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Scaffolding Safety Alert

How to safely "lash" / tie / secure a ladder with rope...

How to "lash" / secure / tie off a standard scaffolding ladder is kind of a basic skill that most scaffolders can do...
... however, how to safely do it is another story.
This is how **ULTRA ACCESS** has always done it, thats both safe and has very little chance of coming loose, unlike "other tying off techniques" used to do so.

6mm Blue Polypropylene "Drawcord" Rope

Standard "Scaffolding" Ladder

Ladders should be secured with "Ladder Clamps", ideally... but these are not always readily available, and Single Couplers do not always fit round the side rails - making them unsafe (and out of TG compliance anyway), so one has to be able to think "outside the box", but in as safe a way as possible...
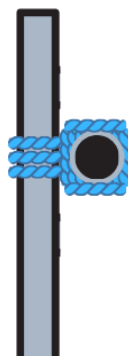
This is where tying off a ladder with lashing comes into its own.
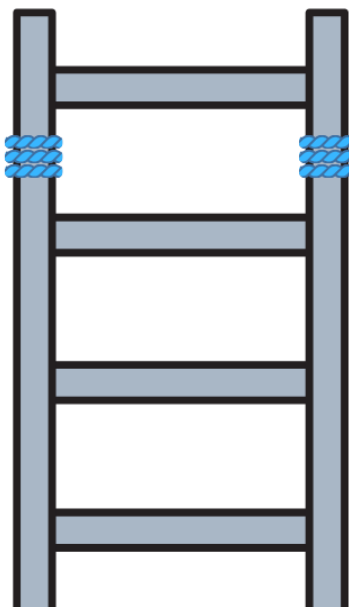... and a common practice offshore, or at least it was when we worked out there.

We have used the 3 x 3 Lashing system for many years.
Its surprisingly simple to do:

1. Cut/Get approximately 5m of rope (or 3 ½ stretched tip to tip arm lengths) and tie a loop on the end.
2. Wrap the rope around the Ladder and pull the excess through the loop, pulling it tight.
3. Begin wrapping the excess rope around the Ladder and the Tube following it around in a constant loop, making sure to pull it tight each time.
4. Repeat this 3 times - as per the image.
5. Then, wrap the rope back around between the ladder and the Tube, tucking it through, and cinching it tightly together.
6. Repeat on the other side.

3 x 3 (Blue)"Lashing" (Side View) Tied around Ladder and Scaffold Tube

Very difficuly to explain in text, but the long and short of it, is that Ladders, once suitably tied should have ZERO movement. Practice makes perfect...

3 x 3 (Blue) "Lashing" (Front View) Tied around Ladder

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