



HEALTH, SAFETY,
& ENVIRONMENTAL



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DO NOT WELD ON METAL SCAFFOLD COMPONENTS

Welding on Scaffold Material is Strictly Prohibited

Metal scaffold frames, tubes, braces, and components are **engineered and load-rated systems**. Any field welding or modification can compromise their structural integrity and create a serious fall hazard.

Why Welding is Dangerous

Structural Weakening

- Heat from welding changes the metal's properties.
- Creates a **Heat Affected Zone (HAZ)** that can reduce strength.
- Can cause cracking, brittleness, or hidden stress points.
- Voids the manufacturer's load rating and certification.

Even a small weld can significantly reduce the component's ability to safely support workers and materials.

Regulatory & Liability Exposure

Standards enforced by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) require scaffolds to be used as designed and in accordance with manufacturer specifications.

Unauthorized welding:

- Violates manufacturer requirements
- May result in citations
- Transfers liability to the contractor
- Increases risk of structural failure and serious injury

What To Do Instead

- **Remove damaged components from service immediately**
- Replace with manufacturer-approved parts
- Never modify scaffold frames, braces, pins, or tubes
- Consult Engineering or HSE if a modification appears necessary

Remember:

- **If it wasn't designed to be welded — DON'T WELD IT.**
Scaffold systems are engineered for safety. Altering them puts lives at risk.

Proper use of the **GIS LIFE Processes** can help to create a **FAIL-SAFE** Work Environment.

SAFETY ALERT

