Standard Conditions for the Hire, Erection and Dismantling of Scaffolding, Access Towers and Other Hire Equipment (England and Wales)

Global Platforms Northern Limited · Company number 07524896 · Scaffolding Division · Version 2.0, 19 November 2026

1. Interpretation

1.1 Definitions. In these conditions:

- **"Contract"** means the contract between the Customer and the Supplier for the hire, erection, inspection, alteration and/or dismantling of the Equipment, made up of the Quotation, the Customer's acceptance (including any purchase order) and these conditions.
- **"Customer"** means the person, firm, company or other organisation that accepts the Quotation or places the order.
- **"Consumer"** means a Customer who is an individual acting for purposes wholly or mainly outside their trade, business, craft or profession (for example, a homeowner).
- **"Equipment"** means the scaffolding (including system scaffold such as Plettac Metrix, tubes, fittings, decks, boards, ladders, guardrails, toe boards, brick guards, ties and all components), access towers and any other equipment supplied by the Supplier under the Contract.
- **"Handover"** means the point at which the Supplier has erected and inspected the scaffold and fixed a completed scaffold tag at the access point, and "Handover Certificate" means the Supplier's handover / inspection record for that scaffold.
- **"Hire Period"** means the period starting on the day the Equipment is erected or delivered to the Site and ending on the Off-Hire Date (clause 10). Hire is charged per Working Day.
- **"Working Day"** means Monday to Friday, excluding bank holidays in England and Wales and the Supplier's Christmas shutdown period as published by the Supplier.
- **"Included Hire"** means the number of weeks of hire included in the price, as stated in the Quotation.
- **"Off-Hire Date"** has the meaning given in clause 10.2.
- **"Quotation"** means the Supplier's written quotation (including by email) for the Contract.
- **"Rental"** means the Supplier's charges for the hire of the Equipment.
- **"Services"** means the services provided by the Supplier, including delivery, erection, inspection, alteration, dismantling and collection.
- **"Site"** means the property or location at which the Equipment is erected or delivered.
- **"Supplier"** means Global Platforms Northern Limited (registered in England and Wales, company number 07524896), Unit 10, Trident Business Park, Birchwood, Warrington, WA3 6AX (telephone +44 (0)1925 830 874), including its employees, agents and authorised representatives.
- **"Force Majeure"** means any event outside a party's reasonable control, including acts of God, severe weather, flood, fire, war, terrorism, riot, civil commotion, malicious damage, explosion, pandemic, government action and industrial disputes (other than those of the party's own workforce).

1.2 Clauses marked with an asterisk (*) may not apply to Consumers. Nothing in these conditions affects a Consumer's statutory rights.

2. Basis of Contract

2.1 Quotations. A Quotation is valid for 30 days from its date unless withdrawn earlier. It is based on the information and photographs supplied by the Customer and/or the Supplier's survey. If the Site conditions, scope or dimensions differ from that information, the Supplier may revise the price before or during the works.

2.2 Acceptance. The Contract is formed when the Customer accepts the Quotation in writing, issues a purchase order, or allows the Supplier to start work, whichever happens first. These conditions apply to the Contract in place of any terms the Customer may try to impose, including terms on a purchase order.

2.3 Variations. Any change to the scope, dates or price must be agreed in writing (email is sufficient).

2.4 Availability. Equipment and labour are supplied subject to availability. Agreed dates are given in good faith; the Supplier is not liable for delay caused by Force Majeure, unsafe weather, or the Customer's failure to meet its obligations.

2.5 Consumer Credit Act. Where the hire is to an individual, the Hire Period shall not exceed three months, after which the Contract ends automatically unless renewed, so that the hire is not regulated by the Consumer Credit Act 1974.

