and wood rot, which over time is costly to fix and causes preventable safety issues. Storing the scaffolding under cover will also prevent others from climbing on it, which would be a safety hazard and liability for you.

FOLLOW LOCAL ORDINANCES:

Educate yourself as to state, city and county ordinances for workplace equipment that must be adhered to. Plan to research these ordinances and follow them exactly to avoid the cost of fines and other issues. Be sure to have any required permits before using your scaffolding.

The Information in this policy does not take precedence over the OH&S Act, Regulation, Codes, or applicable Government Legislation