

Hazard Alert - Pump-Jack Scaffolding

The use of pump-jack scaffolding for exterior cladding and finishing applications is increasing throughout Newfoundland and Labrador.

Unsafe use of such scaffolding has recently resulted in one worker being seriously injured.

Recommended Precautions

- A pump-jack scaffold shall be designed, erected, and maintained in compliance with section 21 of ANSI Standard A10.8 -1988, the “American National Standard for Construction and Demolition Operations - Scaffolding - Safety Requirements”.
- All scaffolding must be setup and dismantled by, or under the direct supervision of, a qualified person.
- Pump-jack scaffolding made of metal shall not be more than 13.7 metres in height and it shall be braced every 4.6 metres, starting at its base.
- Pump-jack scaffolding that includes one or more supports made of wood shall not be more than 7.3 metres in height and it shall be braced every 3 metres, starting at its base.
- Pump-jack scaffolding shall:
 - Be used only as a light duty scaffold;
 - Not be used by more than 2 workers at one time; and
 - Have guardrails on all open sides per section 28 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations.
- Scaffolding shall be inspected daily before use and after any modification.
- Damaged scaffold components shall not be used.
- Scaffolding shall not be set up or used within 5.5 metres of a power line unless a written clearance is obtained from the power utility. Strict compliance with the utility's stipulations must be maintained at all times.