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General Safety Regulations, 1986

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1. Definitions

Key definitions include:

- "boatswain's chair" - suspended platform seat for supporting one person in an elevated position
- "building work" - as defined in the General Administrative Regulations
- "confined space" - enclosed, restricted or limited space where hazardous substances may accumulate or oxygen-deficient atmosphere may occur
- "fire resistance" - minimum period a building element or component will comply with stability, integrity, and insulation requirements when tested per SABS 0177: Part II
- "flammable liquid" - any liquid producing vapors that form explosive mixtures with air, including liquids with closed-cup flash-point below 55°C
- "high-risk substance" - listed in the Schedule to the General Administrative Regulations
- "putlog scaffold" - scaffold supported by a single row of standards and the structure being used
- "SABS 0177: Part II" - South African Bureau of Standards' code of practice for Fire Resistance Test For Building Elements, SABS 0177: Part II – 1981
- "scaffold" - temporary elevated platform and supporting structure for workers or materials
- "suspended scaffold" - working platform suspended from supports by one or more separate suspensions
- "trestle scaffold" - working platform supported on trestles, stepladders, tripods and similar supports

2. Personal safety equipment and facilities

(1) [Replaced by GAR, 1994 by Government Notice R. 17403 of 6 September, 1996]



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(2) Where the condition or situation in subregulation (1) cannot be safeguarded, employers or machinery users shall take steps to reduce risk as much as practicable and provide free safety equipment and facilities to ensure persons exposed to such conditions remain safe.

(3) Considering the hazard being countered, safety equipment and facilities shall include, as necessary: (a) Suitable goggles, spectacles, face shields, welding shields, visors, hard hats, protective helmets, caps, gloves, gauntlets, aprons, jackets, capes, sleeves, leggings, spats, gaiters, protective footwear, protective overalls, or similar equipment to prevent bodily injury (b) Waterproof clothing, high-visibility clothing, chemical-resistant clothing, low-temperature clothing, chain mail garments, waders, fire retardant or flame-proof clothing, ice-jackets, or similar safety equipment for protection against harm (c) Belts, harnesses, nets, fall arresters, life lines, safety hooks, or similar equipment for protection against falls (d) Mats, barriers, locking-out devices, safety signs, or similar facilities to prevent slipping, unsafe entry or unsafe conditions (e) Protective ointments, ear-muffs, ear-plugs, respirators, breathing apparatus, masks, air lines, hoods, helmets, or similar safety equipment for protection against harm (f) Suitable insulating material underfoot where persons work on metal, stone, concrete or similar floors (g) Generally, any safety equipment or facilities necessary for safety

(4) Employers or machinery users shall ensure safety equipment or facilities are not removed except for cleaning, repair, maintenance, modification, mending or replacement, and no person shall remove such items except for these purposes.

(5) Employers shall instruct employees in proper use, maintenance and limitations of safety equipment and facilities.

(6) Employers shall not require or permit employees to work without using required safety equipment or facilities.

(7) This regulation doesn't derogate from specific regulations prescribing specific safety equipment or facilities.

2A. Intoxication

(1) Subject to subregulation (3), employers or users shall not permit any person who appears intoxicated to enter or remain at workplaces.

(2) Subject to subregulation (3), no person at a workplace shall be under the influence of, possess, partake of, or offer others intoxicating liquor or drugs.

(3) Employers or users may allow persons taking medicines to perform workplace duties only if the medicines' side effects don't threaten health or safety of the person or others.

2B. Display of substituted notices and signs



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If regulations prescribe particular notices or signs, employers or users may instead display corresponding symbolic signs from incorporated safety standards, which shall be deemed compliant.

2C. Admittance of persons

(1) Subject to section 8 of the Act, employers or users shall not permit persons to enter workplaces where their health or safety is at risk, except with express or implied permission and subject to conditions. This permission requirement doesn't apply to persons legally entitled to enter.

(2) Employers or users may, if necessary for health and safety, post notices at workplace entrances prohibiting unauthorized entry, and no person shall enter or remain without permission.

