

SCAFFOLDING

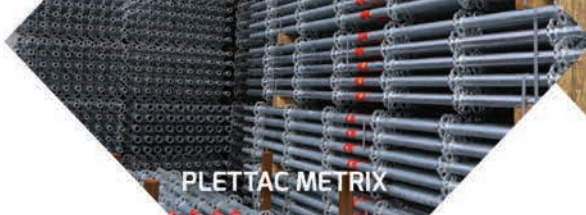
MAGAZINE 2021



HIGH POINTS
KNOWLEDGE, ADVICE
AND INSPIRATION ON
SCAFFOLD PROJECTS



TRAD EDGEGUARD



PLETTAC METRIX



TRAD INTERNAL STAIR

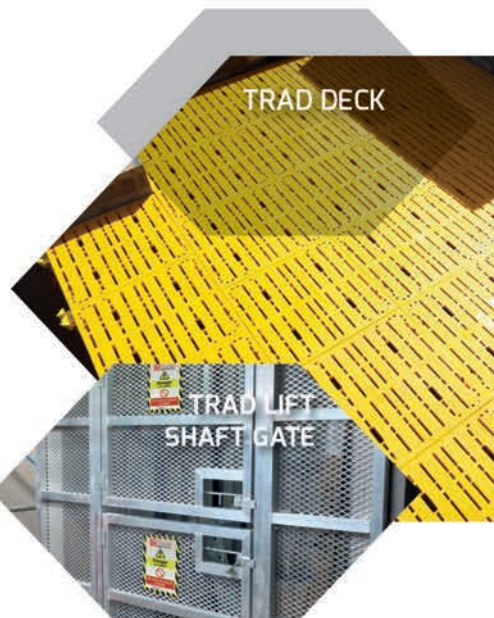


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- 2020** TRAD UK LAUNCH



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Welcome

Welcome to the third issue of Scaffolding, published on behalf of the National Access & Scaffolding Confederation (NASC) by Construction Manager.

This title once again looks to provide those working in the construction industry with a closer look at the outputs and activities of the NASC and its members – with a particular emphasis on practical advice and useful information that's relevant to you. This supplies an update on TG20:21, including the NASC's eagerly-anticipated eGuide scaffolding compliance software update and expansion (page 33).

TG20 provides you with the information you need to ensure a broad variety of scaffolding structures constructed on a project have been suitably planned and 'designed' as required by the Work at Height Regulations 2005.

We've also included an overview of the latest NASC guidance (opposite page). Our guidance notes are accepted as the industry standard by HSE, Build UK, CITB and principal contractors alike. The majority of the titles are free to download.

On page 7 we look at the NASC's stringent membership criteria and annual audit requirements – one way we ensure our members attain and maintain the high standards that clients expect.

The NASC is the national trade body for access and scaffolding in the UK, established in 1945 with the aim of promoting high standards of safety within the industry. We enjoy working in collaboration with a wide variety of partners and encourage any organisations in the construction industry to get in touch if they need any support or advice on scaffolding matters.

For more information and to find a member in your area, visit nasc.org.uk



NASC members give young people a start in scaffolding

NASC Members to give 300+ young people work placements

NASC members will provide more than 300 young people across the UK with scaffolding industry experience through the Government's Kickstart Scheme.

A total of 56 NASC members – both contractors and suppliers – have signed up to the Kickstart Scheme through the NASC, committing to provide six-month work placements to out of work 18-24 year-olds.

The vast majority of these members will take on more than one candidate under the scheme, with a handful providing 20+ positions, helping to push the combined total of vacancies to 310.

Henry Annafi, NASC training officer, who successfully co-ordinated the NASC's gateway organisation bid and

NASC Members have signed up to the government Kickstart Scheme

will support the 56 NASC members through the scheme, said: "I am absolutely delighted but not surprised by the fantastic interest and take-up of the scheme by NASC members.

"These members are as committed to training and recruitment as the NASC is as the UK trade body for the scaffolding industry and I'd like to applaud each and every one of them for their effort and enthusiasm to date.

"Through my conversations with these members it's become clear that they're all intending to go well beyond the parameters of the scheme and will look to place all successful participants on apprenticeships or full employment once the six-month placement ends.

"There's a long-term commitment being made and that's because the members aren't just keen to provide young people with short-term jobs, they want to give them a career."

The Kickstart Scheme provides funding to employers to create new job placements for young people on Universal Credit who are at risk of long-term unemployment. ●

NASC in figures

76 Years
of operation

308
Members

15,317
Operatives

90%
NASC members in
Top 10 Scaffolding
Specialists Table
2019 (by turnover)

85%
NASC members'
combined share of
annual UK spend on
scaffolding

81
Guidance notes in
NASC library

119
Members serving
on the NASC's
eight standing
committees

New guide to appointing a scaffolding contractor

NASC helps contractors
comply with CDM

Procuring, appointing and managing scaffolding contractors can be difficult at the best of times. That's why the NASC has published a new free guidance note aimed at making these tasks as clear as possible.

This simple, go-to guide – *SG39-21 Guidance on Appointing a Scaffolding Contractor* – can be downloaded from the NASC website. It is intended to be used in conjunction with the NASC's *Guide to Appointing a Scaffolding Contractor*, updated in December 2020.

SG39 includes information on Safety Schemes in Procurement (SSIP), monitoring of scaffolding operations, scaffold design, inspections and handovers.

Why do you need these guides?

Peace of mind is a good place to start. Under The Construction Design and Management Regulations (CDM), principal contractors and contractors have an important role in managing health and safety risks during the construction phase.



Among their duties, they are required to check that anyone they appoint has the skills, knowledge, experience and, where relevant, the organisational capability to carry out their work safely and without risk to health.

These NASC guides have been prepared by the NASC to improve the quality of the scaffolding structures erected on construction sites and other works of engineering maintenance in accordance with current legislation, guidance and protocol and to minimise the risk of accident or injury to operatives working on or near the scaffold and the general public. ●

"NASC guides improve the quality of the scaffolding structures erected to minimise the risk of accident"



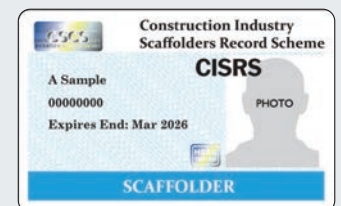
CISRS makes leniency call

The Construction Industry Scaffolders Record Scheme (CISRS) has called on those responsible for site access and card checking procedures to show leniency towards operatives holding CISRS cards which have recently expired and allow them access to work.

The request has been made as a result of reduced availability in scaffolding training owing to the ongoing covid-19 pandemic.

David Mosley, CISRS managing director, said: "A number of scaffolding training providers have temporarily suspended training and others are offering a reduced service with strict Covid-19 precautions in place.

"As a result, we're calling on site managers to show leniency until wider centre capacity is readily available."



NASC updates guidance

The NASC has expanded and updated its library of contractual, health and safety, technical and product purchasing guidance as part of the ongoing process which ensures all reference materials remain comprehensive, up-to-date and fit-for-purpose.

Guidance documents are reviewed at least every five years, bringing them up to date with legislation and the evolving requirement of scaffolding contractors and their clients as required.

New guidance includes TG21:20 A Guide to Commissioning Scaffolding Design, intended to aid those who

commission scaffold designs by summarising the responsibilities of each party involved at each stage of the process, and SG31:20, aimed at eliminating or reducing the risk of injury from slips and trips by providing advice and guidance to all persons involved in organising,

planning, managing or undertaking work in scaffolding related activities.

There are now more than 80 NASC titles covering a broad range of topics available via the online publications page on the NASC website. Many of these titles are also available for free download.



