Standards That Apply to Shoring

The successful use of shoring means compliance with applicable United States Federal Occupational Safety and Health (OSHA) standards, various state standards, (such as California (Cal/Ofsha) standards), American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standards, and American Concrete Institute (ACI) standards.

Following are some of the main applicable standards:

- OSHA 29CFR1926, Subpart Q;
- ANSI A10.9, American National Standard for Construction and Demolition Operations-Concrete and Masonry Work-Safety Requirements.
- ACI 347, Guide to Formwork for Concrete

A review of each set of standards illustrates their application. For example, the federal OSHA standards emphasize the proper erection of shoring equipment in accordance with the “formwork drawings.” The ANSI standards, by comparison, are more comprehensive and address many topics including the proper maintenance of equipment, the proper installation of the equipment, and the proper design of shoring use. The ACI standards emphasize proper application of the shoring, so the finished product is satisfactory.

A properly designed and erected shoring system will follow the manufacturer’s instructions and will incorporate all applicable standards to ensure that the shoring system is safe and provides adequate results. For additional information, visit the following websites:

- The Scaffold & Access Industry Association www.saiaonline.org
- American Concrete Institute: www.aci-int.org
- OSHA: https://www.osha.gov/construction/training
- 29CFR1926, Subpart Q (OSHA concrete standards)