3. First aid, emergency equipment and procedures

(1) Employers shall take reasonable steps to ensure prompt first aid treatment for workplace injuries or emergencies.

(2) Where more than five employees work at a workplace, employers shall provide first aid boxes at or near the workplace, available and accessible for treating injured persons.

(3) (a) Considering likely injuries, activities performed, and employee numbers, employers shall ensure first aid boxes contain suitable equipment, including at least items listed in the Annexure (b) Only articles and equipment contemplated in subregulation (a) or similar equipment or medicine may be kept in first aid boxes

(4) Where more than 10 employees work at a workplace, the employer shall ensure that for every group of up to 50 employees (or up to 100 employees in shops/offices), at least one person is readily available during normal working hours who possesses a valid first aid certificate issued by: (a) SA Red Cross Society (b) St. John Ambulance (c) SA First Aid League (d) An organization approved by the chief inspector

(5) Where high-risk substances or toxic, corrosive or similar hazardous substances are used, handled, processed or manufactured, the employer shall ensure first aid workers are trained in procedures necessary for treating injuries from such substances and in emergency procedures for accidental leakage or dumping.

(6) Employers shall display prominent notices indicating where first aid boxes are kept and the name of the person in charge.

(7) Employees with open wounds, cuts, sores or similar injuries who work where substances in subregulation (5) are used shall report such injuries to their employer immediately. Employers shall not permit such employees to continue working before cleaning the injury with soap and water or diluted disinfectant.



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(8) Where employees may be exposed to eye injury from contact with biological or chemical substances, employers shall provide eyewash fountains or similar facilities nearby and train employees in their use.

(9) Where employees may be exposed to injury from or absorption through the skin from sudden contact with toxic, corrosive, high-risk or similar hazardous substances, employers shall provide fast-reacting deluge-showers with clean water or similar facilities nearby and train employees in their use.

4. Use and storage of flammable liquids

(1) No employer shall require or permit work where flammable liquid vapor may create fire/explosion hazards or endanger safety unless subregulations (2) to (12) are complied with.

(2) No flammable liquids shall be used or applied except in: (a) Specially constructed fire-resistant rooms, cabinets or enclosures, or (b) Places where: (i) No fire or explosion hazard is created (ii) Vapor is efficiently dispersed and diluted into the atmosphere (subject to Air Pollution Prevention Act) (iii) No other workplace can be contaminated by vapor

(3) Every room, cabinet or enclosure shall have an efficient intake and exhaust ventilation system to remove vapor and prevent recirculation. Despite other provisions, employers shall provide approved respirators or masks to spraying employees, who must use them.

(4) For spraying rooms, ventilation systems shall meet these requirements: (a) For horizontal air supply and extraction, average air speed at 1.5m above floor or at platform level shall be at least 0.5m per second (b) For vertical air supply with extraction through side wall floor-level slits/grills, average air speed shall be at least 0.4m per second (c) For vertical air supply with extraction through floor grill covering the whole area, average air speed shall be at least 0.3m per second

(5) For spraying cabinets or enclosures, ventilation systems shall meet these requirements: (a) Where open face area is 1 square meter or less, average air speed through the face shall be at least 1m per second (b) Where open face area exceeds 1 square meter but is less than 2 square meters, average air speed shall be at least 0.75m per second (c) Where open face area is 2 square meters or more, average air speed shall be at least 0.5m per second

(6) For ventilation systems, employers shall ensure: (a) All ducts, trunks and enclosures are fire-resistant with smooth interiors for easy cleaning (b) Systems operate during working hours and long enough afterward to clear vapor below 25% of lower explosive limit (c) Work is organized so air flow is not obstructed and draws spray/vapor away from operators

(7) For rooms with flammable liquids, employers shall ensure: (a) Rooms exceeding 20 square meters have at least two separate entrances at opposite ends with outward-opening doors that cannot be locked (b) Rooms have inspection windows of strengthened, shatterproof glass that cannot be opened