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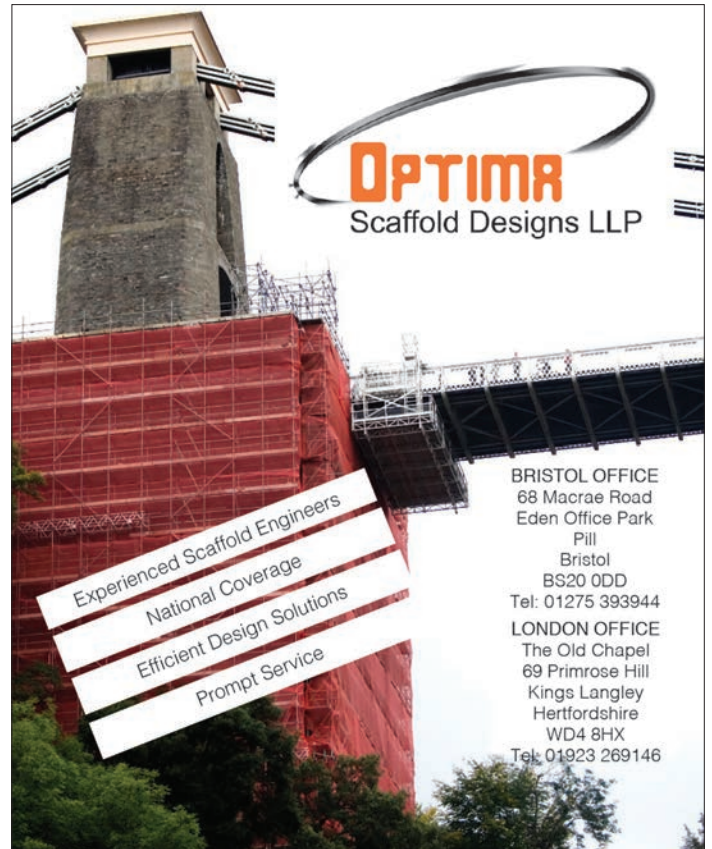
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SUPER VISION

ROBIN JAMES, NASC MANAGING DIRECTOR, ON WHY YOU SHOULD USE NASC MEMBERS FOR YOUR SCAFFOLDING REQUIREMENTS

What comfort does using the services of an NASC member company give to principal contractors, local authorities, and clients, when choosing a scaffolding contractor? What are the key requirements they're looking for when selecting a quality scaffolding contractor? Rigorous adherence to high health and safety standards? Excellent quality of workmanship? Reliable service with continuity of staff? Good quality equipment which complies with UK standards?

By choosing an NASC member you can be sure that they have already demonstrated – through meeting the NASC's stringent new membership criteria and annual audit – they can satisfy these requirements and more.

“Good supervisors do not tolerate unsafe behaviours. They create psychological safety to drive improvement”

Helen Gawor

Roy Rogers, QSHE & Energy director, Enigma Industrial Services Ltd, said: “Taking a proactive approach to building a positive safety culture has had a large impact on the company, and taken time to evolve. The aim of our safety culture is to lower staff turnover and reduce absenteeism, decrease workplace accidents, and have a positive effect on our reputation. In general, safe employees will be more productive, and will produce higher quality work.”

The NASC prides itself on being the national representative trade body for the UK access and scaffolding industry. Members are scaffolding operations of all types and sizes. NASC membership is over 300 and is comprised of four separate categories, the largest of which is contracting.

All NASC contracting members are regularly audited to exacting requirements. The criteria are frequently reviewed, to ensure that the audit process properly reflects the needs of the industry.

Supervising is key

An emerging theme is the importance of supervision, and NASC members frequently cite the important role played by their supervisors.

Helen Gawor, strategy director at GKR Scaffolding Ltd, said: “In my opinion, good safe behaviours come down to the level of high-quality supervision. The top sites for safety have better supervision. Good supervisors do not tolerate unsafe behaviours. They set the example, create psychological safety to drive improvement.”

Rob Long, operations director at Tubes Scaffolding Ltd, adds: “Working together, acting on client and operative feedback, supervision

and communication are strong values, and key to maintaining a safe working culture. Tight supervision is carried out not only by site supervisors, but also by scaffold inspectors, contracts managers, and estimators, who regularly visit their ongoing projects.”

A central requirement for NASC members is the production and maintenance of training records, including a plan for training. Ninety per cent CISRS carded scaffolding operatives are a minimum requirement, of which 50% need to be fully qualified (Scaffolder/Advanced).

Where system scaffold structures are used, endorsements are required on CISRS cards.

The NASC places great importance on direct employment. Management and supervision must be directly employed (PAYE), and a minimum requirement of yard and site operatives need to be directly employed as a condition of membership.

Wayne Connolly, managing director of Connolly Scaffolding Ltd, and NASC Audit Committee chair, says: “All management and supervision should be fully employed, to have ownership, and a management that will have a vested interest in the quality and running of the company. Morally speaking it's the right thing for a company to do, to provide and pay for pensions, employer national insurance, and taxation,” he says.

The NASC produces a wide range of industry recognised health safety and technical guidance adopted by scaffolding contractors throughout the UK and overseas. More than 100 member representatives sit on NASC standing committees and working groups, to develop this invaluable guidance resource for the benefit of future generations of scaffolders. ●



“Attridge fixed to the underside of the structure with Hakispan 750 beams. It used a system called the derrik which cantilevers off the Hakispan to erect scaffolding safely”

Hartford Bridge, Northwich

JFE Attridge Scaffolding Services Co Ltd

Clients: Cadent Gas & Cheshire West & Chester Council

JFE Attridge Scaffolding was tasked with providing an access solution for Cadent Gas and Cheshire West & Chester Council. The gas main needed to be inspected to check for gas leaks then prepped and painted to protect it from further corrosion. The steels on the cantilevered walkway also needed to be inspected.

Spanning across the canal with beams was not possible as the canal was 30m wide. Also, there was a weight restriction on the public walkway above that cantilevers the side of the bridge, so the scaffolding team could not fix to the underside of the bridge on that section.

Attridge decided to go with fixing to the underside of the structure with Hakispan 750 beams. It used a system called the derrik, which cantilevers out 3m off the Hakispan 750 beams to erect the scaffolding safely.

A six-metre tail that was fixed to the steel girders enabled a three-metre cantilever, which allowed the works to proceed without the need to fix to the cantilevered walkway.

Attridge’s access solution allowed the canal to remain navigable and also the dual carriageway above to remain fully operational saving the client additional costs. ►

RIISING TO THE CHALLENGE

NASC MEMBERS CONTINUED TO DELIVER SCAFFOLDING SOLUTIONS OF THE HIGHEST STANDARDS THROUGHOUT 2020, IN SPITE OF THE MOST CHALLENGING OF CIRCUMSTANCES. ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES WE SHINE A SPOTLIGHT ON SOME OF THE MOST INTERESTING PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC.



Canal location presented challenges for JFE Attridge Scaffolding



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Battersea Power Station
Benchmark Scaffolding Ltd (BSL)
 Main contractor: Mace Ltd

In July 2018 Benchmark Scaffolding Ltd (BSL) was contracted by Mace to provide scaffolding and access, for the refurbishment of the old Battersea Power Station into commercial, retail, and high-end residential property.

The scope of the original contract was to provide access routes to and from site, working platforms to interior walls, then the more complex works began. In 2019 plans were put in place to install a glass elevator which will travel 109 metres to the top of one of the iconic chimneys. The internal chimney scaffolding demanded many meetings with all other trades involved, and many more months of design input.

BSL designed scaffolding that only had 200mm gap to play with, which was not easy when the old chimney was not straight. Once the internal scaffolding was erected, a temporary roof had to be erected at floor level and then craned onto the top of the

chimney so works on the elevator could commence in all weathers.