2.6 Consumer cancellation rights. Where the Contract is with a Consumer and was made away from the Supplier's premises or at a distance (for example by phone or email), the Consumer may cancel within 14 days of the Contract being made under the Consumer Contracts (Information, Cancellation and Additional Charges) Regulations 2013. If the Consumer asks the Supplier to start work within that period, the Consumer must pay for the Services provided up to the time they cancel.

3. Prices and Payment

3.1 Prices. Prices are as stated in the Quotation and are exclusive of VAT, which the Customer shall pay at the applicable rate. Unless the Quotation says otherwise, the price covers delivery, erection, Handover, the Included Hire, dismantling and collection.

3.2 Additional hire. After the Included Hire, additional hire is charged at the percentage of the price per week stated in the Quotation (typically 10% per week), charged pro-rata per Working Day until the Off-Hire Date. The day the scaffold is erected counts as day 1, and the Off-Hire Date is charged.

3.3 Other charges. The following are charged where they apply, at the rates in the Quotation or the Supplier's current price list:

- weekly re-inspection / re-tag visits after the first week;
- alterations, adaptations and additional visits requested by the Customer;
- aborted or wasted visits (clauses 5.4 and 11.2);
- permits and licences (council fee plus the Supplier's administration charge, shown as one price);
- mileage beyond the Supplier's free radius, Saturday working and pre-7am starts;
- pull tests, designs and calculations, sheeting, netting, alarms and other extras;
- replacement of lost or damaged Equipment (clause 12).

3.4 Payment terms. Customers with an approved credit account shall pay within their agreed credit terms or, if none are agreed, within 30 days of the date of invoice. All other Customers, including Consumers, shall pay the full price in cleared funds before erection; additional hire and other charges are payable on invoice.

3.5 Invoicing. The Supplier normally invoices at the end of hire once the Equipment has been collected, but may invoice additional hire at intervals during long hires.

3.6 Late payment*. Time for payment is of the essence. If the Customer fails to pay in full by the due date, the Supplier may charge interest at 4% per year above the Bank of England base rate (or, for business Customers, the rate under the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998 if higher), and may suspend Services until payment is received.

3.7 No set-off*. The Customer shall pay all sums due without set-off, deduction, counterclaim or withholding.

3.8 Credit limit. The Supplier may set a credit limit and may suspend or decline further work if it would be exceeded.

4. Ownership, Risk and Insurance

4.1 Ownership. The Equipment remains the property of the Supplier at all times. The Customer must not sell, charge, lend, sub-hire or otherwise deal with it.

4.2 Risk. The Customer is responsible for the Equipment from the time it is delivered to the Site until it is collected by the Supplier, including after the Off-Hire Date, except for loss or damage caused by the Supplier's own negligence.

4.3 Customer's insurance*. The Customer shall maintain adequate public liability and employer's liability insurance (and, where the Customer is the main contractor, contract works insurance covering the Equipment while on Site) and provide evidence on request. Where the Customer is a Consumer, the Customer should tell their home insurer that scaffolding will be erected at the property.

4.4 Supplier's insurance. The Supplier maintains employer's liability and public liability insurance for its own activities. Details are available on request.

5. Before Erection: the Customer's Responsibilities

5.1 The Customer shall, at its own cost:

- ensure the Supplier has safe, clear access to the Site and the work area on the agreed date, including parking and an area to unload, and that gardens, paths and the ground beneath the scaffold are clear of vehicles, furniture, plants, pots and other items;
- obtain any consent needed from the owner, occupiers and neighbours for the scaffold to be erected on or over their land, including any party wall consent;
- tell the Supplier in writing before erection about anything that may affect the work or safety, including: underground services, cellars, drains and manholes; soft, sloping or uneven ground; fragile surfaces (conservatories, glass, roof lights, flat roofs); overhead power or telephone lines; asbestos; and any vulnerable people at or near the Site (for example care homes, schools or hospitals) and the Site's own safety rules;
- arrange for the electricity supplier to shroud or isolate any power lines near the scaffold where required;
- unless the Quotation states that the Supplier will obtain it, obtain any licence or permit for scaffolding, hoarding or parking on the public highway;
- ensure the Site is safe for the Supplier's staff and that any Site induction, signing-in or permit-to-work requirements are explained before work starts.