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(8) (a) Employers shall not permit: (i) Fire, flame, naked light, or static electricity generators or anything that may ignite flammable liquid/vapor in rooms/cabinets/enclosures where flammable liquids are used/sprayed/stored, and shall post prohibition signs at all entrances (ii) Smoking in places where flammable liquids are used/stored, and shall post no-smoking notices at all entrances (iii) Spark/fire-producing processes or drying of sprayed/treated articles in rooms/cabinets/enclosures used for spraying before clearing the atmosphere of vapor

(b) No person shall contravene prohibitions under subparagraph (i) or (ii) of paragraph (a)

(9) For rooms, cabinets or enclosures, employers shall: (a) Remove and safely dispose of discarded cotton waste, cleaning rags or similar materials daily (b) Keep only one day's quantity of flammable liquid in such rooms (partially consumed stock may be stored in marked fireproof wall cabinets) (c) Ensure containers holding flammable liquids are kept tightly closed when not in actual use and removed/safely disposed of daily after emptying (d) Keep rooms/cabinets/enclosures clean, and fans/ducts/trunks/enclosures in good working order; cleaning/scraping/scouring must use non-sparking implements if vapor concentration exceeds 25% of lower explosive limit

(10) Flammable liquid stores shall be: (a) Separated from any room/cabinet/enclosure by fire-resistant material with 2-hour fire-resistance (b) Constructed of fire-resistant material with 2-hour fire-resistance (c) Constructed to contain spills equal to stored quantity plus 10% (d) Ventilated to prevent vapor accumulation (e) Clearly marked with signs indicating it's a store and showing maximum permitted storage quantity

(11) Considering premises construction/location and quantity/types of flammable liquids, employers shall install adequate fire-fighting equipment in and around buildings where such substances are used/handled/stored, as recommended by local fire chief.

(12) These provisions don't apply to flammable liquids used for building work, provided employers ensure: (a) Use or application doesn't create fire/explosion hazards (b) Workplace is effectively ventilated (c) Where workplace cannot be effectively ventilated, employees have approved respirators/masks and use them when using/applying flammable liquids

5. Work in confined spaces

(1) Employers or machinery users shall ensure confined spaces are entered only after air testing and evaluation by a competent person who certifies in writing that the space is safe and will remain safe during work, considering work nature and duration.

(2) Where subregulation (1) cannot be complied with, employers or machinery users shall ensure confined spaces with hazardous gas, vapor, dust, fumes or oxygen content below 20% by volume are entered only when: (a) The space is purged and ventilated to provide a safe atmosphere, with measures to maintain safety, and (b) The space is isolated from all pipes, ducts and communicating openings by effective blanking (not just shutting/locking valves/ cocks), or if impractical, all valves/ cocks that are potential danger sources are locked and securely fastened with chains/ padlocks



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(3) Where subregulation (2)(a) cannot be complied with, employers or machinery users shall ensure confined spaces are entered only when: (a) Subregulation (2)(b) is complied with (b) The person entering uses a safety harness or similar equipment with a securely attached rope reaching beyond the access point, with the free end attended by a person described in paragraph (c) (c) At least one person trained in resuscitation remains immediately outside the entrance to assist/remove persons if necessary (d) Effective breathing/resuscitation apparatus approved by the chief inspector is available immediately outside

(4) Employers or machinery users shall ensure all persons vacate confined spaces upon work completion.

(5) For confined spaces with explosive/flammable gases, vapors, dust or fumes, employers or machinery users shall ensure such spaces are entered only if: (a) Concentration doesn't exceed 25% of lower explosive limit where work doesn't create ignition sources, or (b) Concentration doesn't exceed 10% of lower explosive limit where other work is performed

(6) These provisions also apply to work outside but bordering or near confined spaces where hazardous articles, oxygen-deficient atmospheres or dangerous gas/vapor/dust/fume concentrations may occur.