Major works were then required in the main boiler house of the old station; the void above the central atrium needed a large birdcage scaffold. BSL had created its own team for the project based on site including a project manager, a commercial manager, a safety manager, assigned engineers and over 60 operatives.

The birdcage had to be erected at night, to protect and allow other trades working beneath them to continue their works, whilst another BSL shift would work the days in other areas. The birdcage was erected and dismantled within all timescales and budgets.

Other works on the project included internal hoist platforms, a crash deck and complex independent scaffolding on the south external wall. The scaffold was to install steels into a very delicate wall that had to be treated with special care, no wall ties or pressure could be applied to the wall, not easy when the scaffolding is over 50m high and timescales short.

Temporary roof
 being craned onto
 the chimney at
 Battersea Power
 Station

Wolverhampton Combined Courts
Scaffold Erection Services Ltd
 Main contractor: ISG

In the second half of 2020, SES in the Midlands completed a unique and complex temporary roof coverings project.

Working at Wolverhampton Combined Courts, SES was contracted by ISG to supply and build two types of temporary roof coverings: a fixed temporary roof over the glass atrium and a mobile temporary roof that could be moved over the courtroom's glazed roofs.

The fixed temporary roof enabled the court to remain operational while the permanent atrium glass roof was removed and replaced. This involved a lot of evening and weekend work by SES and tools had to be tethered to the operatives to prevent them dropping onto the roof, or courthouse users, underneath.

An unusual aspect of the fixed and mobile temporary roof was the installation of a remote-controlled lifting beam that had to be attached to the underside of the roof structure and was designed to remove the glass remotely. Its installation – which was completed with a remote-controlled winch – was challenging because of the precision required in installing such a difficult structure while suspending men and materials safely at height over a pitched glazed roof. SES had the added complication of noise restrictions while the courts were in session. However, SES is used to overcoming unusual challenges, and careful design and planning ensured both the lifting beam and the glass roof were safely removed.

Commenting on the success of the project, SES managing director, Tex Milner, said: “Although the temporary roof coverings project at ►

“Plans were put in place to install a glass elevator to travel to the top of one of the iconic chimneys. The internal scaffolding demanded many meetings and months of design input”



Wolverhampton Combined Courts was complex, the team at SES is highly experienced in carrying out bespoke, multifaceted scopes of work. The skills and professional mindset of our technical designers and operatives were key to accomplishing the temporary roof coverings safely and efficiently. Because we directly employ our own operatives at SES, we invest in continual training and development of our people.”

The Wolverhampton project started in July 2019 and was completed in September 2020.

Dean Castle - Kilmarnock
Enigma Industrial Services Ltd
 Main contractor: CBC Stone

The £5m restoration project on the 600-year-old historic Dean Castle located in Kilmarnock was conducted by primary contractor CBC Stone. The restoration work mainly incorporated the removal of cement pointing from the stone walls and replacing it with lime mortar. This will enable the building to breathe by letting moisture in and out of the walls.

The previously applied cement caused moisture to become trapped within the walls leading to mould, whilst causing sections of mortar to flake off. Water ingress had also caused the building to close due to penetration reaching saturation levels putting the safety of visitors at risk. The project was supported by

the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Historic Environment Scotland.

Throughout the restoration project the K2 scaffolding system was installed. It's an upgraded Kwikstage system designed specifically for heavy leg load environments. A three-metre ledger length was installed, along with tube and fitting scaffolding to provide access to various features of the existing facade. The scaffolding had many tie restrictions to elevations, along with the requirement for debris netting to be installed.

As is common in this environment, the challenge was to leave minimal trace of temporary access upon completion of the works. Challenging

as this was, the design team worked successfully with the client, ensuring that full access was delivered, whilst utilising all non-invasive methods of scaffolding stabilisation.

United Grand Lodge of England
RPF Scaffolding Ltd
 Client: United Grand Lodge of England

RPF was commissioned by the United Grand Lodge of England to provide a safe and sealed working access scaffold to the largest European Mosaic (outside of Rome) at its Iconic Grand Temple in Covent Garden.

The remit was to provide a 26 x 24 metre, four elevation, two tiered working platform that would be ►



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Left: United Grand Lodge of England

Below: The curved shape of the Travelodge in Portsmouth posed a challenge

completely dust proof, aesthetically pleasing and completely suspended from the ceiling to enable meetings and concerts to be enjoyed obstacle free below the structure.

Working around the clock over a four week period the RPF team managed to complete the scaffolding within the tight time constraints.

In amongst the mosaic tiles at roof level were 'pockets' spaced at every 2.1 metres that were often used for wire bonds to be suspended to support sound and lighting equipment. These 'pockets' were just big enough for a 48mm scaffolding tube to pass through. RPF initially installed a full independent access scaffold to all elevations from the ground floor that enabled the team to raise the 5.10m suspended standards up through the pockets (it was not feasible to lower anything longer than two metres coming down from the roof).

Each standard was anchored into the concrete roof structure along with an intricate web of bracing and counterbracing for weight displacement to avoid point overload.

At the base of the standards/ hangers a series of 450mm lightweight beams were installed and linked together and spliced at the plays to create a 'spider's web' effect of producing a uniformed load.

The scaffolding was then 'shrinkwrapped' with a 100%

recyclable plastic which would enable the client to project graphic images of the History of Freemasonry onto the structure.

Travelodge, Portsmouth
Denholm Industrial Services Ltd
 Contractor: DNBA Integrated Construction

Denholm Industrial Services demonstrated how a combination of skilled technical design, diligent contract management and the latest in scaffolding system innovation overcame access challenges of a concept building for Travelodge.



Denholm Industrial Services completed the scaffolding contract for a new Travelodge hotel in Portsmouth towards the end of 2019. The curved, 12-storey scaffolding enabled construction of the eye-catching 152-bedroom hotel.

Denholm Industrial Services deployed the Plettac Metrix scaffolding system, which incorporates the latest in safety innovation. Using the Plettac Metrix system provided additional benefits, such as speed of erection, while its inherent strength enabled Denholm Industrial Services to construct the 42 metre high scaffold without the need for double standards.

The bull nose end of the hotel, proved more challenging than a standard construction. However, a comprehensive scaffolding design by Denholm Industrial Group's technical manager, Nick Clark, with careful management by the team at Denholm's Winchester branch, ensured the scaffolding met the specification of the client.

Denholm Industrial Services managing director, Steve Hill, says investment in new systems provided the solution. "Denholm Industrial Services has always been a leader in providing alternative and efficient means of access. Following continued capital investment, we now offer our customers Plettac Metrix, the UK's most advanced integrated access system. As well as its unique safety features, its inherent light weight and innovative design makes it a highly efficient scaffolding system. Combined with our robust technical design skills and diligent contract management, we were able to overcome the access challenges of the curved feature of this new concept building for Travelodge." ●

