

Risk Management Survey Report

Formark Scaffolding



128-130 Frant Road
Thornton Heath
Surrey
CR7 7JU

Date of Report: 12 September 2007

Produced by:

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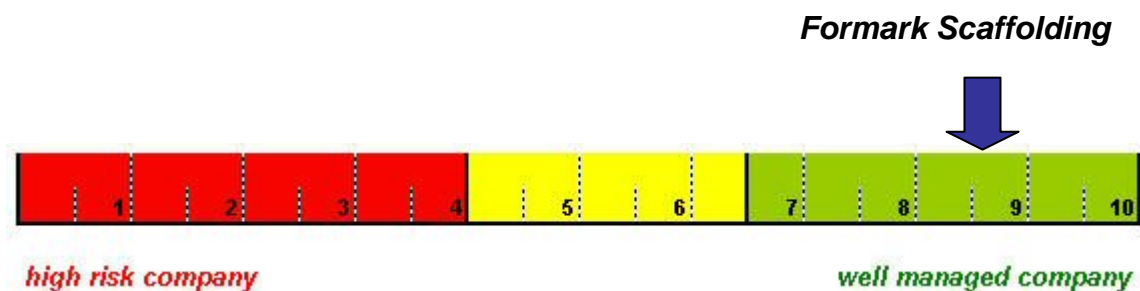
Hamilton Deed

CAM rating 8.6

Formark Scaffolding (Holdings) Ltd has maintained its commitment to a high standard of health and safety.

The company would be able to mitigate any potential of having to defend itself in court.

The workforce is well trained, to CITB standards. This training is reviewed at regular intervals and is refreshed where required. A comprehensive training matrix has been developed and is maintained at regular intervals. The company is a member of NASC, which monitors the company for best practice. The CAM rating has increased from 8.2 to 8.6. This is a reflection of the dedication and commitment shown by everyone within the company.



Assessor Comment

“In my overall opinion the company has maintained its commitment to high standards of health and safety, and is able to demonstrate that safety is taken serious by senior management and employees alike. Most areas that required attention from the survey in 2006 have been dealt with. Remaining areas, such as the stress policy can be dealt with when medical questionnaires are sent out.”

Key Findings

- The company has undertaken reviews of its risk assessments in the key business areas which are likely to have a high impact.
- Yard personnel were wearing safety footwear, and other relevant PPE. Equipment used within the loading area had been inspected and was serviced at prescribed intervals.
- All site personnel were wearing all relevant PPE, had been through site induction, and were all working safely.
- Working practices and the standards set were noted as being to best practice, as is required by membership of NASC.
- Risk assessments have still not been carried out on stress management.

Background

John Sharp, of Hamilton Deed, conducted a second review of the health and safety management system used within Formark Scaffolding (Holdings) Ltd on 12th September 2007.

The review included a discussion with Mark Endersby, Finance Director, an inspection of the offices and yard at Frant Road, and two unannounced visits to George Wimpey housing sites at Brown Close, the Roundshaw Estate, Wallington, Surrey, and to Park 25, Redhill, Surrey.

Discussion with George Wimpey site management at the above sites highlighted that Formark's standard of work was high and with a highly committed safe workforce.

Hamilton Deed also audits Formark Scaffolding on three other occasions during the year. These mini-audits comprise of site visits to monitor what is happening on the ground, and also to gauge reaction to the company's health and safety system from the workforce. The directors publicise the results of these audits to the workforce through tool box talks and newsletters sent with employees pay slips. The company directors have been advised to publicise the low accident figures to employees and to prospective clients.

All relevant documentation that was examined was in hard copy print form with electronic back up copies of most documents being available. A number of documents were selected at random. These included the company health and safety policy and statements and various risk assessments that had been reviewed, also the EL and PL insurance documents.

Formark Scaffolding (Holdings) Ltd has maintained its membership of NASC. It provides accident data to NASC on an annual basis to determine accidents rates within the membership of NASC. This information is published by NASC and is in the public domain.

Review Scope

The organisation engages in a number of activities that could result in serious injury or fatalities if that activity is not strictly controlled. In addition, several other activities are undertaken which could result in exposing employees to work related ill health risks.

The **CAM** rating given for this review considers the likelihood of an incident occurring when compared to the company's ability to defend against any resulting civil or legal action. This requires a comparison of the documentary evidence (policies and procedures) and the working practices observed in the workplace and at client sites.

Special consideration has been given to the high impact areas where it is considered that health and safety management contributes most to business continuity within an organisation of this type.

High Impact Areas – Key Risks

The following activities have been identified as having the most critical impact on the client's business activities. They are intrinsic to a scaffolding company.

1. Falls from Height

Falls from a height are a major hazard for scaffolders. This is mitigated by CITB accredited training, the provision of safety harnesses and lanyards and by adequate levels of supervision. The company carries these out at regular intervals.

2. Manual Handling

There is a risk of manual handling injuries from the movement of scaffold tubes, fittings and scaffold boards. This is mitigated, or reduced, again by adequate training, supervision, method statements and the expertise and knowledge of the workforce. Adequate levels of personnel on site also reduce the potential for manual handling injuries.

3. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

PPE is a requirement on all major construction sites, both commercial and house building. The company provides all the PPE that is required and ensures that it is used. Site management also monitor the wearing of PPE when on site. PPE is replaced at regular intervals, as it becomes damaged, dirty, or reaches the end of its designated life.

4. External Driving

This includes the loading and unloading of vehicles on site. Policies covering drug and alcohol abuse, medical fitness checks and the correct usage of mobile phones should be in place to minimise the risks associated with driving.

5. Interface with other Contractors

The interface with other contractors is an important issue. The potential for injuries is high, but is controlled through supervision by a full-time Contract Manager. The company provides the means of access for a number of other trades e.g., bricklayers. Site awareness is of high importance. The company places this awareness high on his health and safety agenda.

Observations

From this review of the safety management system in operation at Formark Scaffolding with Mark Endersby, Financial Director, it could be seen that there is a positive commitment to health and safety at senior management level within the company. This is supported by relevant documented evidence to back-up and substantiate their approach should the need arise to defend any potential court action.

Specific highlights

Several areas that were identified in the audit in 2006 had not been fully dealt with. These areas should now be dealt with as soon as possible.

These areas include the following:

- Health and safety statistics not being publicised.
- No risk assessments undertaken for stress management and policy.
- No pre-employment medical screening for new starters to the company.
- No evidence of formal employee participation in health and safety development.
- No evidence of the fire alarm procedure/system having been tested regularly.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are considered as being necessary to ensure that Formark Scaffolding can reduce its exposure to the key risks identified.

- Conduct a forum/ meeting with employees to address issues of co-ordination of H&S issues
- Produce risk assessments on potential violence to staff
- Produce risk assessment on stress indicators and circulate information to all employees