

Technical Bulletin No: 38-2017

Title:	Tower Scaffold Component Compatibility
Priority	Amber – Audit Rating: Non-Conformance-Minor
Legislation:	PUWER, W@H, HASWA S6
Brief Description:	Many components of tower scaffold from different manufacturers may fit one another however they are not deemed compatible by their manufacturers
Equipment Affected:	Tower scaffold components – all manufacturers




During SafeHire audits it has been identified that some hire companies carry a mixture of tower scaffold components from different manufacturers.

Many types of scaffold have components that fit together with similar dimensions however to prove compatibility these mixtures of items would have to be subject to rigorous performance tests in every possible configuration to enable their use as a mixed assembly to be signed off.

Completing compatibility testing is not practicable for the huge combinations of components, tower scaffold from different manufacturers is **not** compatible. Towers in hire fleets should be segregated by manufacturer and not sent out as a mix of components.

Tower scaffold should also have an manufacturers label/decal as per BS EN 1004/1:2020. The manufacturers label must be visible from ground level showing: manufacturer's name, designation, and *“Read the instruction manual”*
The instructions can be shown as a symbol in accordance with ISO7010:2019 or text written in the official language of the country where the product is placed on the market'



Mixture of Frames + Frame Decal Illegible	PASMA Tower Inspection Guidance Poster	Mixture of Frames + Spigot Caps Missing
		

Recommended Actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review existing holdings of tower scaffold components and segregate components from different manufacturers Consult your tower scaffold supplier. Many suppliers offer ‘trade-in’ service where your old components from other suppliers can be traded in towards the replacement cost Train hire team regarding component compatibility and inspection Use PASMA Inspection Poster or manufacturer supplied poster as additional guidance for hire team
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Circulation:	workshops, mobile service and management team
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