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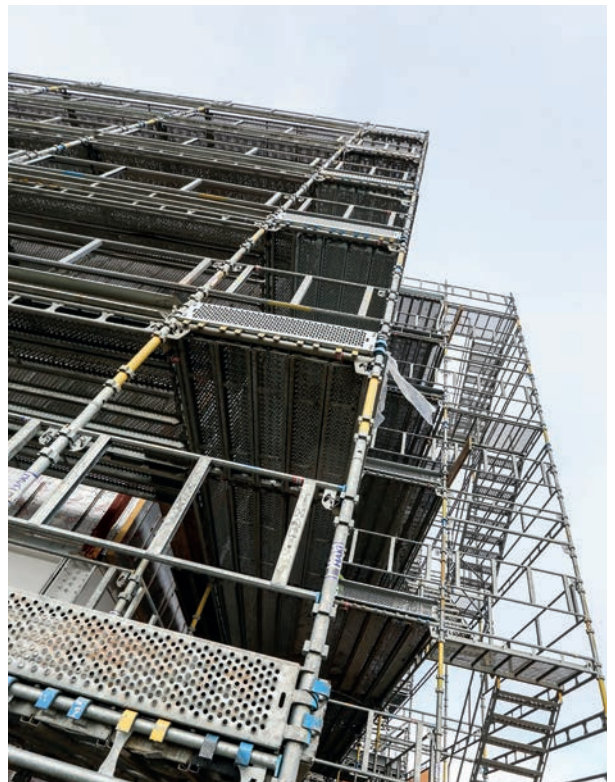
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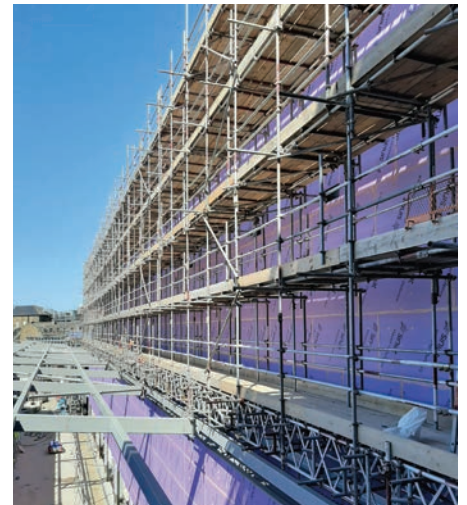


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FLYING THE FLAG

MEET A CHOICE FEW OF NASC MEMBERS AND
HEAR HOW THEY BENEFIT FROM MEMBERSHIP



APEX SCAFFOLDING (EXETER) LTD

How long have you been a NASC member?

A long time! But at least since the early 1990s.

What are your company specialisms?

Apex Scaffolding is a local family company with the mindset of a multi-national. This has enabled us to remain true to our roots, while still being able to service the blue-chip contractors who often come into the region.

To us, it doesn't matter if it is a house front for gutters, or a multi-million pound refurbishment, every job is important and requires the same standards, care and attention. We think that our operatives buy into this, and they are rewarded with working

on the most high profile and prestigious jobs in the region.

Why did you join the NASC?

Apex Scaffolding has always recognised the importance of being members of a trade association – especially one which has the history and drive of the NASC.

What do you gain from NASC membership?

To be at the forefront of the industry, by not only being members, but by making sure that we play an active role in the committees. There is no doubt that the NASC is fully committed to improving the industry, and this shows in our work, and it is great when you see it filtering down

“There is no doubt the NASC is fully committed to improving the industry and this shows in our work”

to the non-members too. This way, you know you are tendering competitively.

Membership also sets us in good stead with the companies who may not be based in the south west, but know that they can come to us, and get the same level of service and safety that they would from other member companies in the rest of the country.

During lockdown, the information coming from the NASC was second to none, and this gave so much comfort, that we were supported and appreciated for what we're still trying to do.

MG SCAFFOLDING (OXFORD) LTD

How long have you been a member?

Since 2008

Do you have a specialism?

Based in Cheltenham, Birmingham and Banbury, MG Scaffolding is a well-established scaffold contractor offering a professional, reliable service supported by realistic prices. We are CHAS Premium Plus approved, Constructionline members, and an SMAS worksafe contractor. We specialise in complex projects like The Queens Hotel, Cheltenham and Legoland Windsor.

Why did you join NASC?

Membership is the highest accolade in the scaffolding industry, which is recognised by most reputable construction companies. ▶

Above: Team spirit at
Apex Scaffolding

Below: MG
Scaffolding project





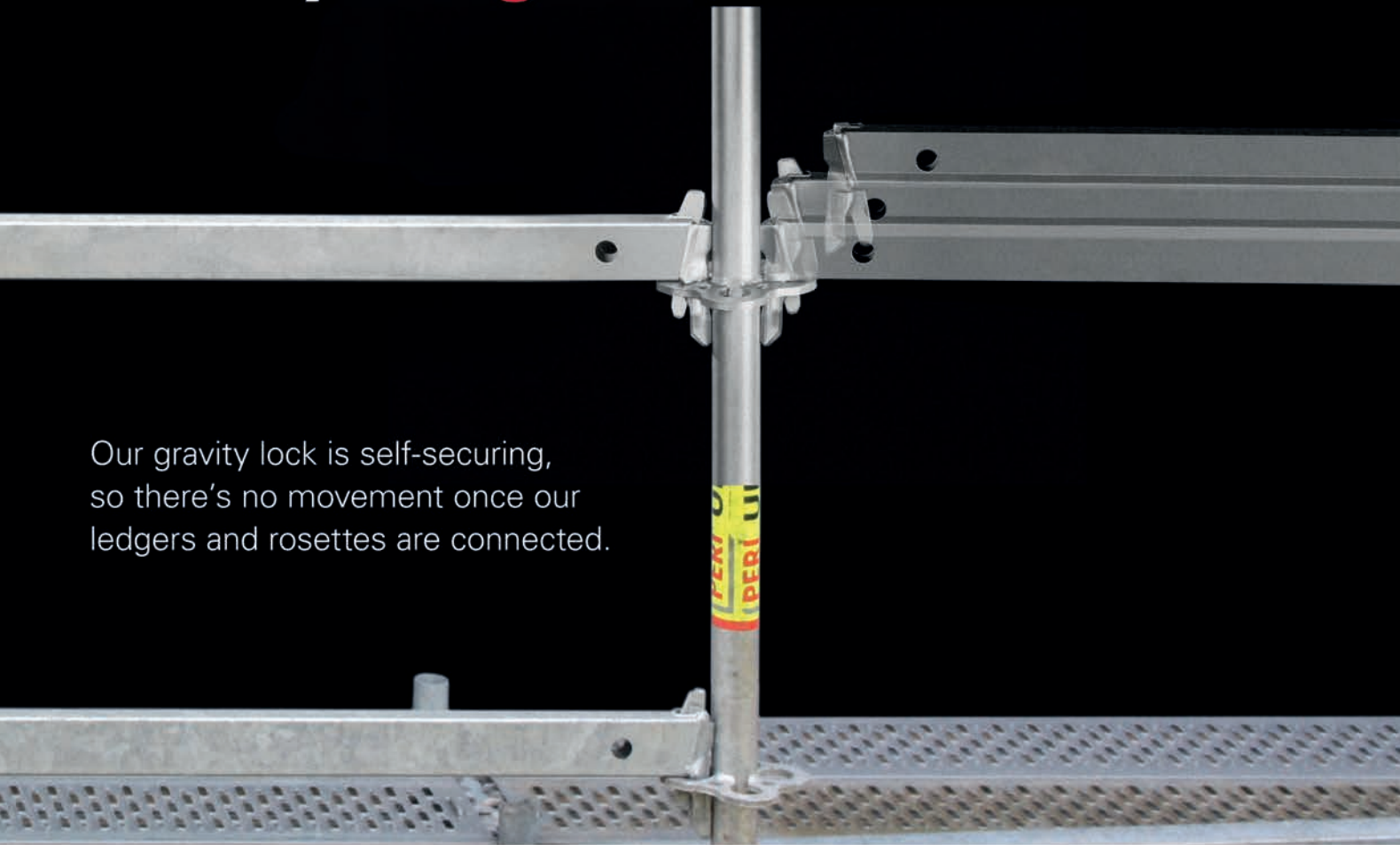
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Left: Enigma is a HAKI distribution partner;
Below: Enigma operative on site

Health and safety is at the heart of everything we do and this ensures that we are audited and our systems and procedures are all in place.

What do you gain from NASC membership?

NASC membership gives kudos with the bigger construction companies and many now insist on this as a pre-requisite when going through the procurement process. It also ensures that we are doing everything correctly through the rigorous audits, and having expert advice on hand and up to date health & safety information.