6. Work in elevated positions

No employer shall require or permit any person to work in elevated positions, and no person shall work in such positions, unless such work is safely performed from a ladder or scaffolding, or from a position where the person is as safe as if working from scaffolding.

7. Working in danger of engulfment

No employer shall require or permit any person to, and no person shall, enter any place from or into which solid or particulate material is being discharged where danger of engulfment exists, unless: (a) The person has and properly uses a safety belt and rope (b) At least one other properly instructed person remains outside to keep the person under continuous observation and render emergency assistance (c) Precautions in regulation 5 are taken if dangerous gas, fumes, dust or vapor may be present

8. Stacking of articles

(1) No employer shall require or permit successive tier stacking unless: (a) Stacking is personally supervised by someone with specific knowledge and experience (b) The base is level and can sustain the stack's weight (c) Lower tier articles can sustain weight of articles stacked above (d) All articles in single tiers are consistently the same size, shape and mass (e) Pallets and containers are in good condition (f) Any support structure used is structurally sound and can support stacked articles



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(2) Employers shall not permit: (a) Articles to be removed except from the topmost tier or part of that tier (b) Climbing onto or from stacks except with ladder or other safe facility or means, and only if the stack is stable

(3) Employers shall ensure: (a) Persons engaged in stacking are kept out of reach of dangerous machinery (b) Unstable stacks are immediately safely dismantled (c) Stack stability is not endangered by vehicles, machinery or persons moving past

(4) Unless otherwise supported, employers shall ensure stacked sacks, cases, cartons, tins or similar containers: (a) Are secured by header and stretcher fashion placement with securely bonded corners (b) Are stepped back half the depth of a single container at least every fifth tier, or alternatively, stepped back less provided the same average inclination angle to vertical is achieved; however, containers of regular shape may be stacked with vertical sides if total height doesn't exceed three times the smaller dimension of the underlying base

(5) Despite subregulation (4), free-standing stacks built with machinery may, with inspector approval, be built to heights and in manners permitted by container nature, provided: (a) Stacks are stable and don't overhang (b) The machinery operator is protected against falling articles

9. Welding, flame cutting, soldering and similar operations

(1) No employer or machinery user shall permit welding or flame cutting operations unless: (a) The operator is fully instructed in safe operation/use of equipment and associated hazards (b) Effective protection is provided and used for eyes, respiratory system, and where necessary, face, hands, feet, legs, body and clothing against heat, flying particles or dangerous radiation (c) Leads and electrode holders are effectively insulated (d) The workplace is effectively partitioned off where practicable, or others exposed to hazards are warned and provided suitable protective equipment

(2) No employer or machinery user shall permit welding or flame cutting in confined spaces unless: (a) Effective ventilation is provided and maintained, or (b) Masks or hoods with safe breathing air are provided and used by operators

(3) No employer or machinery user shall permit electric welding in wet/damp places, inside metal vessels, or in contact with large metal masses, unless: (a) Electrical lead insulation is sound (b) Electrode holders are completely insulated against accidental contact with current-carrying parts (c) The welder is completely insulated with boots, gloves or rubber mats (d) At least one other properly instructed person remains in attendance to assist in emergencies This subregulation doesn't apply to welding processes where maximum voltage to earth doesn't exceed 50 volts.

(4) No employer or machinery user shall permit welding, flame cutting, grinding, soldering or similar work on tubes, tanks, drums, vessels or similar containers unless: (a) They are not completely closed when a rise in internal pressure wouldn't render them dangerous, or (b) They contain substances which under heat may: (i) Ignite or explode, or (ii) React to form dangerous or poisonous substances, unless a competent person has examined them and



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certified in writing that danger has been removed by opening, ventilating, purging with water or steam, or other effective means.

(5) For hot work involving welding, cutting, brazing or soldering outside specifically designated and equipped workplaces, employers shall ensure proper and adequate fire precautions are taken.

