

UPCOMING CHANGE

2014 NYC Construction Codes: Suspended Scaffold Installation Inspections

Beginning December 31, 2014, the following new inspection requirements will be in effect for suspended scaffold installations. Please see 2014 NYC Building Code §3314.4 and §3314.10 for more information.

- 1. The following types of suspended scaffolds are subject to an installation inspection:**
 - Adjustable suspended scaffolds (this includes all types of adjustable suspended scaffolds, such as c-hooks, two-point, and multi-point); and
 - Non-adjustable suspended scaffolds (such as “dance floors”) with a platform area that is greater than 40 square feet.
- 2. An installation inspection shall be required:**
 - When the suspended scaffold is initially installed at the site; or
 - When the suspended scaffold is relocated to a new drop, or when any part, component, or attachment to a scaffold (such as counterweights, tie-backs, anchorages, or connections to the building or structure) is added, relocated, or removed.
 - **Note:** An installation inspection is not required when a wheel- or track-mounted suspended scaffold is laterally relocated to a new drop and the only modification is to the tie-backs. Prior to use, such relocated wheel- or track-mounted suspended scaffold shall instead undergo a thorough pre-shift inspection.
- 3. An installation inspection shall, at a minimum, consist of the following:**
 - Prior to installation, the support surface (such as the roof or parapet) and the support devices (such as outrigger beams, c-hooks, and ropes) shall be inspected to verify they are in a safe condition and are in accordance with the design drawings.
 - Upon completion of the installation, the support surface, the support devices, and the scaffold (including all parts, components, and attachments, such as counterweights, tie-backs, anchorages, or connections to the building or structure) shall be inspected to verify they are in a safe condition and installed in accordance with the design drawings.
- 4. The installation inspection shall be performed by either:**
 - A licensed rigger (or a licensed sign hanger where the suspended scaffold is used exclusively for sign hanging operations);
 - A designated rigging foreman employed by the licensed rigger (or a designated sign hanging foreman employed by the licensed sign hanger where the suspended scaffold is used exclusively for sign hanging operations);
 - A New York State licensed professional engineer or a New York State registered architect; or
 - An individual employed and supervised by a New York State licensed professional engineer or a New York State registered architect.

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- However:
 - a. Where the integrity of the support surface is in question, a New York State licensed professional engineer or a New York State registered architect must be consulted.
 - b. Where parapet clamps are utilized, a New York State licensed professional engineer or a New York State registered architect must inspect the support surface and the parapet clamps.
- 5. **The results of the installation inspection shall be documented in an installation inspection report.** The installation report shall be signed and completed by the person who performed the inspection. The installation report shall be kept at the site, available for inspection by the Department upon request.
- 6. **The suspended scaffold shall not be used until it has passed the installation inspection and the installation report has been signed and completed.**