A platform is considered cantilevered when a portion of the platform extends beyond the motors.

When cantilevered platforms are needed:

1: Roof obstructions prevent rigging from spanning platform end to end
2: The motor is placed on the corner of a platform.
3. Any circular platform

Pertinent excerpts from OSHA 1926.451

1926.451(b)(5)(i)

Each end of a platform 10 feet or less in length shall not extend over its support more than 12 inches (30 cm) unless the platform is designed and installed so that the cantilevered portion of the platform is able to support employees and/or materials without tipping, or has guardrails which block employee access to the cantilevered end.

1926.451(b)(5)(ii)

Each platform greater than 10 feet in length shall not extend over its support more than 18 inches (46 cm), unless it is designed and installed so that the cantilevered portion of the platform is able to support employees without tipping, or has guardrails which block employee access to the cantilevered end.

1926.451(g)(4)(x)

Suspension scaffold hoists and non-walk-through stirrups may be used as end guardrails, if the space between the hoist or stirrup and the side guardrail or structure does not allow passage of an employee to the end of the scaffold.

1926.451(g)(1)(ii)

Each employee on a single-point or two-point adjustable suspension scaffold shall be protected by both a personal fall arrest system and guardrail system;

1926.451(g)(4)
Guardrail systems installed to meet the requirements of this section shall comply with the following provisions (guardrail systems built in accordance with Appendix A to this subpart will be deemed to meet the requirements of paragraphs (g)(4)(vii), (viii), and (ix) of this section):

1926.451(g)(4)(i)

Guardrail systems shall be installed along all open sides and ends of platforms. Guardrail systems shall be installed before the scaffold is released for use by employees other than erection/dismantling crews.

1926.451(g)(4)(ii)

The top edge height of top rails or equivalent member on supported scaffolds manufactured or placed in service after January 1, 2000 shall be installed between 38 inches (0.97 m) and 45 inches (1.2 m) above the platform surface. The top edge height on supported scaffolds manufactured and placed in service before January 1, 2000, and on all suspended scaffolds where both a guardrail and a personal fall arrest system are required shall be between 36 inches (0.9 m) and 45 inches (1.2 m). When conditions warrant, the height of the top edge may exceed the 45-inch height, provided the guardrail system meets all other criteria of paragraph (g)(4).
*Anytime the motor is not at the end of a platform, an end gate is required by OSHA. This includes cantilevered and single-line platforms. In all other instances, an End Adapter Stirrup will suffice.

**To maintain OSHA compliance with crossbeam assembly, workers must return to ground, then enter cantilevered portion of platform. This helps to insure that the guardrail protection is maximized.