

Safe Access- To Unusual Structures

The Problem / Challenge

Restrictions of the Design of landmark or unusual feature structures due to difficulties of maintenance access to windows and light features and for painting or inspection activities where methods such as cradles or access from the ground level is not possible.

The Risks

Prevention of falls by methods that respect the Working at Height Regulations hierarchy but provide the necessary and reasonable access requirements whilst facilitating the aesthetic and safety aspirations of the design.

The Solution

A roped access work positioning system in accordance with HSE and specialist IRATA installation and operating procedures.

The Benefits

Spectacular and unusual structures can be designed without overdue concern for maintenance and future repairs access.

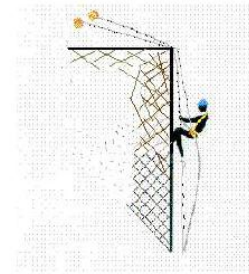
Key Points

Early design team and client agreement that design expectations exceed the more common working at height prioritisation strategy.

Specialist roped access installation advice to integrate rope attachment fittings and features.

Question 22 What are rope access and positioning techniques?

Rope access is a personal fall-protection system using two ropes each secured to different anchors. One rope is connected to a harness and the other acts as a safety back-up. Rope access is often used to access cliff faces or the sides of tall building when cradles are not suitable.



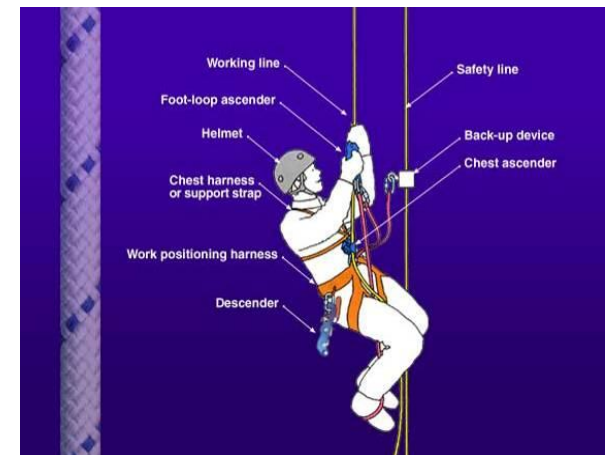
The HSE advice on Roped Access



Spinnaker Tower



Terminal 5



Roped access IRATA guidelines