

MH28.3 – 2009



## ***Specification for the Design, Manufacture, and Installation of Industrial Steel Work Platforms***

### ***Abstract:***

*An industrial steel work platform is a prefabricated elevated platform located in an industrial environment, pre-designed using a steel framing system. Flooring may include other structural or non-structural elements such as, but not limited to, concrete, steel, and/or engineered wood-products. This Specification is intended to be applied to the design, manufacturing, installation, and maintenance of such structures.*



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**MH28.3: 2009**

**American National Standard**

**Specification for the Design, Manufacture, and  
Installation of Industrial Steel Work Platforms**

**Storage Equipment Manufacturers Association (SMA)**

A Product Section of Material Handling Industry of America (MHIA),  
MHIA is a Division of Material Handling Industry

**Approved October 27, 2009**

American National Standards Institute, Inc.

## Disclaimer

This Specification was developed under Material Handling Industry procedures and approved by ANSI on 27 October 2009. It represents suggested design practices, manufacturing, and installation criteria for industrial steel work platforms. It was developed with the sole intent of offering information to parties engaged in the manufacturing, marketing, purchasing, or use of industrial steel work platforms. This Specification is advisory only and acceptance is voluntary and the standard should be regarded as a guide that the user may or may not choose to adopt, modify, or reject. The information does not constitute a comprehensive safety program and should not be relied upon as such.

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**Foreword** (This foreword is not part of American National Standard MH28.3-2009)

The Storage Equipment Manufacturers Association, hereinafter referred to as SMA, is a product section of the Material Handling Industry of America (MHIA), a division of the Material Handling Industry (MHI), and is comprised of manufacturers engaged in the design, fabrication, testing, sale, and installation of storage equipment.

The membership of SMA is made up of companies which produce the majority of the industrial steel work platforms as defined by the scope of this Standard.

**Material Handling Industry**

The Material Handling Industry (MHI) provides SMA with certain services and, in connection with this Standard, arranges for its production and distribution. The Material Handling Industry nor its officers, directors, and employees have any other participation in the development and preparation of the information contained in the Standard.

All inquiries concerning the Standard should be directed in writing to the SMA Engineering Committee, 8720 Red Oak Boulevard, Suite 201, Charlotte, NC 28217.

The use of this Standard is permissive, not mandatory. Voluntary use is within the control and discretion of the user and is not intended to, and does not in any way limit the ingenuity, responsibility, or prerogative of individual manufacturers to design or produce industrial steel work platforms which do not comply with this Standard. SMA has no legal authority to require or enforce compliance with this Standard. This advisory Standard provides technical guidelines to the user for his specific application. Following the Standard does not assure compliance with applicable federal, state, or local regulations and codes. This Standard is not binding on any person and does not have the effect of law.

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In the interest of safety, all users of work platforms are advised to regularly inspect and properly maintain the structural integrity of their structure by assuring proper operational, housekeeping, and maintenance procedures.

Users of the Standard must rely on competent advice to specify, test, and/or design the industrial steel work platform for their particular application. This Standard is offered as a guideline. If a user refers to, or otherwise employs, all or any part of this Standard, the user agrees to follow the terms of indemnity, warranty disclaimer, and disclaimer of liability.

The members of SMA at the date of approval were:

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Excel Storage Products, LP  
MBG-Meiser Bartley Gratings LLC  
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Unarco Material Handling, Inc.  
Western Pacific Storage Solutions  
Wildek, Inc.

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# Specification for the Design, Manufacture, and Installation of Industrial Steel Work Platforms

## 1.0 Overview

### 1.1 Scope

1.1.1 This Specification applies to industrial steel work platforms. An industrial steel work platform is a prefabricated elevated platform located in an industrial environment, pre-designed using a steel framing system. Flooring may include other structural or non-structural elements such as, but not limited to, concrete, steel, and/or engineered wood-products. The people working on such a platform shall be trained employees, accustomed to a manufacturing or warehouse environment and dressed accordingly.

1.1.2 This Specification is intended to be applied to the design, manufacturing, installation, and maintenance of such structures.

1.1.3 Industrial steel work platforms are hereinafter be referred to as “work platforms”.

### 1.2 Integrity of work platforms

The owner shall maintain the integrity of the installed work platform by assuring proper operational housekeeping and maintenance procedures including, but not limited to, the following:

1.2.1 Prohibit overloading at any one area or the overall platform.

1.2.2 Keep the guardrail and handrail in place under normal conditions.

1.2.3 Keep access and egress stairways free of debris.

1.2.4 Properly enforce application restrictions as stated in the scope of this Specification.

1.2.5 When damaged, immediately unload the appropriate area of the structure, then repair or replace the damaged component(s).