

## ULTRA ACCESS March Newsletter

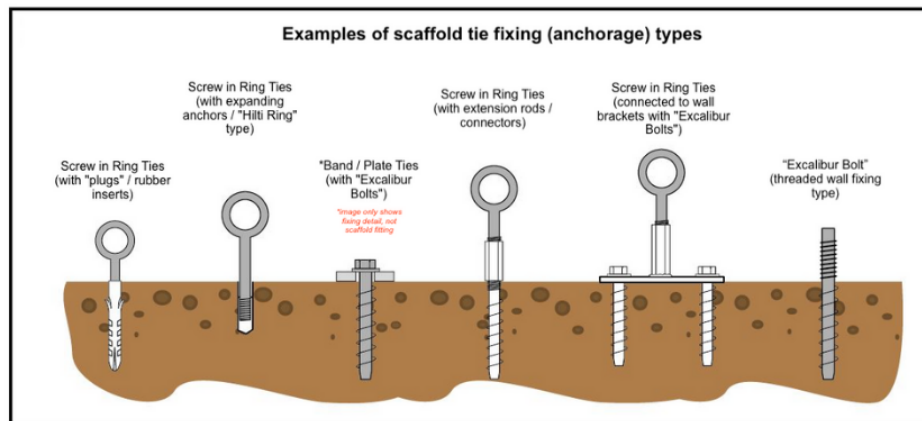
### “Screwed In” Scaffold Ties (correct installation and safety precautions)

Scaffolding Ties are safety critical elements installed within a scaffold used to physically anchor it into place, usually directly into the building or structure its intended usage is for.

Screw in Ring Ties (with "plugs" / rubber inserts) are the standard anchorage type for most brickwork and/or brick buildings, with many other types available on the market to suit whatever requirements there might be, with different anchorage types used for both concrete (inc. reinforced) and timber framed structures.

#### For rubber insert fixing types into brick (our advice would be):

They should be drilled deeply enough for the rubber insert to be completely submerged into the brick, with any excess dust “blown out” using a suitable blow out pump - **NOT YOUR MOUTH**, before the plug is inserted, with the screw in tie screwed in so that little to no thread remain visible to ensure maximum tension can be extracted from the fixing when needed, but be careful not to over tighten the screw in... because in some cases, the bricks, especially if softer, or old could "blow" / crack and become unsuitable to be used as a scaffold anchorage point if they are over-screwed, which is something that should be considered when installing ties into brick.



When drilling in said scaffold tie types as demonstrated above - (suitable) dust masks and safety glasses should be worn when carrying out the task (which should be more detailed within the accompanying tasks' RAMS) to prevent any injuries to your eyes, face and to reduce (or completely remove) the risk of breathing in any kinds of dust... with brick-dust being especially dangerous for your lungs... this fine dust (otherwise known as "Silica") occurs in many types of stone, including concrete and brick. Inhaling fine silica dust (respirable crystalline silica or RCS) over time can lead to serious lung diseases, including fibrosis, silicosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and lung cancer.

Not following correct safety and installation processes could lead to serious long term health implications for the individual installing the ties, and not just the risk of a scaffold collapse if said ties are installed wrong.