



Worksite: _____ Instructor: _____ Date/Time: _____

Topic C412: Ladder Jack Scaffolds

Introduction: Ladder jack scaffolds, as well as step, platform, and trestle ladder scaffolds, though generally used as temporary elevated work platforms, must meet the general requirements and OSHA regulations for scaffolds. Employees using ladder jack scaffolds also must follow the requirements for employee fall protection which apply to all scaffolding.

Following is OSHA information pertaining specifically to ladder jack scaffolds:

- Employees who perform work on a scaffold must be 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. The training shall include the following areas, as applicable:
 - The nature of any electrical hazards, fall hazards, and falling object hazards in the work area.
 - The correct procedures for dealing with electrical hazards and for erecting, maintaining, and disassembling the fall protection systems and falling object protection systems being used.
 - The proper use of the scaffold, and the proper handling of materials on the scaffold.
 - The maximum intended load and the load-carrying capacities of the scaffolds used.
 - Any other pertinent requirements for ladder jack scaffolds.
- Scaffolds must be designed by a qualified person, and must be constructed and loaded in accordance with that design.
- Ladder jack scaffold platforms may not exceed a height of 20 feet, and platforms must be at least 12 inches wide.
- The front edge of platforms must be within 14 inches from the face of the work, or 18 inches for plaster and lathing work.
- Each scaffold and scaffold component must be capable of supporting, without failure, its own weight, and at least 4 times the maximum intended load applied or transmitted to it.
- All ladders used to support ladder jack scaffolds must meet the OSHA Stairways and Ladders requirements.
- Job-made ladders may not be used to support ladder jack scaffolds.
- The ladder jack must be designed and constructed so that it will bear on the side rails and ladder rungs or on the ladder rungs alone. If the ladder jack bears on the rungs only, the bearing area must include a width of at least 10 inches (25.4 cm) on each rung.
- Ladders used to support ladder jacks must be placed, fastened, or equipped with devices to prevent slipping.
- Scaffold platforms may not be bridged to each other.
- Scaffold platforms must not be placed any higher than the second highest rung of the ladder supporting the platform.
- Ladder jacks with a height to base width (including outrigger supports, if used) ratio of more than four to one (4:1), must be restrained from tipping by guying, tying, bracing, or equivalent means.
- Ladder jack legs must bear on base plates and mud sills or other adequate firm foundation.

Ladders used to support ladder jacks must be placed, fastened, or equipped with devices to prevent slipping.

Fall protection: Because of the impracticality of using a guardrail system, an employee is generally required to use a personal fall arrest system with ladder jack scaffolds.

- Each employee on a scaffold working at elevation above a lower level must be protected from falling.
- Employees must be protected by use of personal fall arrest or guardrail systems meeting the OSHA requirements.
- Personal fall arrest systems used on scaffolds must be attached by lanyard to a vertical lifeline, horizontal lifeline, or suitable anchorage.

Conclusion: Because of the fall protection requirements for personnel working on scaffolds, any employer who has a frequent or regular need for scaffolds would be better served to use a regular manufactured scaffold system with guardrails. However, if a ladder jack scaffold system must be used, follow the above guidelines for safety.

Employee Attendance: (Names or signatures of personnel who are attending this meeting)

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_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
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These guidelines do not supersede local, state, or federal regulations and must not be construed as a substitute for, or legal interpretation of, any OSHA regulations.