10. Operating trains

(1) Employers or machinery users operating trains or tramway-trucks shall station a signalman with a red flag or light at level crossings, or provide other adequate warning means to: (a) Warn the driver of approaching trains (b) Warn road traffic of approaching trains or tramway-trucks

(2) No employer or machinery user shall permit trains or tramway-trucks to exceed 10km/h when crossing level crossings, and drivers shall not exceed this speed.

(3) No person shall drive locomotives unless authorized by the employer or machinery user.

(4) Except as provided in subregulation (5), no employer or machinery user shall authorize persons to drive locomotives used for passenger conveyance unless they hold locomotive engine driver's certificates from South African Transport Services or under Mines and Works Act regulations.

(5) For non-steam locomotives with design speeds not exceeding 20km/h, employers or machinery users may authorize persons aged 18 or older to drive them while conveying passengers, provided: (a) The employer or machinery user is satisfied the person's sight, hearing and overall physical/mental condition won't interfere with safe performance of duties (b) The authorized person is competent to carry out assigned duties

(6) These provisions don't apply to South African Transport Services trains.

11. Supervision of building work

(1) Every building work employer shall appoint a full-time employee in writing to supervise building work. If the employer has the required experience and personally supervises the work, no separate appointment is needed.

(2) The appointed employee must have at least two years' experience in the specific type of building work being supervised.

(3) (a) Employers may appoint subordinate employees to assist the designated supervisor. Each subordinate's duties shall be clearly defined in writing, but such appointments don't relieve the primary supervisor of accountability for supervisory failures. (b) If an employer hasn't appointed enough subordinates in an inspector's opinion, the inspector may require the employer to designate additional subordinates as specified.



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12. Roof work

Every employer shall provide and ensure the use of suitable roof ladders, duck-boards or crawling-boards for persons working on roofs with unsafe pitches or surfaces, or covered with materials through which a person could fall. Safety belts attached to the structure or similar effective equipment may be used instead on pitched roofs covered with non-fragile material.

13. Demolition and excavation

Every building work employer shall, regarding demolition or excavation work: (a) For structures being demolished, ensure: (i) No floor, roof or other part is overloaded with debris or material that makes it unsafe (ii) All practicable precautions prevent structure collapse when removing framing parts or cutting reinforced concrete (iii) Precautions like adequate shoring or other means prevent accidental collapse of any part of the structure or adjoining structures

(b) Not require or permit any person to work under unsupported overhanging material or in excavations deeper than 1.5m that aren't adequately shored or braced if there's danger of collapse

(c) Ensure supports, shoring or bracing are designed and constructed strong enough to support overhanging material or excavation sides

(d) Take necessary steps to ensure stability of adjoining buildings, structures or roads likely to be affected by demolition or excavation work

(e) Ascertain the location and nature of electricity, water, gas or similar services that may be affected by the work, and take necessary safety steps before starting work

(f) Provide convenient, safe access to excavations deeper than 1.5m where persons must work. For excavations longer than 50m, provide access points no more than 50m apart

(g) Have excavations deeper than 1.5m, including all bracing and shoring, inspected by a competent person at least once before each shift and after rain to ensure safety

(h) For excavations accessible to the public, adjacent to public roads/thoroughfares, or where persons may be endangered: (i) Adequately protect with barriers or fences at least one meter high as close to the excavation as practicable (ii) Provide red warning lights or clearly visible boundary indicators at night or in poor visibility conditions

13A. Ladders

(1) Employers shall ensure ladders are constructed of sound material, suitable for their purpose, and: (a) Have non-skid devices at bottom ends and hooks or similar devices at upper



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ends of stiles to ensure stability during normal use, or (b) Are properly lashed, held or secured while in use to ensure stability under all conditions

(2) No employer shall use or permit use of ladders if: (a) (i) Rungs are fastened to stiles only with nails, screws, spikes or similar means, or (ii) Rungs aren't properly let into stiles (except for welded ladders or those with bolted/riveted rungs), or (b) They have damaged stiles or damaged/missing rungs

(3) Employers shall not permit: (a) Ladders meant to lean against objects for support to exceed 9m in length (b) Extension of ladder reach by fastening multiple ladders together without inspector approval (this doesn't apply to free-standing extension ladders)

