



HEALTH AND SAFETY BULLETIN

Banner mesh fell from scaffold

Who needs to read this?

All Curtin University Staff and Contractors

Incident Details

On the night of 18/19 September 2019, a section of the banner mesh from the north-western side of Building 201 detached from the scaffold and fell to the garden bed and pathway below. No one was injured as a result of the incident.

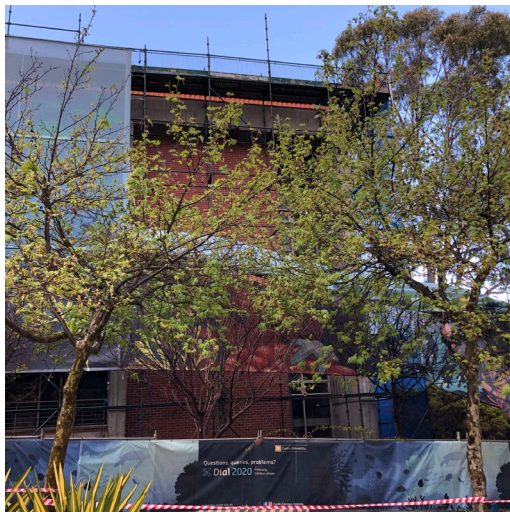


Figure1: Scaffolding showing banner mesh detached post event

Investigation Findings

The method of attaching the banner to the scaffold included the use of non-standard terminology (continuous loop ties) to describe the materials required for fixing. The use of non-standard terminology created uncertainty on the methodology because it was interpreted by installation contractor and construction contractor differently.

In addition to this the banner mesh was wrapped around the western side of the building, when the design drawings indicated that it must not be longer than the scaffolding erected to the northern face of the building .



Because there was no verification system in place to detect whether the installation had been completed in accordance with the drawings this was not identified

There was no maintenance regime in place to check or replace the fixings, however the contractor identified that some fixings were deteriorating. Due to the non-standard terminology this resulted in the use of lower rated ties being used to fix the banner to the scaffold.

Recommendations

When temporary works such as scaffolding are conducted it is important to ensure that safety critical tasks are verified as being completed in accordance with manufacturer or engineering requirements after installation by a competent person.

Temporary works should also be reviewed following any changes to ensure that the controls remain in place and are effective.

Records of inspections, repairs and maintenance details are to be held on site in an accessible format, until the temporary works have been completed.

Who do we call with questions?

If you have any queries, please contact Health and Safety on 9266 4900 or email healthandsafety@curtin.edu.au.

References

[AS/NZS 1576.1.2019](#) Scaffolding – General requirements

Date of Issue
11/12/2019