5.2 Ground and structure. The Customer is responsible for confirming that the ground and the structure are able to support the scaffold and its ties. The Supplier is not responsible for damage to services, drains, paving, lawns or planting that were not identified to it in writing, or that cannot reasonably be avoided in erecting the scaffold safely.

5.3 Existing condition. The Supplier may photograph the Site before starting work to record its condition. The Customer should point out any existing damage before work starts.

5.4 Aborted visits. If the Supplier cannot start or complete the work on the agreed date because access is not available, the area is not clear, information under clause 5.1 was not provided or is wrong, or the work is cancelled with less than 2 Working Days' notice, the Customer shall pay the Supplier's aborted visit charge and any additional costs. No charge is made where the visit is cancelled by either party because of unsafe weather.

6. Erection, Alterations and Handover

6.1 Competence. The Equipment is erected, altered and dismantled only by the Supplier's trained and competent staff in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and current industry guidance.

6.2 Handover. On completion the Supplier will inspect the scaffold, fix a completed scaffold tag at the access point and complete a Handover Certificate. The Customer (or its representative) should sign the Handover Certificate. If no-one is available, the Supplier may photograph the scaffold and tag and send them and the Handover Certificate to the Customer by email, and Handover takes place at that time.

6.3 Incomplete scaffolds. If a scaffold cannot be completed (for example because of missing parts or unsafe conditions) the Supplier will not sign the tag, will display a "scaffold incomplete – do not use" sign and will block access. The Customer shall ensure no-one uses it until the Supplier has completed it and handed it over.

6.4 No alterations by others. Only the Supplier may alter, adapt, move or partly dismantle the scaffold. The Customer shall not (and shall ensure that its employees, contractors, occupiers and other persons do not) remove or alter any part of it, including ties, anchors, boards, guardrails, toe boards, brick guards, ladders, ladder gates or bracing. Requests for alterations must be made to the Supplier and will be charged.

6.5 Ties and fixings. Ties and anchors may need to be fixed into the building. Making good small fixing holes is not included unless stated in the Quotation.

6.6 Sheeting, netting and signs. No sheeting, netting, banners, signs or hoists may be fixed to the scaffold without the Supplier's written agreement, because they increase wind loading and may require additional ties or a design.

7. Use of the Scaffold

7.1 The Customer is responsible for the safe use of the scaffold by its employees, contractors and any other person it allows onto it, and as the person in control of the work at height shall:

- use the scaffold only for the purpose stated in the Quotation and within its rated loading (light duty access unless agreed otherwise), and not overload it with materials, waste or equipment;
- ensure the scaffold is used only by competent persons and only while it displays a scaffold tag showing a valid, in-date inspection;
- not use any scaffold whose tag is missing, out of date or marked “do not use”, or which appears damaged, altered or unsafe, and tell the Supplier immediately;
- stop using the scaffold after high winds, storms, heavy snow or any impact or damage until it has been re-inspected;
- keep the platforms and access clear and tidy, and prevent materials and debris falling from the scaffold;
- protect the public and occupiers from the Customer’s own work activities on and around the scaffold.

7.2 Security. The Customer is responsible for preventing unauthorised access to the scaffold outside working hours, including by children. Where requested and agreed, the Supplier will remove or board ladders or fit a ladder guard or scaffold alarm, at the charge stated in the Quotation.

7.3 Vulnerable people. Where the Site is a care home, school, hospital or other occupied premises with vulnerable people, the Customer shall tell the Supplier before erection, agree access routes and times, and make sure its own workers follow the Site’s security rules (including keeping doors and gates locked) while using the scaffold.

