

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Scaffolding

Part 4: Suspended scaffolding



AS/NZS 1576.4:2013

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee BD-036, Scaffolding. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 24 June 2013 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 23 April 2013.

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee BD-036, Scaffolding, to supersede AS 1576.4—1991.

The objective of this Standard is to provide manufacturers and suppliers of suspended scaffolds and accessories with requirements for the proper operation of suspended scaffolds. Unlike independent scaffolds, suspended scaffolds have various rated capacities rather than being light, medium, heavy and special duty. Modular cradles may have different rated capacities, depending on the length of cradle.

The objective of this revision is to provide designers, manufacturers and suppliers of suspended scaffolds and accessories, up-to-date information and application on the equipment used currently in the suspended scaffold industry.

This edition incorporates the following major changes to the 1991 edition:

- (a) Rope factor of safety (as in AS 1418.2) has been reduced from 10 to 8 to align with European Standards. (All scaffold hoists are now imported and it is appropriate that the values used by the hoist designers be followed.)
- (b) Inclusion of a test to confirm the strength of a cradle assembly as an alternative to design by analysis (Appendix G).
- (c) Inclusion of mandatory secondary rope at each suspension point.
- (d) The following informative elements have been added and in some instances provide similar information to AS/NZS 4576, *Guidelines for Scaffolding*:
 - (i) Examples of different configurations of suspended scaffolding (Appendix A).
 - (ii) Safety procedures for unattended cradles (Appendix B).
 - (iii) Operational guidance (Appendix C).
 - (iv) Advice on inspection and maintenance (Appendix D).
 - (v) Relevant matters to be checked before installation and use (Appendix E).
 - (vi) Flow chart outlining the different phases of the design, supply and use of suspended scaffolds (Appendix F).
 - (v) Cradle strength test (Appendix G).

The terms 'normative' and 'informative' have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard whereas an 'informative' appendix is only for information and guidance.

This Standard incorporates a Commentary on some Clauses. The Commentary directly follows the relevant clause, is designated by 'C' preceding the clause number and is printed in italics in a panel. The Commentary is intended to help readers understand the background to the clause but does not form part of the clause.

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SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE

This Standard sets out requirements for the materials and design of suspended scaffolding including the supporting structure. It includes guidance on the use of suspension rigs.

This Standard is complementary to AS/NZS 1576.1, but the requirements given herein take precedence over the corresponding requirements of AS/NZS 1576.1.

NOTES:

- 1 This Standard incorporates relevant text from AS/NZS 4576 for suspended scaffolding to provide industry guidance.
- 2 Examples of different configurations of suspended scaffolds are shown in Appendix A.
- 3 Safety precautions that should be taken for unattended cranes are given in Appendix B.
- 4 Operational guidance is given in Appendix C.
- 5 Guidance on inspection and maintenance of suspended scaffolding equipment is given in Appendix D.
- 6 Checklists for planning and installation are given in Appendix E.
- 7 A flow chart for the different phases of selecting, installing and using a suspended scaffold are given in Appendix F.
- 8 Cradle strength test is given in Appendix G.

This Standard is applicable to all types of suspended scaffolding regardless whether the suspension rig is fixed or has horizontal movement capability.

This Standard does not cover building maintenance units.

1.2 APPLICATION

This Standard shall be used in conjunction with AS/NZS 1576.1.

1.3 NORMATIVE REFERENCES

The following are the normative documents referenced in this Standard:

NOTE: Documents referenced for informative purposes are listed in the Bibliography.

AS	
410	Cranes, hoists and winches
1418.1	Part 1: General requirements
1418	Cranes (including hoists and winches)
1418.2	Part 2: Serial hoists and winches
1444	Wrought alloy steels—Standard and hardenability (H) series
1874	Aluminium and aluminium alloys—Ingots and castings
2317	Collared eyebolts