ENIGMA INDUSTRIAL SERVICES LTD

How long have you been a member?

Incorporated in 1935, Enigma Industrial Services Ltd was one of the founder members of the NASC since its inauguration in 1945.

Do you have a specialism?

Enigma Industrial Services Ltd provides an accredited safety-first professional service, operating

one of the UK's largest scaffolding asset bases with our own in-house engineering design team.

The organisation supports multiple market sectors and provides a full range of cost-effective solutions that can be delivered individually or seamlessly integrated as multi-disciplined packages for new build, refurbishment, project, outage or maintenance contracts.

Enigma is the official UK distribution partner for HAKI System Scaffolding and also provide additional services including insulation, protective coating and industrial cleaning with nationwide coverage.

Why did you join NASC?

Being a NASC committee member provides Enigma with a platform to become an advocate for the wider scaffolding industry community and actively contribute to its development.

By sharing specialist knowledge and connecting with like-minded industry leaders across the UK Enigma has benefited from privileged

access to industry events and conferences, that have provided invaluable insights and helped the organisation contribute to the latest innovations and new developments.

Active membership enhances the organisations' reputation and trust by reassuring customers that quality, safety, health and environmental best practice standards are maintained. With the CISRS training courses assisting employee professional development and maintaining high levels of competence throughout the organisation.

What do you gain from NASC membership?

The NASC provides Enigma and the industry with a focused group of industry leaders and government department specialists, who can bring common issues to the Government's attention.

The ability to strategically work with the government to create viable and applicable solutions for issues i.e. scaffold guidance notes will help move the industry forward. In essence, the NASC becomes a liaison platform with the government, for the overall good of the industry.

Being a member demonstrates Enigma's commitment to maintaining the enhanced industry standards set by the NASC when compared to non-members. By ensuring the latest legislative compliance and scaffold product accreditation are maintained.

The NASC Code of Practice audit validates Enigma's stance on only using BSI approved products or materials. Also, access to industry-wide safety statistics between members should ultimately make the scaffolding industry a safer place for all operators by helping to set new standards. ●



"Being a member demonstrates Enigma's commitment to maintaining the enhanced industry standards set by the NASC"

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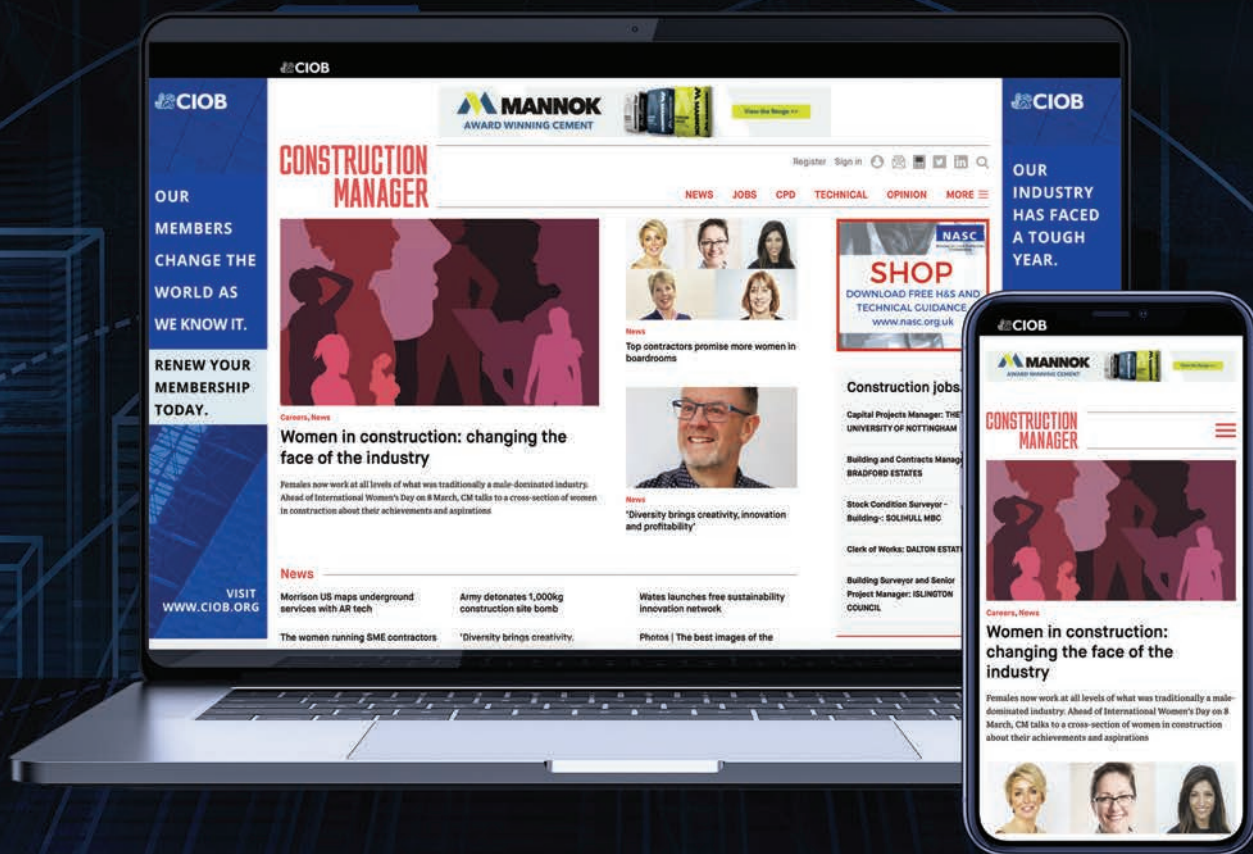
The NASC Safe Scaffolding Charter recognises the ever-growing number of organisations that place NASC membership at the heart of their scaffolding contractor procurement policies. Sign up below.

www.nasc.org.uk/information/safe-scaffolding-charter

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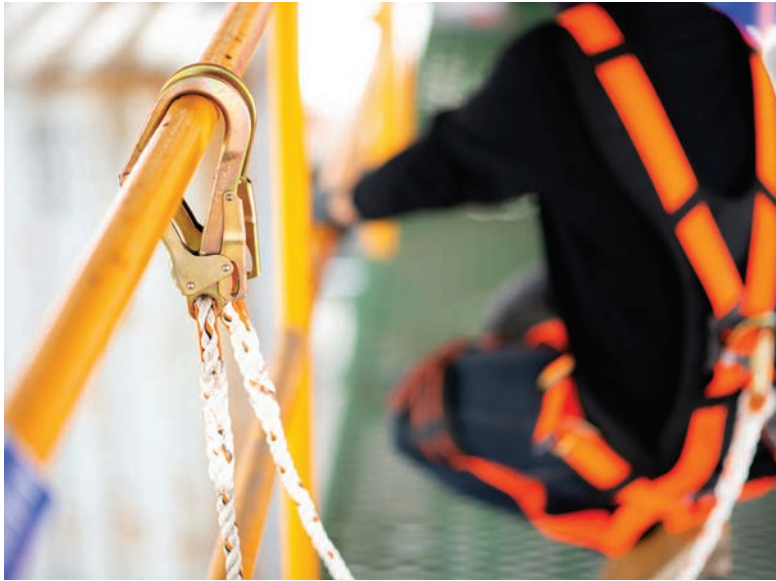
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INCIDENT REPORT

NASC MEMBERS' EXCELLENT SAFETY STATISTICS ARE NO ACCIDENT SAYS **SIMON ROBINSON**

NASC members work to the highest safety standards. This is evidenced in the annual NASC Safety Report, which charts the number and type of injuries suffered by NASC full contracting member operatives in the previous calendar year.

