Study on the Safety of Temporary Structures

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Abstract

The OSHC’s Safety Control Division conducted a study on the safety of Temporary Structures used in different construction projects. The study aims to identify the different types of scaffoldings and shoring according to its construction and to the materials used. Likewise, the study aims to evaluate the soundness of scaffoldings / shoring construction through visual inspection of parts and components.

The study covered (12) construction projects and five manufacturers of shoring and scaffoldings in the Metro Manila area. The study showed the presence of at least seven types of scaffoldings commonly used in different projects. These are:

- timber scaffolds
- framed scaffolds
- tube
- clamp scaffolds
- multiple level suspended scaffolds
- single level suspended scaffolds
- cantilever scaffolds
- gondola

For shoring, there are five types: post shore, framed standards, shore beams, truss-type steel frames, and timber post shore. Several variations from the proper installation and construction were noted. Improvised / deteriorated components and parts are being used which apparently diminish the strength and make the structure unstable. It was also observed that inspection and maintenance of scaffoldings and shoring were much neglected.