

## Tube Through Fittings

There are many myths surrounding the minimum distance a tube must pass through scaffold fittings. The guidance from NASC is very clear:-

To achieve the required slip value for the coupler, the tube should extend at least to the outward edge of the coupler, as shown below:-



However, when a tube is fully loaded, due to minor imperfections in its surface, it is possible to experience a little 'settlement' before it sustains the full restraint value, so it makes good sense to allow the tube to extend a short distance (say 5 or 6mm) beyond the edge of the fitting, as shown below.



That applies to right angle and swivel (loadbearing) couplers, however, when using putlog (non-loadbearing) couplers, which obviously have a much greater capacity to slip, the minimum projection beyond the end of the coupler flap should be 25mm.

