

Advice on Ischebeck Titan equipment during site closures

During any extended period of site closure, it is important that we ensure all formwork and falsework is in a safe condition and remains so for the duration of the closure. In the first instance the technical drawings along with the product specific method statement from Ischebeck Titan (in conjunction with site specific RAMs) should be reviewed for any residual risks to the equipment during use or due to inclement weather. Any checks or remedial action resulting from these residual risks must be carried out before site closures.

In general terms, before closing site all equipment should be checked to ensure the following:

- All materials are secured / tied down to resist adverse weather conditions
- Any risk of wind uplift to falsework should be acted upon by tying down or applying suitable kentledge, typically, but not exclusively, this advice relates to panel soffit formwork, table formwork and fix / strike formwork. Particular attention must be given to structures adjacent to blockages such as lift cores, shear walls etc. Note that any instruction to remove partially erected reinforcement could create an uplift risk for the falsework structure.
- All fixings, clamps, bolts, anchors, wind clips etc should be checked to ensure they are not missing, in the correct location and tight.
- All shuttering wall formwork/columns should be adequately fixed via raking prop and, in the case of double-sided formwork shutters, both shutter faces should be in place. Partially erected shutters will be subject to wind uplift and remedial action will be required to hold the shutter down.
- Partially erected falsework should be made safe by adequately fixing to the permanent works (columns, shear walls etc). If this is not possible the falsework must be dismantled.
- Cantilevered falsework (perimeter edge towers etc) should be anchored down to resist overturning and wind uplift.
- Materials not being used should be stored in a suitable secure location.
- Screen saver equipment should be inspected for tightness of bolts and anchors as well as any damage due to inclement weather etc.
- Screen equipment, screens, hoists and loading bays must be left in their static condition and never mid-way between lifts.
- No materials should be left on screens or loading bays during the site closure.
- Screens that need additional needle positions in height to deal with adverse wind conditions should be checked to ensure that they are in accordance with ITUK technical drawings.
- All screen needle beams / soldiers should be checked for damage and tightness of bolts on a regular basis but especially before extended site closures. These are a critical item and should form part of any on-going checks during site closure.

In General site should conduct their own risk assessment before site closure to ascertain any perceived risk of fully /partially erected structures in accordance with the above.

All erected temporary works equipment should be checked by the TWC on an appropriate basis as dictated by site specific rams / HSE guidance during the site closure and fully checked prior to use once the site reconvenes. ITUK would recommend weekly checks as an absolute minimum and additional checks after inclement weather, however sites must evaluate this on an individual basis based on the perceived risk.