(4) For wooden ladders, employers shall ensure: (a) They're constructed of straight-grained wood, free from defects, with grain running along stiles and rungs (b) They aren't painted or covered unless it's established there are no cracks or weaknesses, though they may be treated with oil or clear varnish/wood preservative

(5) When work is done from ladders, employers shall: (a) Take special precautions to prevent articles falling off (b) Provide suitable sheaths or receptacles for storing hand tools when not in use

(6) Fixed ladders exceeding 5m in length attached to vertical structures with inclination of 75° or more to horizontal level shall: (a) Have rungs at least 150mm away from the structure (b) Have a cage that: (i) Extends from 2.5m or less above lower level to at least 900mm above top level served by the ladder (ii) Provides firm back support for climbers, with no part of the cage more than 700mm from rung level These cage requirements don't apply if platforms spaced no more than 8m apart are provided for resting

13B. Ramps

(1) Employers shall ensure ramps: (a) Are constructed according to accepted technical standards (b) Have a safety factor of at least two for expected loads (with sufficient provision for load from turning, braking and acceleration if used by vehicles) (c) Have inclination to horizontal level not exceeding 34° or one vertical to one and one-half horizontal

(2) Employers shall ensure ramps: (a) With inclinations requiring additional foothold (more than 14° or one vertical to four horizontal) have stepping laths that: (i) Are placed at suitable intervals (ii) Extend the full ramp width (though they may be interrupted up to 230mm to facilitate barrow movement) (b) Higher than 2m are provided on both sides with: (i) Substantial guard rails between 900mm and 1000mm high (ii) Toe-boards at least 150mm high, affixed with no open space between toe-board and ramp

13C. Boatswain's chairs

Employers shall ensure boatswain's chairs or similar devices are securely suspended and constructed to prevent occupants from falling.



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13D. Scaffold framework

(1) Employers shall ensure: (a) Scaffold standards are properly propped against displacement and securely placed on firm foundations (putlog scaffolds shall incline slightly toward the structure) (b) (i) Steel scaffold standards with platform loadings classified as 'heavy' (320 kg/m²), 'medium' (240 kg/m²), 'light' (160 kg/m²), or 'very light' (80 kg/m²) are spaced no more than 1.8m, 2m, 2.5m, and 3m apart, respectively (ii) Wooden scaffold standards are spaced no more than 3m apart (c) Ladders are spaced vertically no more than 2.1m apart (d) Putlogs or transoms: (i) Not supporting platforms are spaced at same distances as scaffold standards (ii) Supporting platforms are spaced no more than 1.25m apart for solid timber board platforms (e) Every wooden scaffold frame part has at least 75mm diameter or equivalent strength cross-section

(2) No employer shall use or permit use of scaffolds unless: (a) They are securely and effectively braced for all-directional stability (b) Secured to the structure at suitable vertical and horizontal distances (unless designed to be completely free-standing) (c) Constructed with safety factor of at least two (d) Inspected at least weekly and after bad weather by a person experienced in scaffold erection/maintenance, with findings recorded

(3) No employer shall require or permit: (a) Wooden framework scaffolds exceeding 10m height (b) Scaffold erection, alteration or dismantling except by or under supervision of persons with necessary training and experience appointed in writing

13E. Scaffold platforms

(1) Employers shall ensure: (a) Every solid wooden scaffold platform plank is at least 275mm wide and 38mm thick (b) Platform planks are supported at distances not exceeding 1.25m with ends projecting 70-200mm beyond the last prop (c) Platform planks are firmly secured against displacement (d) Platforms are constructed to prevent materials/tools falling through

(2) Employers shall ensure scaffold platforms: (a) With 'heavy', 'medium', 'light' or 'very light' loadings are 1125-1380mm, 1125-1150mm, 900-1150mm, or 675-1150mm wide, respectively (450mm width is sufficient for gangways) (b) More than 2m above ground have on all sides (except the side facing the structure): (i) Substantial guard rails 900-1000mm high (ii) Toe-boards at least 150mm high with no open space between toe-boards and platform (timber toe-boards must be at least 25mm thick) (c) Are no more than 75mm from the structure (this may be increased to 300mm where workers must sit to work) (d) Are kept free of waste, projecting nails or other obstructions, and maintained in non-slip condition

(3) No employer shall require or permit working platforms higher than 600mm to be supported on scaffold platforms, and shall provide an additional guard rail 900-1000mm high above every such working platform.