The latest Safety Report saw injuries fall to a record low – with just 74 incidents reported from a combined workforce of 17,000 scaffolding operatives in 2019. Of these incidents, 13 were recorded as major, requiring hospital treatment, with the remaining 61 recorded as over seven days. These figures are both the lowest on record.

Looking at the total injury figure another way, this meant that over

99% of NASC member-employed operatives went through 2019 accident and injury free. There were also no operative fatalities that year, for the seventh consecutive year.

The Safety Report and its headline figures receive a great deal of attention but less focus is given to how members ensure these numbers are so low. This includes the great lengths members go to in order to make sure their operatives fully buy into safe working practices each and every time they step on site.

It also relies on the NASC's ongoing commitment to improving safety standards; the creation and dissemination of safety-related toolbox talks; site posters; regular

99%
OF NASC
MEMBER-
EMPLOYED
OPERATIVES
WENT THROUGH
2019 ACCIDENT
AND INJURY
FREE

liaison with other bodies such as Build UK and the Health and Safety Executive; and review of NASC Safety Report data to identify ways to further drive injury incidents down.

Safer, more productive

It's clear that NASC members' outstanding safety statistics are no accident. We asked NASC members to explain the various steps they take to keep compliance with safety guidance at the forefront of their operatives' minds while working at height.

Roy Rogers, QSHE & energy director at Enigma Industrial Services Ltd, says: "At Enigma we have developed and implement several proactive procedures to drive cultural change at all levels. These include monitoring behaviour and quarterly campaigns. The Enigma Positive Intervention programme reinforces the company 'Stop Work' process, until suitable control measures have been implemented to permit the continuation of work safely. The Positive Intervention Programme provides positive rewards to change unsafe behaviours, reduce job-related injuries, minimise lost production hours, and improve workplace morale – all essential ingredients for creating a strong safety culture.

"Our quarterly campaigns are based on key trends identified through audit, inspection, incidents and/or industry trends. The first two campaigns 'Get It Right the First Time', 'Stop the drop' and Return to Work 2021 campaigns consisted of a video summarising the campaign and key messages, with a series of posters designed to help further support toolbox talks.

"A video demonstrating the consequences of dropped objects was produced under controlled conditions with an Enigma client. The next campaign will cover Work at Height." ▶

"The Positive Intervention Programme provides positive rewards to change unsafe behaviours, reduce injuries, minimise lost production hours and improve workplace morale."

**Roy Rogers,
Enigma Industrial
Services Ltd**

Helen Gawor, strategy director at GKR Scaffolding Ltd, says ensuring all operatives are working as they should could be a difficult challenge.

“There is no quick answer to this one. We have a health and safety league that means that all sites are rigorously audited on compliance through to behaviour. They get quite competitive. We have things like the virtual reality training but in my opinion, good safe behaviours come down to the level of high-quality supervision. The top sites for safety have better supervision.

“We use basic herd theory from behavioural science: everyone follows the herd. No one wants to be the one doing things differently.”

Digitalising safety

Rob Long, operations director at Tubes Scaffolding Ltd, says maintaining high safety standards was a balancing act between supervision and trust. “There is a huge element of trust involved. We operate an extensive training programme, with highly experienced, longstanding employees with a great work ethic, and don’t believe in micro managing to get the best out of our teams.

“Our site operatives complete ‘Point Of Work’ risk assessments on every project which will highlight any residual risks and additional controls required. These are in addition to the Risk Assessment Method Statements (RAMS) carried out and are an extensive measure taken to ensure a safe working environment.

“There is a fine line between balancing trust and undermining skillsets. We’re using technology to walk this line.

“We’re continuously monitoring technological advances on safety measures. We are currently improving our reporting process and converting to



“We’re continuously monitoring technological advances on safety measures. We are currently converting our reporting process to a digital solution”

Rob Long, Tubes Scaffolding Ltd

a digital solution. By developing an app, electronic reports will help to monitor projects, advance communication, automate notifications, provide increased visibility of projects and ultimately enable tighter control.”

Dedicated teams

MR Scaffolding Ltd employs a full time health and safety team, headed up by Matthew Trayfoot, H&S director with two managers and two assistant managers.

“Between the team, they ensure that all projects receive a proportionate amount of direct monitoring, with records of site visits recorded via internal auditing processes from which we evaluate our performance,” explains Dave Kearney, senior health

and safety manager. “Striving for employee ‘buy in’ to cultural changes is a key factor in driving standards ever upwards and we strongly believe that by actively engaging with our workforce they understand our commitment to them.

“MR also employs the services of Simian Risk Management to provide additional compliance monitoring and training of operatives where a needs analysis identifies any requirements. The H&S team assisted by the operations management team also provide pro-active monitoring of all our activities on site and mentor the workforce in best practice and improvements, which are discussed on a regular basis.

“As part of our continual improvement and development, the identification of personal protective equipment plays a significant part of reducing risks to both the company and the individuals. By investing in high quality PPE rather than the cheapest option, which is not always the best or most comfortable to use, the employees are more likely to adopt these changes and see them as a benefit to themselves and not just another company directive.

“We also see investing and researching into new and existing technologies as an overall benefit to the company, such as the introduction of tablets with cloud-based systems for site-based operations, this again is seen by the employees as a good thing as is welcomed from all levels of employees.” ●

Simon Robinson is the NASC marketing manager.

The NASC annual Safety Report is available for free download at <https://nasc.org.uk/information/safety-reports/>

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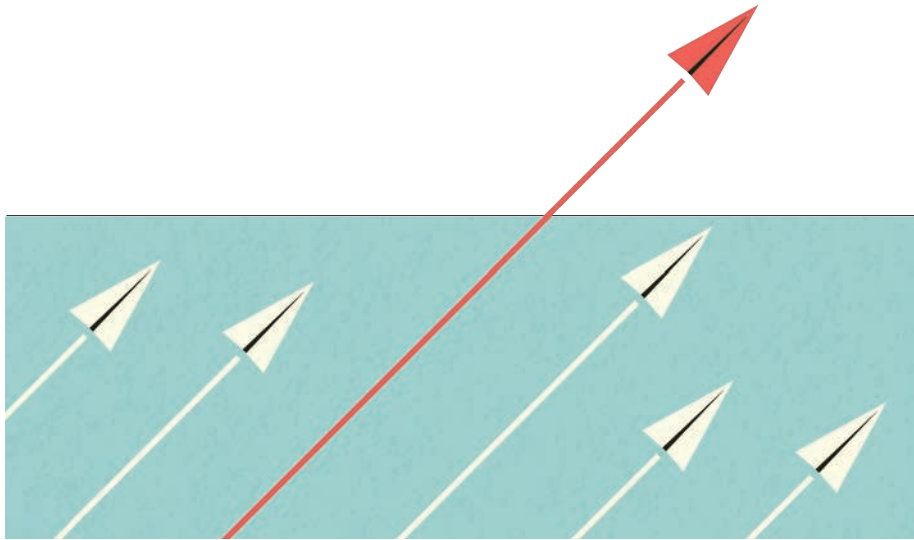
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VALUE ADDED

FOR ITS 2020 AWARDS NASC CREATED A NEW CATEGORY TO RECOGNISE EXCEPTIONAL INDIVIDUALS – THOSE WHO GO ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY

phase of works, following review of ladder applications and safer alternatives by NNB. As part of this, they worked vigorously alongside the client and tier 1 contractors to identify the redundant MK1 HAKI Stairs and copy systems across the Hinkley.

Simultaneously, Barry and Lester worked closely with the HAKI design team and BYLOR to conceptualise a challenging temporary roof solution to cover vital project equipment in the HPC West Pool Bunker. Their professional knowledge and experience meant final designs of the roof fulfilled complicated demands. They then proceeded to provide expert onsite supervision to BYLOR during the erection of the complex solution, with their diligence meaning “no stone was left unturned”.



