

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Fort Worth District
Safety & Occupational Health Office**

Lessons Learned

ACCIDENT: Fall from Scaffold

Date: 05 Dec 2002

WHAT HAPPENED: Worker was working on scaffolding that was not completely planked or properly secured. He fell five feet striking his head and left hip.

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:

- Scaffolding was not planked properly or secured.

RESULTS: Injury to head and left hip

LESSONS LEARNED:

Reference- EM 385-1-1, USACE SAFETY & HEALTH Requirements Manual

- **Contractor shall ensure that employees are trained and that scaffolds are completely planked and properly secured at all times.**

21.A.16 Training.

a. Each employee who might be exposed to fall hazards shall be trained by a competent person qualified in the following areas, in the safe use of accessways and fall protection systems and the recognition of hazards related to their use, including:

22.A.01 Manufactured work platforms shall be erected, used, inspected, tested, maintained, and repaired in accordance with the manufacturers' recommendations as outlined in the operating manual or in accordance with guidance from the scaffolding, Shoring, and Forming Institute. A copy of the manufacturer's recommendations (operating manual) or guidance from the scaffolding, Shoring, and Forming Institute shall be available at the work site.

22.B.05 Working levels of work platforms shall be fully planked or decked.