(4) Employers shall ensure convenient, safe access to every scaffold platform. If access is by ladder, it must project at least 900mm beyond the platform top.



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13F. Suspended scaffolds

(1) Employers shall ensure suspended scaffold outriggers: (a) Are constructed of steel or material of similar strength with a safety factor of at least four for intended loads (b) Have overhang not exceeding 1.8m beyond the structure edge and sufficient length for secure anchoring of the counteracting length (c) Are properly propped, suitably spaced and firmly anchored by means other than weights at inner ends, unless an inspector permits weight anchoring (d) Have stop or other effective devices at outer ends to prevent rope displacement

(2) Employers shall ensure suspended scaffold working platforms are suspended by: (a) Appropriately sized pulley-blocks, sheaves, winches or hoists for the ropes used (b) At least two independent steel wire ropes for platforms under 912mm wide, and at least four independent steel wire ropes for platforms 912mm and wider (c) Steel wire ropes with a safety factor of at least ten for the maximum load each rope will carry

(3) Employers shall ensure: (a) Hand or power-driven machinery for lifting/lowering suspended scaffold working platforms prevents uncontrolled movement (b) Such machinery is easily accessible for inspection (c) Rope connections to outriggers are vertically above the connections to the working platform (d) For platforms suspended by only two ropes, rope connections to the platform are high enough above platform level to ensure stability

(4) Employers shall ensure suspended scaffold working platforms: (a) Are 456mm to 1.8m wide (b) Are suspended as near as possible to the structure, and except for light work, secured at every working position to prevent horizontal movement (c) Have substantial guard rails 900-1000mm high on all sides except the structure side (for platforms suspended by only two ropes, guard rails must be on all sides) (d) Have toe-boards at least 150mm high from platform level on all sides with no open space between toe-boards and platform (timber toe-boards must be at least 25mm thick)

13G. Trestle scaffolds

(1) No employer shall use or permit trestle scaffold use unless: (a) It is soundly constructed of solid material (b) All reasonable precautions prevent unexpected spreading of supporting legs during use

(2) No employer shall use or permit trestle scaffold use if: (a) It is higher than 3m, or (b) It consists of more than two tiers

14. Offences and penalties

Any person contravening regulations 2(1), 2(2), 2(4), 2(5), 2(6), 2A, 2C, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8(1), 8(2), 8(3), 8(4), 9, 10(1), 10(2), 10(3), 10(4), 11(1), 12, 13A, 13B, 13C, 13D, 13E, 13F, or 13G shall be guilty of an offense liable on conviction to a fine or imprisonment up to six months. For continuous offenses, additional fines of R200 per day or additional imprisonment of one day per day may apply, not exceeding 90 days additional imprisonment.



Reviewed Date	Next Review Date	Document Owner	Responsible Person
01 Feb 2024	28 Feb 2026	SHEQ Warehouse (Pty) Ltd	Neville
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15. Withdrawal of Regulations

The following regulations are repealed: (a) Regulations B.6, B.12 and B.14 under Government Notice R. 929 of 28 June 1963 (b) Regulations C.14, C.16, C.17, C.20, C.47, C.48 and C.50 under Government Notice R. 929 of 28 June 1963, as amended (c) Regulation C.13A under Government Notice R. 109 of 26 January 1973 (d) Regulations D.3, D.5, D.13, D.14 and D.16 under Government Notice R. 1934 of 13 December 1963, as amended

16. Short title

These regulations shall be called the General Safety Regulations.