



MOM/OSHD/2025-04

23 JUN 2025

All Approved Scaffold Contractors

**WORKPLACE SAFETY AND HEALTH (WSH) CIRCULAR ON ENHANCED LICENSING CONDITIONS FOR APPROVED SCAFFOLD CONTRACTORS**

As an existing Approved Scaffold Contractors (ASC), you play a vital role in ensuring scaffolds are built in a safe manner and are fit for their intended use. Your organisation is licensed by the Ministry of Manpower (MOM) as a competent organisation to ensure that you possess and maintain the requisite competency and standards.

2. In the past three years, we observed unsafe scaffolds erected by ASCs that are not in compliance with the regulations and have taken enforcement actions against 98 ASCs. To ensure the safety and integrity of scaffolds, MOM will be revising the licensing conditions to strengthen and sustain the safety performance of ASCs. From 1 July 2025, the following changes will take effect<sup>1</sup>:

- a. Your ASC licence will be suspended for 3 months if you accumulate 5 or more composition fines for scaffold or work-at-heights related contraventions within a 12-month rolling period starting from 1 July 2025.
- b. The Ministry reserves the right to reject ASC applications from companies with past contraventions related to scaffolds or work at heights.

3. For additional information and clarifications on the changes outlined in this circular, please refer to the attached set of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). If you have any further queries or clarifications, please contact us at <https://www.mom.gov.sg/contact-us/feedback-and-enquiries>.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Silas Sngwk'.

**SNG WEE KIAT, SILAS**  
COMMISSIONER FOR WORKPLACE SAFETY AND HEALTH  
MINISTRY OF MANPOWER

<sup>1</sup> The enhancements are on top of the existing criteria already stipulated. Please refer to MOM website for application requirements to be Approved Scaffold Contractor. (<https://www.mom.gov.sg/workplace-safety-and-health/wsh-service-providers/scaffold-contractor/apply-to-be-an-approved-scaffold-contractor>)

## Frequently Asked Questions

### (A) General

**1. Why is there a need to introduce new licensing conditions for Approved Scaffold Contractors (ASC)?**

The enhanced licensing conditions are introduced to strengthen and sustain the WSH performance of Approved Scaffold Contractors (ASC). The measure aims to steer ASCs toward safe scaffold operations and deter unsafe WSH practices.

**2. When will the new licensing conditions for ASC be implemented?**

The new conditions will take effect on existing ASCs and new ASC applicants from 1 July 2025. For example, an ASC will be suspended if they accumulate 5 or more composition fines for scaffold or work-at-heights related contraventions between 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 (12 months rolling period).

**3. Will the composition fines that I have accumulated prior to 1 July 2025 be retrospectively included for the purpose of the suspension?**

No

**4. Where can I find information on the new licensing conditions for ASC Contractors (ASC)?**

You can refer to MOM website for more information. (<https://www.mom.gov.sg/workplace-safety-and-health/wsh-service-providers/scaffold-contractor/apply-to-be-an-approved-scaffold-contractor> )

### (B) I am an ASC Applicant

**5. How do the changes to licensing conditions affect my application to be an Approved Scaffold Contractor (ASC)?**

In addition to existing application criteria, safety contraventions relating to scaffolds and work at heights in the past 12 months prior to your date of application will also be considered during the ASC application. Applicants with 5 or more fines due to scaffold-related or work at heights contraventions will be rejected and debarred for a period of 3 months from the date of the application.

Applicants with pending prosecution action for scaffolding or work at heights offences or found to have erected scaffolds more than 4 metres without an ASC licence will be rejected and debarred for a period of 6 months from date of application.

This also applies to existing ASCs submitting new applications for additional type of ASC approval i.e., ASCs who possess approval for **Erection, Alteration and Dismantling (Metal Scaffold)** wishing to apply for an additional ASC approval for **Rigging and Re-positioning (Suspended Scaffolds)** or vice versa.

**6. Can I apply again to be an ASC after being debarred?**

Yes, you may apply again to be an ASC after your debarment period ends.

**(C) I am an existing ASC**

**7. How do the changes to licensing conditions affect existing ASCs?**

If you have 5 or more fines due to scaffold or work at heights-related contraventions in the past 12 months, your ASC approval will be suspended for a period of 3 months. Persistent poor safety performance may lead to longer suspension period.

Your company will also be removed from the list of approved ASCs on MOM's website. (<https://www.mom.gov.sg/workplace-safety-and-health/wsh-service-providers/find-approved-service-providers/find-scaffold-contractor>). You will not be allowed to carry out erection, dismantling and alteration of scaffolds more than 4 metres as your ASC approval will not be valid.

**8. How do I reinstate my ASC approval after suspension due to poor safety performance?**

If you do not accumulate any composition fines due to scaffold-related or work at heights contraventions during suspension, your ASC approval can be reinstated after the suspension expires. You have to submit your reinstatement request no earlier than 1 month before the suspension expiry date. Before reinstatement, we will verify that you fulfil existing ASC licensing requirements (i.e. have an active level 3 or higher bizSAFE, at least 5 Approved Scaffold Erectors and 2 Approved Scaffold Supervisors). (<https://www.mom.gov.sg/workplace-safety-and-health/wsh-service-providers/find-approved-service-providers/find-scaffold-contractor>).

MOM will continue to monitor your company's WSH performance and may impose another suspension if your safety performance deteriorates.

**9. I have on-going scaffold projects; can I continue if my ASC approval is suspended?**

ASCs whose approvals are suspended are **not** allowed to continue their existing scaffold works. You will need to arrange for another ASC to take over all scaffolding works.

**10. How can ASCs ensure compliance with the new framework?**

ASCs should prioritize workplace safety and health standards, adhere to the relevant regulations, and actively work towards improving their safety performance to avoid penalties and suspensions. MOM will also step up enforcement to ensure ASC's compliance to the relevant regulations.