8. Inspections

8.1 The Supplier will inspect the scaffold at Handover. During the hire the Quotation will state one of the following:

- Weekly inspections: the Supplier will inspect and re-tag the scaffold at least every 7 days while it is on hire, and after any alteration made by the Supplier, at the charge stated in the Quotation;
- Inspection on request: the Customer has chosen not to book weekly inspections. The tag shows the date the next inspection is due and is not removed or changed when that date passes. After that date the scaffold must not be used until the Supplier has re-inspected and re-tagged it. The Customer shall give the Supplier a minimum of 2 Working Days’ notice when it needs the scaffold inspected and tagged before work is carried out from it. An out-of-date tag on a scaffold hired on these terms is the Customer’s responsibility and is not a failure by the Supplier.

8.2 Damage and severe weather. The Customer shall tell the Supplier straight away of any damage to the scaffold, any interference with it, or any event (such as high winds) that may have affected its stability, so that the Supplier can inspect it. Remedial work caused by the Customer or third parties will be charged.

8.3 Records. Inspection reports will be made available to the Customer on request.

9. Delivery-Only Hire and Access Towers

9.1 Delivery-only hire. Where Equipment (including access towers) is supplied without erection by the Supplier, the Customer shall ensure it is erected, used, inspected, moved and dismantled only by competent persons (for towers, PASMA-trained or equivalent) in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions, and shall return it clean and complete.

10. Off-Hire, Dismantling and Collection

10.1 Off-hire notice. The Customer shall give notice to off-hire in writing (email is sufficient), quoting the Supplier’s job number or the Customer’s order number and the Site address.

10.2 Off-Hire Date. The Off-Hire Date is the later of the date the Supplier receives the off-hire notice and the date given in the notice. Hire is charged up to and including the Off-Hire Date. The Supplier will normally dismantle and collect the Equipment within 5 Working Days of the Off-Hire Date; hire is not charged for any delay in collection caused by the Supplier.

10.3 Ready for dismantling. Before the agreed dismantling date the Customer shall make sure the scaffold is clear of people, materials, waste and the Customer’s equipment, and that access is available. If the Supplier cannot dismantle on the agreed date for these reasons, clause 5.4 applies and hire continues until the scaffold can be dismantled.

10.4 Missing or damaged Equipment. On dismantling the Supplier will check the Equipment. Missing, lost or damaged items will be charged in accordance with clause 12.

10.5 Damage to property*. The Supplier will take reasonable care to avoid damage to the Site. Any damage the Customer believes was caused by the Supplier must be reported in writing, with photographs, within 2 Working Days of the scaffold being erected or dismantled (as applicable), so that the Supplier can inspect it before any repairs are carried out. The Supplier will put right damage caused by its negligence, subject to clause 14.

11. Cancellation, Postponement and Delays

11.1 The Customer may cancel or postpone an erection date by giving at least 2 Working Days' notice without charge (Consumers also have the rights in clause 2.6).

11.2 If the Customer cancels or postpones with less notice, or the Services are delayed because the Customer has not met its obligations, the Customer shall pay the aborted visit charge and any additional costs reasonably incurred.

11.3 The Supplier may postpone erection, alteration or dismantling where weather or Site conditions make the work unsafe, and will rearrange it as soon as reasonably possible.

12. Loss of and Damage to Equipment

12.1 Damaged or dirty Equipment. If Equipment is returned damaged, dirty or contaminated (fair wear and tear excepted), the Customer shall pay the cost of cleaning and repair.

12.2 Lost Equipment. The Customer shall pay the full replacement cost of Equipment that is lost, stolen or damaged beyond repair while at the Site, less any insurance proceeds received by the Supplier.

12.3 Hire until replaced*. Rental continues until the Customer notifies the Supplier of the loss, theft or damage. After that, the Customer shall pay two-thirds of the Rental for the affected items until they are replaced, which the Supplier will do promptly.

