

## SAFE WORK PROCEDURES TRESTLES



### SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1.

| Sequence                      | Identified hazards                          | Key processes to be followed  | Precautions / PPE required   |
|-------------------------------|---|---|--|
| 1. General precautions        | Design and construction                     | Trestle scaffolds must comply with AS 1892.1 <i>Portable ladders - Metal</i> and be load rated to at least 120 kg.<br>Scaffolds should have large sole plates and preferably have stake holes in plates.<br>Timber and metal scaffold planks must conform to AS 1577 <i>Scaffold planks</i> .<br>Planks must be at least 225 mm wide, made from or fitted with non-slip materials.  | Industrial trestles only are to be used.<br>Feet should have a non-slip surface.<br>Industrial planks only are to be used.<br>Planks should have 225 kg rating.  |
| 2. Use of trestles            | Overloading of trestles<br>Falls of persons | Trestle scaffolds should only be used for light duty work (painting, rendering, etc).<br>Ensure that trestles and planks are used in accordance with maker's instructions.<br>Set up trestles on even level surface, and support feet if placed on soft ground.<br>Ensure that trestles are stable and levelled before placing working planks.<br>Ensure that safe access is available to persons accessing working platform.<br>Ensure planks are fully supported, and perform all work between the trestles only.                               | Use scaffold for heavy duty tasks.<br>Ensure that trestles are opened fully.<br>Use sound packing to support legs.<br>Align trestles horizontally before use.<br>Do not stand on unsupported ends of planks when accessing or working.   |
| 3. Working platforms          | Falls of persons                            | Work platforms must be at least 450mm wide (i.e., double planks), and be capable of carrying any load which the type of work carried out may require.<br>Guard rails and toe boards must be provided for use at heights above 2 metres.   | See also SWP <i>Working at Heights</i> .<br>Secure planks to prevent opening.<br><b>Provide adequate fall protection.</b>  |
| 4. Brick layers trestles      | Instability of trestles                     | Ensure that supports are adequate for load and levelled to ensure stability.<br>Use only supplied pins to adjust height of adjustable trestle scaffold.<br>Ensure that outriggers are locked in place and properly supported on ground.<br>Place heavy loads over trestles when trestle scaffold is over one bay in length.   | Use sound packing to support legs.<br>Do not use nails or reinforcing bar.<br>Check stability of trestles before use.<br>Carry out all work between trestles.  |
| 5. Inspection and maintenance | Failure under load                          | Inspect trestles after use for wear and damage to hinges, pins, holes and feet.<br>Check all welds and crimps for cracks, distortion, separation or loose components.<br>Check for twisting by ensuring that all feet are firmly on ground when opened.<br>Store trestles in upright position and secure against falling.<br>Inspect planks (including rubber beads) for wear, cracks or damage.<br>Store planks supported off ground, and away from risk of falling objects.<br>Do not place or store other materials on stored scaffold planks. | Do not use faulty equipment – repair, rectify or replace load bearing items.<br>Ensure that sole plates are not bent.<br>Ensure adequate access to stored items.<br>Repair, rectify or replace faulty planks.<br>See also SWP <i>Scaffolding</i> .<br>Protect scaffold planks from damage. |