



**SAFETY AND SCAFFOLDS**

It is safe to assume that just about everybody has heard of a scaffolding accident or two. In many of those cases, faulty design and inadequate construction of the scaffolding was involved but, *in most case*, poor maintenance and improper use cause scaffold accidents. To help keep your scaffolds safe, follow these simple procedures:

- Inspect the scaffolds daily before using them; check the guardrails, connectors, fastening, footing, tie-ins and bracing.
- Keep platforms closely boarded, fenced and securely fastened.
- Don't stockpile materials on the scaffolds; remove all materials and tools at the end of the day.
- Never overload scaffolds. Place the materials being used over ledger and bearer points to minimize platform loading.
- Don't work on scaffolds during storms or high winds and clear all ice and snow from the platforms before using them.
- Protect the scaffolds: don't bump or strike against the scaffolds with vehicles or materials and control-hoisted material from the ground with taglines.
- Keep the platforms and area around the scaffold cleared of debris and unneeded equipment, material and other hazards that will cause a worker to trip or fall.