Barry Taylor, Lester Brown
Onsite Technicians, HAKI

Barry Taylor and Lester Brown were integral to HAKI's successful involvement in the high-profile nuclear build project, Hinkley Point C (HPC).

Offering a vast number of years' experience in the energy, scaffolding, and temporary works industries, both Barry and Lester provided invaluable support to subcontractors, principal contractors, and end-client NNB. Working from the HPC site two to three days per week, away from their families, their commitment ensured best practice and safe application of a variety of access solutions and temporary roof systems.

Barry and Lester supported the transition to HAKI Symmetrical Stair Towers across the entire site during the excavation



“Their professional knowledge and experience meant final designs fulfilled complicated demands. They proceeded to provide expert onsite supervision during the erection of the complex solution”



Robin Whatling, scaffold inspector
Apex Scaffolding Exeter Ltd,

Since 2018, when he retired from the tools, Robin has diligently been inspecting all of Apex's scaffolds. He continued all the way through lockdowns to regularly visit sites which were otherwise shutdown, so that all the stakeholders could be safe in the knowledge that even while not in use, the scaffolds were still safe.

Rob also put himself forward to undertake mental health first aid training, and this has made him a valuable go between for the guys, when they have felt like they couldn't come into the office, and speaking to Rob on site was a less intimidating way of opening up.



Priscila Escobar, design engineering manager

HAKI

Priscila Escobar joined HAKI as design engineer in 2016, before being promoted to design manager in January 2020.

Since joining HAKI Priscila has become critical to the success of projects, but she has also gone above and beyond by supporting other areas of the business and the wider industry. This includes presenting to college students to highlight career pathways and diversity in construction and helping bring new design technologies, such as HAKI BIM, to market.

As design manager, Priscila liaises directly with customers and visits sites to establish project challenges and

requirements. She oversees the entire design process with external consultants and the in-house design, technical and sales teams, to provide solutions to contractors and their clients. Her proficiency has also extended support to global projects in Scandinavian, Canada, and Australia.

Tom Cook, area manager at HAKI, called Priscila 'rigorous' in her pursuit of solutions to complex problems in challenging environments.

"Her dedication, sense of urgency, and willingness to support the sales function and our customers helps to get the best outcomes for all concerned," he says. "These qualities make her popular with our clients, who see the value she adds to help them achieve their objectives."

Stuart Didd, project manager

Benchmark Scaffolding

Stuart first joined Benchmark Scaffolding Ltd (BSL) in 2010 as a basic scaffolder, rising through the ranks to project manager. He has successfully managed many prestigious projects for BSL including the Bracknell Shopping Centre for Mace Limited, the White City Shopping Complex for Westfield, and a major project at Battersea Power Station. He has overseen the construction of many large scaffolds and was at the helm of all the consultations and collaborations with the principle contractor during the planning stages. Stuart is an innovator and at these meetings, recommended safer plans of approach which not only reduced risk, but were economically sensible for those involved. In March 2020 Stuart contracted covid-19 whilst working at Battersea, but refused to hand over the helm, even during four days in hospital and the subsequent quarantine period. He kept in telephone contact with the project ensuring things were still being run right. Stuart continually looks for innovative solutions both to meet the client's brief, and to improve the working environment of his team.

Karl Purple, senior supervisor

Narford Scaffolding

Karl Purple joined Narford 26 years ago as a labourer, and worked his way up to senior supervisor in 2013. Stepping from 'one of the lads' to 'management' can be difficult, but Karl already had the respect from his whole team. With his vast experience and knowledge of the scaffolder's daily life, Karl's team accepts his help and instructions and know what is expected from them. At the same time Karl is approachable, and values their opinions and listens to concerns, reinforcing respect from both sides.

Before the country hit panic in March 2020, the managers had started implementing new SSOW. While some have become consumed in what has been going on around Karl stepped up. His presence, attitude, and delivery of new procedures was second to none.

Michelle Titmarsh, financial director, is full of praise for Karl. "The current situation has highlighted just how valuable Karl is. During the first lockdown, while still supervising our active sites, Karl rose to the challenges it presented and shone above and beyond by developing new innovations for our SSOW; producing details RAMs;

checking individuals were happy and felt safe; checking weekly on operatives; always putting operative safety first.

"As sites reopened Karl produced an extensive back to work briefing, with the first point always being 'how have YOU found this shut down?'."

"It's Karl's strong values and understanding that put him levels above the rest." ●



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“TG20:13 revolutionised the way scaffolding contractors produce compliant layouts. TG20:21 is another step forward”

Lynn Way, NASC President

NASC President Lynn Way said: “TG20:13 was a huge step forward for the scaffolding industry, revolutionising the way scaffolding contractors produce compliant layouts for day-to-day scaffolding and ensure their scaffolding projects are safe and conform to legal requirements. This tool has been widely adopted and appreciated by not only scaffolding contractors but also their clients, who have gained peace of mind that the scaffolding erected on their site is fully compliant and safe.

“TG20:21 is another step forward. The scope of TG20 been expanded and also further simplified – making it easier than ever to use and covering a broader range of scaffolding.

“On top of this, the TG20:21 suite will be accessible via a dedicated digital portal, again, making it much more user friendly. I’d like to thank all the NASC Committees that played a part in working on TG20:21 as well as our long-standing software developers CADS for its effort in bringing it to life.

“Of course, the work doesn’t stop here and we’ll continue to innovate and improve in any way we can to make the scaffolding industry safer for all.”

What’s new?

The latest version includes a number of revisions to make the process of producing compliant scaffolding – in accordance with the European

VITAL READING

TG20:21, THE MUST-HAVE GUIDANCE FOR SCAFFOLDING, IS NOW ON SALE

The NASC’s eagerly-anticipated eGuide scaffolding compliance software update and expansion – TG20:21 – will be launched in March.

TG20 provides the definitive guidance document for scaffolding constructed with tube and fittings throughout the UK. It comprises four elements: the Operational Guide, the Design Guide, the User Guide and the NASC’s innovative, user-friendly and widely-adopted eGuide software.

TG20:21 provides principal contractors and clients with essential information to monitor that all scaffolding structures constructed on a project have been suitably planned and ‘designed’ as required by the Work at Height Regulations 2005.

The eGuide allows users to produce a ‘generally recognised standard configuration’ in the form of a TG20 compliance sheet, or alerts them to the requirement for a specific design to be made by a competent scaffold designer.

Compliance sheets can be produced to provide essential information for the construction of every individual scaffold and can be used as evidential documentation for inclusion within the construction phase plan.

The full suite of documents also provide a vital reference for health and safety professionals, temporary works coordinators and construction managers who have responsibilities for planning, monitoring and documenting the work and the competence of contractors.

The eGuide is an essential for adhering to compliance

standard BS EN 12811 – even simpler. It also includes a wider range of scaffolding types to make the software even more useable.

TG20:21 expands on and adds to TG20:13. The updated version will include exterior birdcages, tube and fitting mobile towers, loading bays without beams and tied independent scaffolds with three inside boards. TG20 compliance sheets will now be double-sided with an illustration and principal compliance criteria on the front side and detailed compliance criteria listed on the reverse in landscape format.

TG20:21 will build on the success of TG20:13, which has made the process of producing a range of compliant scaffolding designs simple for all scaffolding contractors. In a relatively short period of time, TG20 has become recognised and adopted by the scaffolding industry and the wider construction industry as a whole, helping to ensure that scaffolding contractors and principal contractors are clear on what scaffolding will be erected and its



suitability for the project.

