WORK METHOD STATEMENT ERECTION OF INSULATED HOARDING

SCREEN (I.H.S)

10th February 2012

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PREPARED BY:

DATE:

Sam Soukie-Regional Manager

REVIEWED BY:

Doug Crawford- Marron Consultancy

DATE:

APPROVED BY:

Micheal El Jarrar- Project Manager

DATE:

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this Work Method Statement (WMS) is to provide details pertaining to the safe erection of Insulated Hoarding Screen (I.H.S).

WORKSITE LOCATION

The worksite could potentially be located anywhere where a scaffold needs to be erected in close proximity of electrical power lines.

BACKGROUND

When erecting scaffolding, safety of personnel associated with the scaffolding is paramount. In particular, in environments where live electrical cables are situated in the area where the scaffolding is to be erected, attention must be paid to ensure that the scaffolding or the people on the scaffolding do not come into contact with the live electrical cables.

Currently when scaffolding needs to be erected in close proximity to any power lines it is common place for the owner/operator of the power lines to de-energize the lines prior to the erection of the metal scaffolding. However this could be extremely problematic for the owner/operator who may require the power lines to be active at most times so that there are no disruptions to the immediate and surrounding areas.

In order to address this problem the owner/operator of the power lines are required to de energize the live electrical cables at less inconvenient times such as at night or very early morning where there will be minimal disruption. This may cause additional problems for the personnel erecting the scaffold as they are forced to work throughout the night where artificial light may not be sufficient and fatigue may become a factor these two elements may hinder the scaffolding contractor and their employees in complying with the required safety regulations.

Another major factor of this current process is the costs involved, it has the potential to be extremely costly to the principal contractor and the owner of the asset because they are

forced to pay additional costs on the project to the owner/operator of the power lines to de energize the lines and additional costs for labour that is carried out outside of normal working hours.

ERECTION OF INSULATED HOARDING SCREENS (I.H.S)

The principal of using the I.H.S system, an electrically insulating system is to erect one or more panels of the system on the ground between the location of the electrical power lines and the intended location of the metal scaffolding for subsequent work. I.H.S panels are erected to a height always greater than and in advance of each lift of the metal scaffolding.

(Therefore in more detail, a portion of the screen is erected to an initial height along and initial length in a defined area where the electrical cables exist.)

STEP 1- The first I.H.S screen is placed into position and a stabilizing mechanism is then attached to the screen to ensure the screen is supported at all times. When the first screen is self-supporting more screens can be added to the initial screen at the base level to achieve the required length of protection.

STEP 2- Only when the I.H.S screens are at the required length and completely supported by the stabilizers can erection of the scaffold commence.

NOTE During this procedure, ensure the height of the scaffolding does not exceed the height of the screen, the length of the scaffolding does not exceed the length of the screens and the scaffolding is erected on the side of the screen that is opposite to the side where the live cables are located.

STEP 3- When the first row of I.H.S screens has been erected and the base run of the scaffold has been erected then attach the screen to the scaffold using nylon clamps. A minimum of 6 clamps per screen must be used.

STEP 4- When the base run of the I.H.S screens is complete to its intended length and has been attached to the scaffold further screens may be positioned on top of the base run of screens to increase the height of the screen.

This process is repeated until the insulated screen and the scaffold are at the desired height **Remember that the top of the scaffold must always be lower than the top of the I.H.S screen**. Please refer to photos attached at the end of this document outlining each step.

HOARDING MATERIAL

The insulated hoarding screen (I.H.S) consists of a 10mm thick Layer of Foamex PVC bolted with M12 nylon bolts to a fiberglass frame. The standard panels will vary in the width size to suit the modular scaffold system these size are 1130mm, 674mm and 520mm in width centre-to-centre of the fiberglass frame. The height of the panel overall is 2130mm.

IDENTIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT OF HAZARDS

Falls from heights

The insulated hoarding screen must be erected by a certificated scaffolder. Edge protection comprising toe boards and guard railing are to be incorporated into the perimeter scaffold as it is erected.

All work is to be carried out sequentially so that edge protection is the first component to be installed and the last to be removed, and scaffolders always work from fully completed decks.

The hoarding screens are to be lifted into position by two scaffolders and securely fixed in place.

Prior to lifting the screens into position ensure that 2 lanyards with D shackles and scaffold hooks on either end are attached to the screen and then fixed to the scaffold Recommended Lanyard length is to be maximum 1500mm.

Falling objects

The area underneath the hoarding screen is to be barricaded to form an exclusion zone to ensure members of the public or other trades personnel are excluded from the area.

Danger tags and warning signs are to be positioned on the outside of the work area to warn people of the hazards.

All hoarding, scaffold components are to be "handballed" according to AS4576 i.e. all components are to be securely held by each worker until the adjacent worker that the component is being passed to takes a secure hold of the component. Under no circumstances are any components are to be thrown or dropped.

Electrical Hazards

The fiberglass hoarding screen is to be erected in stages and each panel is fixed in position prior to the installation of the scaffold. The fiberglass screen will therefore form a barrier between the power lines and the metal scaffold and the worksite.

The fiberglass screen will form a rigid barrier that will act as protection should a scaffold component fall towards the direction of the power lines.

The fiberglass screen is to remain in position until all works near the power lines are completed on site.

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STEP 2/3 SCAFFOLD CAN NOW BE ERECTED BEHIND THE SCREENS AND SECURED USING NYLON CLAMPS.



Internal View



Side View

786 AD

NOTE During this procedure, ensure the height of the scaffolding does not exceed the height of the screen, the length of the scaffolding does not exceed the length of the screens and the scaffolding is erected on the side of the screen that is opposite to the side where the live cables are located.

Face View

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Actual On-site Photos were I.H.S System has been used



Base run of scaffold has been erected And the screen has been tied into the scaffold using Nylon Clamps.



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Pull off cables going through the screen at Sydenham train station

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Scaffold Erected 2.6m from live power 1500Volt Cables.

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I.H.S. and scaffold at the finished height at Sydenham train station on platform 2 also erected within 2m of the 1500 Volt Cables.

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Residential Apartment Block Illawarra Rd Marrickville External Face screen face approx. 1200mm from power lines



Internal Face of the screens at above address

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