12.4 Equipment care. The Customer shall not interfere with, repair or remove labels from the Equipment, shall keep it at the Site, and shall allow the Supplier access at reasonable times to inspect, maintain or recover it.

13. Termination and Default

13.1 Open-ended hire. Where the Hire Period is not fixed, the Customer may end the hire by giving off-hire notice under clause 10, and the Supplier may end it by giving 14 days' written notice.

13.2 Customer default. If the Customer fails to pay any sum when due; breaches the Contract and does not remedy the breach within 14 days of notice; allows the scaffold to be altered or misused; gives inaccurate or misleading information; or becomes insolvent or appears unable to meet its obligations, the Supplier may (without affecting its other rights): suspend Services; end the Contract; and, after giving reasonable notice (except in an emergency where safety is at risk), enter the Site to make the scaffold safe and/or dismantle and remove the Equipment. All sums owed then become immediately due.

13.3 Safety. The Supplier may at any time make safe, take out of use or dismantle any scaffold that it reasonably considers unsafe, and will tell the Customer as soon as possible.

14. Liability

14.1 Nothing in these conditions limits or excludes liability for death or personal injury caused by negligence, for fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation, or any other liability that cannot be limited or excluded by law.

14.2 Implied terms*. All terms implied by law as to fitness, quality or adequacy are excluded to the fullest extent permitted by law.

14.3 Excluded losses*. The Supplier is not liable for loss of profit, revenue, business, contracts, goodwill or opportunity, business interruption, or any indirect or consequential loss.

14.4 Damage to property*. The Supplier's liability for damage to property is limited to the reasonable cost of repair or, if lower, replacement.

14.5 Liability cap*. Subject to clause 14.1, the Supplier's total liability under or in connection with the Contract shall not exceed the greater of five times the total charges under the Contract or £1,000, or, if higher, the amount recoverable under the Supplier's insurance for the relevant claim.

14.6 Customer-caused events*. The Supplier is not liable for any loss or damage caused by: the Customer's breach of these conditions; information about the Site that the Customer did not give or that was wrong; alteration of or interference with the scaffold by anyone other than the Supplier; use of a scaffold without a valid in-date tag; or the Customer's continued use of the Equipment after a defect or damage was, or should have been, apparent.

14.7 Opportunity to remedy. Before incurring costs that it intends to claim from the Supplier, the Customer shall give the Supplier a reasonable opportunity to inspect and put right the problem.

14.8 Indemnity*. The Customer shall indemnify the Supplier against all claims, losses and costs arising from the Customer's breach of the Contract, its negligence or breach of statutory duty, or the acts or omissions of its employees, contractors, occupiers and other persons it allows onto the scaffold.

15. Complaints

15.1 Complaints should be sent in writing to the Supplier's office (Unit 10, Trident Business Park, Birchwood, Warrington, WA3 6AX) or by email, or made by telephone on +44 (0)1925 830 874. The Supplier will acknowledge a complaint within 2 Working Days, investigate it and respond in writing.

16. General

16.1 Separate contracts. Each order or job forms a separate Contract.

16.2 Force Majeure. Neither party is liable for delay or failure caused by Force Majeure (other than the Customer's obligation to pay), and the time for performance is extended accordingly.

16.3 Notices. Notices may be given by email to the address last notified by the other party.

16.4 Data protection. The Supplier uses personal data supplied by the Customer (including site contact details) only to perform the Contract and in line with its privacy notice.

16.5 Waiver and severability. A failure or delay in enforcing any right is not a waiver of it. If any provision is found to be invalid or unenforceable, the rest of these conditions remain in force.

16.6 Third parties. No person other than the Customer and the Supplier has any right to enforce the Contract.

16.7 Continuing provisions. Clauses 3, 4, 10.4, 10.5, 12, 14 and 16 continue after the Contract ends.

16.8 Law. The Contract is governed by the law of England and Wales, and the courts of England and Wales have non-exclusive jurisdiction.