



February 26, 2009

Spider Custom Engineers Massive Platform for Power Plant Stack Access

Seattle – Spider, a division of SafeWorks, recently engineered a custom float platform for internal stack access at the new Oak Grove power plant in Waco, Texas.

Hadek Protective Systems BV, a Dutch firm, performed its first direct work in the US on this project. The scope of work required a powered platform that was large enough and had enough capacity to provide support and access through all stages of their work on this stack, including blasting, cleaning, installation of insulation brick and steel lining of the 450 ft tall chimney, and inspection.



Spider’s professional engineers performed site visits in the process of designing a unique 31 ft round float platform equipped with nine SC-1500 traction hoists.

The 13,500 lb. capacity of the platform supported all workers and their loads, and the precise 31 ft diameter enabled the installer to touch the lining wall as he worked.

To meet Hadek’s schedule and work processes, Spider designed the large area platform with a 4 ft square access hole in the platform’s center with an independent work basket to transport workers and materials while the platform remained at the work elevation. This was a critical feature since the adhesive material used for the brick installation needed to be mixed at ground level and transported quickly for application.



In addition to managing the hoisted load of the platform itself, Spider’s designers implemented numerous special features in the system to meet the work challenges: grated decking was installed on the platform to allow the abrasive material to sift through the platform during the blasting phase of the project; the top of the stack was outfitted with structural steel to support the 18 wire ropes needed to support the platform; and extensive planning for worker fall protection were addressed, just to name a few.

Spider performed installation and post-project equipment service to fully support Hadek’s work in Texas.

“This project exemplifies Spider’s ability to engineer and deliver solutions that solve our customers’ unique access challenges, but we also navigated training, labor and service needs for this global customer,” stated John Sotiroff, Vice President, Sales and Distribution. “From the concept initiation, which started with our European team, to the design phase to the platform delivery and assembly, Spider’s team rose to the occasion and provided Hadek with a safe, efficient means for getting their work done on time within budget.”

Media Contact:
Heidi Krueger: Heidi.Krueger@Safeworks.com

About Spider:

Founded in 1947, Spider, a division of SafeWorks, created the powered suspended access business by introducing the well-known Spider basket. Since then, our product and service offering has expanded greatly to serve the needs of an ever-growing marketplace. Spider is the largest manufacturer and distributor of access and safety solutions in North America, serving more customers from more locations with a wider variety of products and services than any other company. From baskets, traction hoist and platform rental, to safety and training, to specialty-engineered products - Spider has a strong team of professionals, along with a national network of sales, service and support capabilities to provide you with the most reliable access solutions available.

Spider, a division of SafeWorks, LLC
365 Upland Drive
Seattle, WA 98188
Phone: 206-577-0100
Fax: 206-575-6240
Email: spider@safeworks.com

- Atlanta
- Boston
- Charlotte
- Chicago
- Cleveland
- Dallas
- Denver
- Detroit
- Houston
- Kansas City
- Las Vegas
- Minneapolis
- New Orleans
- New York
- Orlando
- Pensacola
- Philadelphia
- Portland
- St. Louis
- San Diego
- San Francisco
- Seattle
- Washington D.C.
- Antwerp
- Dubai
- Vancouver, B.C.