

CLAIMS

1. A scaffolding module for multi-level building scaffolding comprising:
 - a frame that, when in an erected configuration, defines an interior space configured to receive
 - 5 workers,
 - a plurality of mounting regions that allow the module to be mounted with other said scaffolding modules, the mounting regions being disposed on
 - (i) upper and lower faces of the frame so that the module may be mounted with other said modules one on top of the other to form multiple levels of the scaffolding, and
 - 10 (ii) on opposite side faces of the frame so that the module may be mounted with other said modules in side by side relation; and
 - at least one scaffolding platform section disposed in and supported by the frame;
 - and wherein, when arranged to be mounted in side by side relation, the opposite side faces have openings to allow the workers to freely pass to another said module; and
 - 15 wherein the frame is formed from a plurality of frame members, at least some of the frame members being formed from profiled sections and at least some of the mounting regions are configured as surfaces of the profiled sections which are arranged to abut in face to face relation with a corresponding mounting surface of another said module, wherein when the module is mounted with another said scaffolding module, the
 - 20 frame member profiled section is disposed adjacent the profiled member of another said scaffolding module such that the profiled sections together form a unitary structure that enhances the rigidity of the mounted modules.
2. A scaffolding module of claim 1, wherein when the module is mounted with other said scaffolding
- 25 modules, the module frames are able to form a multi-level support structure for supporting staircases within the structure.
3. A scaffolding module according to either claim 1 or claim 2, wherein at least some of the mounting regions include pre-formed holes to receive mechanical fasteners to secure respective ones of the
- 30 mounted modules together.
4. A scaffolding module according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the frame is rigid when in its erected condition.
- 35 5. A scaffolding module according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the frame members are interconnected by rigid connections.

6. A scaffolding module according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein at least some of the profiled frame members are formed from an angle section.
7. A scaffolding module according to claim 6, wherein at least some of the frame members are interconnected by releasable connections to allow the module to adopt a collapsed configuration.
8. A scaffolding module according to claim 7, wherein the angle section is arranged to abut with a corresponding angle section of another said module to form a T section.
9. A scaffolding module according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the frame is shaped as a prism.
10. A scaffolding module according to claim 9 wherein the frame is cuboid.
11. A scaffolding module according to any one of the preceding claims, further comprising a guide arrangement to align at least one mounting region of the module with a mounting region of another said module.
12. A scaffolding module according to claim 11, wherein the guide arrangement is operative to align the mounting regions when mounting one module on top of another module.
13. A scaffolding module according to claim 12, wherein the guide arrangement comprises a guide structure that extends one of an upper or lower face of said frame, and a recess in an opposite one of said upper or lower face of the frame.
14. A scaffolding module according to claim 13, wherein at least one of the guide structure and the recess comprises at least one ramped surface for aligning one module on top of another module.
15. A scaffolding module according to claim 14, wherein the guide structure also provides a lifting point for said module.
16. A scaffolding module according to claim 11, wherein the guide arrangement comprises of at least one guide lug that extends from an upper face of said frame, and a recess in a lower face of the frame.
17. A scaffolding module according to claim 16, wherein an eyelet is provided in the guide lug for providing a lifting point for said module.

18. A scaffolding module according to any one of the preceding claims, further comprising a barrier structure extending across an in use outer face of said module.

19. A scaffolding module according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the scaffolding platform section comprises a floor mesh mounted to the in use lower face of the frame.

20. A scaffolding module according to claim 3, wherein the mechanical fasteners pass through the holes of two abutting mounting regions to secure the abutting mounting regions to each other.

21. A multi-level scaffolding assembly comprising:

a support structure comprising the frames of a plurality of scaffolding modules according to any one of the preceding claims that are connected together;

one or more work platforms supported on the support structure at one or more levels of the scaffolding assembly.

22. A method of erecting scaffolding comprising:

- providing a plurality of scaffolding modules as claimed in claims 1 to 20;

- arranging the plurality of scaffolding modules in a predetermined manner; and

- securing the scaffolding modules together.

23. A method of erecting scaffolding according to claim 22, further comprising arranging the plurality of scaffolding modules in a predetermined manner by hoisting and locating the modules with a crane.

24. A method of erecting scaffolding according to claim 23, wherein before arranging the plurality of scaffolding modules in a predetermined manner, at least two scaffolding modules are connected together.

25. A method of erecting scaffolding according to any one of claims 22 to 24 further comprising:

- providing at least one base module, wherein the base module supports the support structure formed from said plurality of scaffolding modules, and wherein the base module is adjustable in at least one of height and orientation;

- adjusting at least one of the height and orientation of the base module; and

- arranging the plurality of scaffolding modules on the at least one base module.

26. A method of erecting scaffolding according to claim 22, wherein each module has an in-use outer face, inner face, and two side faces, each face including a mounting region, wherein the method comprises locating the side face of at least one module in an abutting relationship with an inner face of another module, and securing the abutting mounting regions together.

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27. A method of erecting scaffolding according to any one of claims 23 to 26, further comprising transporting the framed scaffolding modules to a site to be erected either as separate modules or in interconnected groups of modules.