

Case Study 19: Wind Turbine Access

Hackberry - Albany, TX

Turbine: Siemens 2.3MW

Contractors: Lankford Company Inc.

Project Scope:

Access for blade inspection and repair work for Siemens 2.3 MW turbines

Challenges:

- 360 degree access needed to perform repairs at multiple locations on blade surface
- Extremely hot site conditions for uptower rigging and installation work required more active health monitoring
- Limited time schedule for the work

Solution:

- Spider provided a 5 x 10 ft (1.5 x 3 m) configured 360 Blade Access Platform (BAP) with independent lifeline.
- With Spider's expertise in safety, rigging and training, Lankford Company was able to bring in the 360 BAP closer, could simply adjust to the larger blade tip with the manual winch, and could easily access the blade repair area.
- With the 360 BAP assembled on the ground, workers engaged the blade tip in less than 8 minutes to start the work.
- Storage buckets positioned the workers' tools at waist height for added productivity.
- With both a primary and secondary suspension wire rope to each hoist, the workers were able to attach their fall protection lanyards directly to the engineered PFAS safety anchor device on the walk-thru stirrup. This point is also engineered for use with a descent device, if users choose not to use the hoists' no-power controlled descent system.
- Compared to other equipment options, the Lankford crew was able to get working very quickly.
- Siemens recognized this platform system in its national newsletter for ingenuity in wind farm maintenance.



Check out the product featured in this case study:

360° Blade Access Platform - page 191