

## STRIPPING COLUMN AND WALL FORMS

### 1. Identify the task

Removal of re-usable column and wall forms.

### 2. Identify hazards

Fall hazard, trip/slip hazard, hoisting/rigging hazard – (crushed by, struck by), equipment/material handling hazards –(struck by, pinched by, cut by, strain/sprain injury), electrical hazard, heat/cold stress, formwork collapse – (crushed by, struck by), chemical - (concrete, fuels).

### 3. Controls

Site specific engineered drawings, CSA/ANSI approved equipment, manufacturer's specifications and guidelines, WHMIS, CSA/ANSI approved personal protective equipment, fall protection plan, inspection of formwork by competent worker prior to stripping, adequate access and egress to/from workplace, competent equipment operators, communication/signal system, first aid/eye wash station, fire extinguisher, competent trained workers and supervision, emergency procedures, written site specific safe work procedure, Pre-Job Safety Assessments (PSA) (Daily).

- ❖ Stripping of column and wall forms must be done by competent trained workers.
- ❖ All equipment, including all hoisting and rigging equipment must be CSA/ANSI approved and inspected by a competent worker before use. Safe Working Loads of rigging components must not be exceeded.
- ❖ All electrical tools must be effectively grounded by use of a GFCI.
- ❖ All tools and equipment must be inspected by a competent worker before use. Damaged equipment must be tagged and taken out of service for repair or replacement.
- ❖ All workers involved in the stripping of column and wall forms must have adequate fall protection when exposed to fall hazards as per Best Personnel's policy and regulatory guidelines.
- ❖ Workers must use CSA/ANSI approved personal protective equipment as prescribed, i.e. hard hats, safety boots, safety glasses, hearing protection, gloves, long pants and full T-shirt, sunscreen, barrier cream, cold weather gear.
- ❖ Area around and below form removal should be marked with red danger tape and if necessary, work overhead signage. Entry into the area by other trades must be controlled by a spotter.
- ❖ When removing forms from levels above ground a spotter should be used to caution workers and vehicular traffic away from area below stripping. Area should be marked with red danger tape and signage. Activities to be coordinated with others.
- ❖ Forms must be prevented from tipping over either by leaving one or more connecting ties/bolts loosely but securely connected or by temporary bracing securely fastened to forms.
- ❖ Forms must be manually loosened from poured concrete before crane tries to hoist them.
- ❖ All loose materials, tools and debris must be removed from forms prior to hoisting. Clear work area of debris ASAP.
- ❖ Inspect forms for loose or damaged components before hoisting.
- ❖ Remove last connector only when form is attached securely to the crane and opposite side is prevented from tipping over by bracing or other secure means.
- ❖ Lifting points on forms must be adequate to withstand expected loads and be securely blocked to prevent movement or separation from forms of steel bars or wire rope lifting eyes.
- ❖ Stripping and rigging of panels must be done from properly built scaffold, not by workers standing on walers. Scaffolding used to work off must be constructed as per Best Personnel policy and regulatory requirements, and must be prevented from tipping over.
- ❖ Ladders used to access forms for connecting /disconnecting rigging must be secured and extend 3 feet (90 cm) above work level being accessed. When working off ladders workers must be protected from falling by use of an adequate fall arrest system, i.e a full body harness with shock absorbing lanyard and rope grab attached to an adequate anchorage by means of a vertical lifeline. Forms must be secured from moving until all workers are clear of them.
- ❖ Care must be taken when using pry bars to loosen forms not to overextend and lose balance.



## Best Personnel Safe Work Practices & Procedures Manual

- ❖ Care and attention must be used when removing components from forms being stripped. Do not drop parts on workers below, and when handing pieces to other workers make sure they have a firm grip on them before letting go. Telescopic jacks can be awkward and heavy, handle them with care and be aware of pinch points.
- ❖ Adequate task lighting must be available. If natural lighting is inadequate then CSA approved lighting equipment must be installed by a qualified worker to illuminate the work area.
- ❖ A competent trained rigger must rig and hoist panels. Tag lines must be used to control loads. A crane overlap permit shall be completed when applicable.
- ❖ Adequate warning must be given to allow workers to clear out of travel path of load. Loads should not be allowed to pass overhead of workers.
- ❖ Forms must be stored so that they do not endanger workers by tipping over or by blocking access/egress routes.
- ❖ High voltage lines in the vicinity of the work area must be identified and protected.
- ❖ Form release agent must be applied according to appropriate MSDS.
- ❖ The public and public-way must be protected as per regulatory requirements. A spotter may be required.
- ❖ A written site specific safe work procedure must be developed, reviewed and signed by all workers involved in the task. Best Personnel Area Safety Director, Site Safety Coordinator, and Superintendent must review the procedure prior to work commencing.