





# The Benefits of Using ErectaStep Safe Access Solutions Over Scaffolding

WHITE PAPER

#### 2024

Ensuring safe and efficient access to elevated workspaces is crucial in many industrial settings. Traditional scaffolding, while common, presents many challenges and risks. ErectaStep offers a superior alternative with its modular, OSHA-compliant platforms.

# Page of **CONTENTS**

Introduction	1
Return on Investment (ROI)	2
Safety	3
Productivity	4
Sustainability	4
Detailed Comparison	5
Case Study	6
Conclusion	8

#### Introduction

#### **The Benefits of Using ErectaStep Safe Access Solutions Over Scaffolding**

Ensuring safe and efficient access to elevated workspaces is crucial in many industrial settings. Traditional scaffolding, while common, presents many challenges and risks. ErectaStep offers a superior alternative with its modular, OSHA-compliant platforms. These solutions not only enhance safety and productivity but can also offer better ROI. This white paper will highlight the benefits of ErectaStep over traditional scaffolding, demonstrating why they are the optimal choice for a wide range of industrial access solutions.

#### **Key Benefits**

# Return on Investment (ROI)

Comparing traditional scaffolding with ErectaStep modular platforms reveals significant long-term financial benefits for the latter. While traditional scaffolding might seem less expensive initially, costs quickly add up with rental fees, frequent inspections and certification, and the need for skilled labor for assembly and disassembly. In contrast, ErectaStep's modular platforms eliminate recurring costs associated with scaffolding, providing significant long-term savings. Additionally, traditional scaffolding requires regular maintenance, incurring additional costs. ErectaStep systems, constructed from marine-grade aluminum, are designed for durability and long-term use, significantly reducing maintenance costs, without the need for repetitive costly re-certifications.



# Safety

Compliance and safety are critical concerns with scaffolding. OSHA citations for scaffolding violations are frequent, highlighting the inherent risks and the need for rigorous inspections by competent persons. ErectaStep platforms, however, always meet OSHA standards without requiring frequent inspections, ensuring continuous compliance and safety. Traditional scaffolding can be unstable and risky, especially in adverse weather conditions. ErectaStep's platforms provide a stable and secure working environment, reducing the risk of accidents and injuries. Several industries have successfully replaced scaffolding with ErectaStep solutions, resulting in improved safety records. For example, projects in the defense and heat exchanger maintenance industries have reported significant safety improvements using ErectaStep systems.



# Productivity

The ease of installation and reconfiguration of ErectaStep platforms significantly boosts productivity. Traditional scaffolding requires skilled labor and is time-consuming to install. Additionally, weekly and sometimes daily inspections by competent persons take time, causing personnel to wait around unproductively. This hidden cost adds up over the



year. In contrast, ErectaStep's modular design allows for quick and easy assembly by mechanical fitters, reducing downtime and labor costs. ErectaStep's platforms can be easily reconfigured for various applications, enhancing operational flexibility. Many industries and plants have experienced productivity boosts by switching to ErectaStep solutions, showcasing the efficiency and versatility of modular platforms.

# Sustainability

Traditional scaffolding often involves heavy materials with high environmental footprints. ErectaStep systems, made from recyclable aluminum, contribute to reduced environmental impact. Furthermore, ErectaStep platforms support green building initiatives by contributing to LEED credits through their sustainable manufacturing processes and recyclable materials.

# **Detailed Comparison**



#### **Cost Analysis**

Traditional scaffolding involves ongoing rental fees, maintenance, and inspection costs. ErectaStep, on the other hand, is a one-time purchase with minimal ongoing costs, providing a better long-term return on investment.



#### **Installation and Flexibility**

Installing traditional scaffolding requires skilled labor and significant time. ErectaStep's modular design allows for quick assembly and reconfiguration by less specialized labor, offering superior flexibility and speed.



#### **Durability and Maintenance**

Scaffolding is prone to wear and tear, necessitating regular maintenance. ErectaStep, constructed from durable materials like marine-grade aluminum, ensures longevity and minimal maintenance.



#### Safety and Compliance

Scaffolding poses a high risk of accidents and requires constant compliance checks. ErectaStep platforms are built to meet OSHA standards, providing a consistently safe working environment without the need for frequent inspections.

## Case Study

A petrochemical refinery replaced its temporary scaffolding with ErectaStep's permanent stair configuration, significantly reducing costs and enhancing safety. The refinery had been spending around \$10,000 annually on scaffolding rentals, plus \$8,000 every three years for dismantling and



rebuilding. The new ErectaStep solution, configured using their advanced CPQ software, eliminated these recurring expenses and provided a stable, secure access solution. The client was delighted with the payback on this investment and immediately started pursuing their next project - productivity, safety and cost working in harmony.





In the defense industry, a major facility upgraded from temporary scaffolding to ErectaStep's modular platforms. The previous scaffolding setup was not only costly but also posed significant safety risks and required frequent maintenance. By switching to ErectaStep, the facility benefited from easier installation and reconfiguration, leading to improved

operational efficiency and safety. The modular design allowed the platform to be adapted for various tasks without the need for skilled labor, enhancing flexibility and reducing downtime.

A project involving the maintenance of heat exchangers highlighted the advantages of using ErectaStep's MP Series RollaStep platforms over traditional scaffolding. The MP Series provided a stable, OSHA-compliant work surface that improved maintenance efficiency and worker safety. The facility



saw immediate cost savings of \$18,000 in the first year alone, along with reduced setup times and enhanced productivity. This case demonstrated the effectiveness of ErectaStep's mobile platforms in industrial maintenance applications, offering a safer and more cost-effective alternative to scaffolding.

### Conclusion

ErectaStep's modular, OSHA-compliant platforms offer a superior alternative to traditional scaffolding, delivering benefits in terms of ROI, safety, productivity, and sustainability. By investing in ErectaStep, businesses can ensure a safer, more efficient, and environmentally friendly work environment. The flexibility, durability, and compliance of ErectaStep platforms make them an excellent choice for any industry looking to improve their access solutions.





A SixAxis Company

219 Safety Avenue | Andrews, SC | 29510 Ph 866.761.7225 | Fx 803.774.7233 | erectastep.com