TG20:21 takes TG20:13 several steps further. There will be:

- A broader range of scaffolding types included
- More design variables such as wider loading bays, extended inside boards and updated design information
- More user-friendly process of

TG20 compliance sheets will now be double-sided with illustration on the front side and details criteria on the reverse

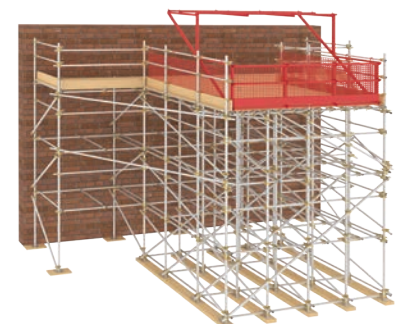
creating a compliance sheet.

- More comprehensive and easier to understand compliance sheets
- Access to updated Operational and Design guides via an online portal which includes a search function will enable users to find the content they're looking for more easily and also while on site (via a tablet or mobile rather than via 'loaded' computer software and 'hard' copy guidance documents).
- Access from multiple machines (one at a time) rather than use being tied to one installation.

Accessing TG20:21

Users will be able to access the TG20:21 eGuide – and the associated and updated Operational and Design guides – via a link from the NASC website using a unique serial number and login credentials, rather than via a file download or CD. Printed copies of the three books will also be available following the launch.

The software (together with online access to the Operational and Design Guides) will be available on an annual subscription basis, costing NASC members £75 per eGuide per year and non-members £300 per year. Discounts will be available for longer subscription periods. To ensure the transition for existing users from TG20:13 to TG20:21 is as fair as possible, there will be a short period of free use of the new software. ●



TG20:21 compliance sheet
A tied independent tube and fitting scaffold in accordance with TG20:21 chapters 06 and 07.

Sign-off
Compiled on:
ABC-1234
Client:
ABC Construction Ltd.
Site reference:
NASC, 12 Bridwell Place,
London, EC4V 6AP
Scaffold reference:
0001
Company:
Scaffolding Services Ltd.
NASC member number:
Not an NASC member
Prepared by:
Fred Jones
Role:
Site Manager
Signature:

Date:
01/01/2021
Checked by:
John Smith
Role:
Contracts Manager
Signature:

Date:
01/01/2021
Notes:
 Some notes may be provided here.

Wind factor 20	Maximum height	Maximum boarded lifts	Maximum lift height	Maximum bay length	Maximum boards wide	Maximum loading	The least Very light duty	Maximum leg load
Low	12 metres	4	2 metres	2 metres	5 + 2	2.0 kN/m²	1.6 kN	11.4 kN

“TG20 has become recognised and adopted by the scaffolding industry and the wider construction industry as a whole”



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BENEFITS CHECK

INNOVATION UNDERPINS SAFETY, PERFORMANCE AND PRODUCTS IN THE SCAFFOLDING AND ACCESS INDUSTRY. **SEAN PIKE** REPORTS

All manufacturers of scaffolding products strive towards the same goals. Maximising installation safety, simplicity and efficiency – which have a direct bearing on competitiveness and profitability – and, of course, ensuring safety is optimised, have always been key areas in which contractors have looked towards their suppliers.

GKR used virtual reality for its safety training

In both respects, of course, the industry cannot stand still and there is a constant drive towards developing systems of scaffolding, access, weather protection and technology that bring about improved performance.

At the heart of this scenario is innovation. Yet while it may be manufacturers who introduce new methods, it is so often the contracting sector that provides the inspiration. Equipment installers are invariably best placed to identify areas where specific challenges exist and, by then working closely with the manufacturing sector, solutions can often be created. There is no substitute for direct feedback from those ‘in the field’.

A range of examples can be noted where this principle has brought about clear-cut benefits. Not only is there a greater choice of specific components available today to meet a vast range of installation needs, but other key areas, such as project design, also bring new opportunities.

Computer-aided systems – such as the Layher Scaffold Information Modelling (SIM) software – is perhaps a prime example. With on-screen or virtual visualisation capability that not only helps optimise installation efficiency by, for example, identifying potential clash areas, they also impact directly on the accurate identification of material needs. This principle could also be utilised in training, specifically training of scaffolders, safely, in the virtual world – which some NASC/CISRS members have already begun to trial, demonstrating that again, collectively, the NASC leads the way.

Yet while close links between contractor and manufacturer often create a path towards innovations that improve efficiency, it is in the

“While it may be manufacturers who introduce new methods, it is so often the contracting sector that provides the inspiration”

area of safety that, perhaps, the most important benefits can be seen.

From optimised methods of construction, where safe erection is built into product design, to help to ensure site delivery and storage procedures follow appropriate guidelines – all are central to safe operating procedures. So often they have been brought about through cooperation by all relevant parties.

The development of lightweight components is clearly under the spotlight in this context. The availability of high tensile steel has enabled manufacturers to maintain or even increase the strength of their products while, at the same time, reducing their weight. This has a direct bearing on physical handling to the extent that it can make a positive contribution to reducing the risk of musculoskeletal disorders.

Moreover, lighter weight can often mean less bulk with a beneficial impact on transport and storage.

When the view is taken that manufacturers and contractors are, in effect, part of the same team then the route for ever greater innovation is well founded.

As a consequence, the resulting steps towards better site efficiency and safety that can be readily identified today, point towards even greater benefits in the future. ●

Sean Pike is chair of the NASC Hire, Sales and Manufacturing Committee.

DEFENDING STANDARDS

MoD CONTRACTOR IS THE LATEST COMPANY TO SIGN UP TO NASC SAFE SCAFFOLDING CHARTER

The NASC scaffolding charter has gained another signatory with Aspire Defence Services Ltd, a Ministry of Defence-attached contractor. Aspire follows Multiplex, Amey, Hinkley Point C developers Nuclear New Build Generation, DE Construct and Knight Harwood in signing the NASC Charter, which recognises the ever-growing number of organisations that place NASC membership at the heart of their scaffolding contractor procurement policies.

The Charter is open to any organisation that has specified 'NASC-only' in their scaffolding-related tender documents and/or has had an established commercial relationship with a full NASC member for at least a year.

Through using NASC members for their scaffolding needs, Charter signatories have recognised the value of the NASC membership – which has to be earned by meeting a stringent set of qualifying criteria unparalleled in the scaffolding industry.

Aspire builds, improves and maintains soldiers' single living and working accommodation on several Army garrisons, and specifies 'NASC-only' for its UK-based scaffolding-related works.

Richard Tindal, ADSL's capital projects

“ADSL contracts the best local businesses in and around the garrisons on Salisbury Plain and in Aldershot. The company has a strict policy and stipulates that all scaffold contractors must be NASC members”

director, said: “ADSL contracts the best local businesses in and around the garrisons on Salisbury Plain and in Aldershot. The company has a strict policy and stipulates that all scaffold sub-contractors must be NASC members, otherwise they would not be on the business's approved vendor list.

“We specify NASC membership to our scaffolders because of its industry set and recognised standards. These demonstrate consistency across our contractor base and are the benchmark standard, as well as highlighting their commitment to safety and high standards.

“Our-sub contractors rigidly follow national health and safety guidelines and have had an excellent safety record across the garrisons during the Army Basing Programme (ABP).”

Robin James, NASC managing director, said: “We are pleased that Aspire Defence Services Ltd has decided to sign the NASC Safe Scaffolding Charter and happy to hear that the commitment to safety and excellence that underpins all NASC activities and NASC working practices are recognised and valued by ASDL.

“We know that there are many more companies across the UK that are eligible to feature on our NASC Charter webpage and would encourage them to come forward to get the recognition their exemplary scaffolding procurement decision deserves.” ●

For more on the NASC's Safe Scaffolding Charter visit the NASC website and search for 'Charter'.

A gym on one of the Aspire garrison projects with the scaffolding work carried out by Ideal Scaffolding Ltd. It is thought to have the largest span scaffold roof in the UK at the time.





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