

ULTRA ACCESS Scaffolding Safety Alert

Correctly securing all short (and/or) access opening Scaffold Boards.

According to current *TG guidance, all scaffold boards, of 2.1m / 7ft(ish) or less should be secured into place to stop/reduce the chances of them lifting in high winds.

*TG / NASC Technical Guidance, which are currently considered the general "best working practices" within the British scaffolding industry.

Where we respect the huge time and effort that must have been applied to create such guidance, Ultra Access would recommend that all scaffolding boards of 2.4m / 8ft(ish) or less are secured into place, due to the amount of 8ft boards used, when compared to 7ft's. 7ft scaffold boards would usually have to be specially ordered, if not cut to size in the scaffold companies yard - and only then for specific projects.

8ft scaffold boards are a standard size, widely available to buy, without having to make any changes.



They can be fixed into place using several options, depending on what location / discipline you are working within.

Traditionally if offshore, boards would be physically lashed with wire bonds, as there is an ever so small amount of movement - if using the standard "Board Retaining Clip" / "Retainers", and due to the constant adverse weather offshore (not just spells, like there is onshore), Retainers are not really sufficient out there.

Obviously, the last thing one would want are scaffold boards floating through the North Sea... and because there is a certain skill (and time) involved in securing scaffold boards with wire bonds, for practicalities sake Retainers are more commonly used elsewhere.

For now, Board Retaining Clips are the more reasonably practicable option available.

Ultra Access would highly recommend that not only scaffold boards of 8ft or less are "clipped", but all boards where an opening for a Ladder Hatch (and/or internal Gate) are also secured into place.

It's easy for a contractor wearing a hoodie, or tools around their waist to catch these access boards, causing them to lift, become dislodged and potentially dangerous.



**Board Retaining Clip
("Retainer" for short)**

ULTRA ACCESS
Scaffold Technical Support

www.ultra-access.co.uk
UADIP: #ultacc270225