



03 2016

# Scaffold Event

## What do you think happened?





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# What do you think went wrong?





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## Where did it go wrong?

The scaffold that overturned was not a standard scaffold design as per TG20:08.

A site specific design should have been in place for this scaffold.

The drawing provided contained very little detail.

The design provided did not resemble the scaffolding that was erected on site.

There is general bad practice throughout the construction of the scaffold.

Without the kentledge in place there was the potential for the scaffolding to go over due to windy conditions.

Debris netting was installed at the request of the roofing contractors and scaffolder did not review the additional loading to see if the scaffold design was capable of taking the additional loads that could be imposed with wind.

The weather conditions would have had the potential to effect the stability of the scaffold.



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## Was the scaffold build ok?

- There should have been sole pads under every standard inside and outside. The size of these sole pads should have been 225 by 450.
- The distance between the standards are too long and there should have been more standards in the scaffolding.
- There should have been a locking lift at the base of the standards. This would have provided more stability, added more weight to the scaffold and would have prevented the spread of the standards.
- There is no ledger bracing in any of the scaffolding. This should have been fixed on every other standard.
- There is inadequate face bracing on the scaffolding.
- Transoms should have been installed into that lift at every 1.2m centres and there should have also been extra transoms where the scaffolders have to butt the boards to give themselves a safe working platform.
- This clearly indicates the lack of transoms that the scaffolders have been working on dangerously over spanned scaffold boards.
- They have not been working to SG4:10.



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## What was the learning?

### **Planning**

Demonstrates the need for good planning

Design to be in place that has been checked

### **Implementation**

Scaffolding installed to the design

Scaffolding erected in accordance with SG 4:10 now SG4:15

Scaffolding handed over with sign off

### **Monitoring**

Scaffolding inspected as per requirements

Scaffolders not to alter scaffolding on instruction of other Contractors

If alterations required Design to be redone and checked

## TG 20:13 & SG 4:15



- Some excellent guidance available but management need to ensure it is followed and workers must erect scaffolding to the recognised standards.
- If the guidance and implementation of the TG20 and SG04 had been followed this event may have been prevented.

## Construction

### TG 20:13 Is it doing the job? & SG 4:15 Preventing Falls

Ray Johnson, Safety & Access Ltd



**Impact of TG20:13** - A new set of guidance, not just a revision. Far reaching changes, affecting most common scaffolds. Biggest impact on industry in years

**The new pack consists of** - Operational guide; Design guide; User Guide; E-guide – user-friendly software programme

**Principal Changes** - TG20 Compliance Sheets; Revolutionary new e-guide software

The Working at Height Regulations 2005 – Schedule 3 part 2 (7) require either structural calculations or conformity of design with a recognised standard configuration. The TG20:13 **Compliance Sheet** OR bespoke scaffold design satisfies these requirements.

The compliance sheet, included in the management guide, can be photocopied and is suitable for typical scaffolds up to a height of 16 metres. The compliance sheet remains valid for 5 years.

Ray demonstrated the software which logically leads you through each stage of the design process, continually changing the scaffold design according to the selections made. The purpose of the e-guide is to generate TG20 compliance sheets for recognised standard configurations which are exempt from bespoke design. Edge protection always needs design. There are no compliance sheets for edge protection.

The e-guide allows selection of wind exposure according to region and site topography and the season.