Concrete Pouring and Pumping: Best Practices Advisory for Pump Rental Job Sites

WorkSafeBC Occupational Health & Safety Regulation require that, where practicable, suitable ladders, work platforms and scaffolds must be provided for and used by a worker for activities requiring positioning at elevations above a floor or grade, such as when working on a concrete wall that requires the concrete placers to be working off of the ground and where they could be exposed to a fall. See WorkSafeBC OHS Regulation - 20.4.

- The pump operator shall check for a suitable work platform or scaffolding upon arrival at a job site. If the concrete forming does not have either a suitable work platform or scaffolding then the pump operator shall advise the site supervisor of the WorkSafeBC requirements and hand out a copy of this advisory.

- If the supervisor or site personnel choose not to provide a suitable work platform or scaffolding on the forming for the concrete placers, the pump operator shall advise them of their responsibility and obligation to provide a suitable work platform or scaffolding and of their potential liability in the event of an injury due to the lack of providing such equipment.

General Requirements – Safe Access

- Unless working on the ground, pouring and pumping concrete into wall forms must be done from suitable work platforms.

- In selecting suitable work platforms or scaffolding, employers have a number of options. Specifically, scaffolding using manufactured scaffolding brackets, when installed and used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, are considered suitable. Single-pole wood scaffolds may also be suitable when properly installed and used. For more information on suitable work platforms and scaffolding, see the following WorkSafeBC publications: Safe Work Practices for House Construction or Construction Safety Series

http://www2.worksafebc.com/Portals/Construction/Prevention-GeneralConstruction.asp?ReportID=23920

- The platforms must be a minimum of 510 mm (20 in.) wide. As well, guardrails maybe required. As per WorkSafeBC Occupational Health & Safety Regulation 11.2 (1) an employer must ensure that a fall protection system is used when work is being done at a place (a) from which a fall of 3 m (10 ft.) or more may occur or (b) where a fall from a height of less than 3 m involves a risk of injury greater than the risk of injury from the impact on a flat surface.

Single-pole wooden scaffolding for pouring or pumping concrete.
Note: Guardrails may not be required if scaffolding is less than 3 m (10 ft.) above grade.

NOTE: Exposed skin that contacts wet concrete can become extremely irritated. In some cases, the irritation is serious enough to result in injuries. To prevent exposure, personal protective equipment is required: Hard hat, gloves and safety glasses. Wear a long-sleeved shirt to protect against both site hazards and sun exposure.

WorkSafeBC Prevention Information Line: 604 276-3100 or toll-free 1 888 621-SAFE (7233)
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NOTES

Project: _____________________________________________

Address: _____________________________________________

Supervisor: ___________________________________________

Date: ____________________________  Time: ____________________________

Pump Operator’s remarks: ___________________________________________

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_________________________________________________________________

Supervisor: ____________________________  (signature)

Pump Operator: ____________________________  (signature)