



HEALTH, SAFETY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Promoting a safer place to work and study

HSEM BULLETIN

Scaffold safety – windy conditions

Who needs to read this?

All Curtin University Staff, and Contractors

Incident Details

Following a high wind event it was identified that four metal scaffold planks had been blown from the scaffold bay onto the roof of the building that the scaffold surrounded.

There was a risk that the scaffold planks could have blown onto the public space below and caused significant injury to a member of the public, staff, students or other workers.

Information / Investigation Results

The scaffolding had been covered in containment sheeting and was erected to the top of the seventh story of the building. Both of these factors can increase the wind load acting on the scaffold.

It was identified that scaffold planks were not tied down into the scaffold bay, and when exposed to the increased loading came loose from their position.

Recommendations

Identify weather events that may result in increased wind loads, and take appropriate measures to ensure that scaffolding will remain safe.

Who do we call with questions?

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

References

AS/NZS 4576:1995 Guidelines for scaffolding
AS/NZS 1576.1:2019 Scaffolding Part 1: General requirements

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