





## INNOVATORS IN ACCESS

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# **STAIRWAYS TO HEAVEN**

For over 40 years Planet Platforms has been designing, building, maintaining and inspecting aircraft docking systems for a wide range of aircraft types.



ound in both the commercial and military sectors our mobile aircraft access systems provide maintenance personnel the ideal platform to work at height safely. Manufactured from aluminium to offer a lightweight, strong and manoeuvrable system our designs cover access to all areas of the aircraft.

A mobile solution offers speed and efficiency when turnaround times are critical in order to bring an aircraft back into service.

These aircraft maintenance platforms have additional key features that offer users increased utilisation and hence better productivity. Individual sliding fingers contour the surface they work against leading to multiple uses on different sections of an aircraft. When this is coupled with a height variable platform capable of adjusting to many levels the scope rises even further for possible work at height applications. Safety around aircraft is essential and our aircraft staging systems reflect this. Under-platform lighting keep work areas beneath the platforms illuminated so work can be carried out simultaneously from ground level and above. The provision of electrical and compressed air points removes the need to run cabling around the work area thus removing potential trip hazards.

It is not just utility points that we have looked at to make these aviation access platforms safer. All detachable items are tethered on lanyards to the system, which helps eliminate FOD for the staging system itself. Additionally, they can be earth bonded which prevents static electricity build-up that can interfere with radio and navigational equipment and prevents dangerous static discharges in aircraft fuel tanks and hoses.



### SYSTEMS INCLUDE

- 1 Tail dock
- 2 Wing access
- 3 Cargo door
- 4 Passenger door
- 5 Under wing6 Engine
- 7 Nose
- 8 Wheel well

#### 0800 0854 161



## ROTARY CONNECTION

Bespoke helicopter access platforms feature prominently in Planet Platforms portfolio of products.



orking at height on and around helicopters needs to be carried out in the quickest, safest and most efficient way possible. Turnaround times have to be kept to a minimum, particularly so where the aircraft are required for Search and Rescue activities. The design library that we have developed over the last 20 years features helicopters from the commercial and military sectors.

Working at height around helicopters is unavoidable due to their sheer size and our helicopter access platforms cover the areas of nose, main rotors, engines and tail section.

Manufactured from aluminium to offer a lightweight and manoeuvrable system our designs have a number of key features to aid the engineers that work from them. Additional lighting keeps the work area beneath and above the platforms illuminated so work can be carried out simultaneously from the ground and platform level. The provision of electrical and compressed air points removes the need to run cabling around the work area thus removing potential trip hazards.

It is not just utility points that we have looked at to make these helicopter maintenance platforms more efficient. Simple detent pins mean telescopic handrails can be lowered to function test the main rotor blades in a matter of seconds. All handrails are secured in place using thumb screws attached to lanyards to help prevent FOD.

These platforms include aluminium plank decking, as its higher strength and rigidity allow for longer cantilever sections and thus reducing the system footprint. Leading edges that can potentially come into contact with the aircraft have D-sectional vulcanised padding which is more durable and can help prevent damage. Furthermore these edges are profiled to follow the contours of the helicopter and can be seen in the number of design revisions for different configuration of the same aircraft type.

Working on the same model as the CAD Team the Inventor® Publisher Software helps produce build manuals which can be supplied in various formats. In addition to the conventional printed form the manuals can be published to the Cloud that can be read on smart phones and tablet devices.





### HELICOPTERS COVERED

- 1 S76 and S92 (Oil/Gas and SAR)
- 2 AW109, AW139 and AW189
- 3 AS332 L1/L2 Super Puma

- 4 EC135, EC145T2, EC155, EC175 and EC225
- 5 Bell212, Bell407, Bell412 and Bell429



## **PODIUM FINISH**

Fibreglass is lightweight, strong, versatile and non-conductive making it perfect for offshore, food, rail or conservation sites.



e offer tower systems, platforms and podiums to help with your every need. We developed Protec, our Glass Reinforced Plastic (GRP) solution for the ultimate in safety for work at height regulations.

If you're looking for Zone One tested, chemical, weather and spark resistant access then we can help with our wide range of bespoke solutions.

We developed a Glass Reinforced Plastic (GRP) system that is specifically engineered to go in situations where a metal tower cannot be used—we call it Protec.

Protec features non-corrosive, non-conductive and spark-resistant properties.

It's also incredibly clean, which makes it the perfect system for a wide range of additional applications and situations that have working at height needs, but which also have to think about dust-free, hygienic solutions.



The Protec Podium range brings you all the advantages of a fibreglass access solution, non-conductive up to 100 kilovolts per foot and certified to BS8620:2016, in a shape that is compact and versatile.

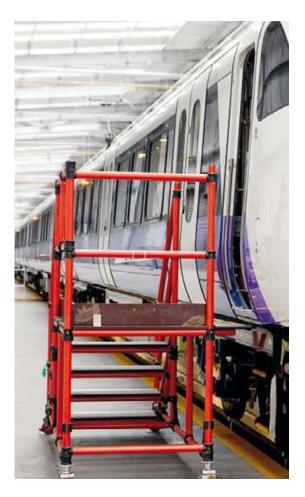
Available with three platform heights, 950mm, 1250mm and 1500mm, it's visible colour makes it stand out in a busy work environment, whilst a captive ladder, locking gate and in-line castors give it integral benefits. Working at height is made even safer with the Protec Podium's non-slip platform deck and treads, and anti-slip feet. It is also chemical, weather and spark resistant.





Our Prosafe Tower is the ideal solution for working at height. It's non-conductive and chemical, weather and spark resistant.

Certified and independently tested for use in zone one classified areas, Prosafe is also compliant to 3T assembly process. With lesser components, the 500-span Prosafe tower is a competitive essential to any access equipment portfolio.









## MAKING TRACKS

The rail industry and safe working at height have a long association and is a market that Planet Platforms has worked with since its early inception.



his long relationship is testimony to an industry that recognises its duty of care in performing work at height safely. A rail maintenance depot is a different environment when compared to a station where commuters hop on and off a train from a platform level with the threshold of the carriage doors. In a depot these platforms are absent and gaining access to traction and rolling stock brings with it work at height risks.

Then there's the sheer size and location of services on trains that means many of the tasks have to be conducted whilst working at height.

All these factors bring a variety of challenges and our bespoke train maintenance platforms can be found throughout the UK and further afield.

Primarily these custom made train platforms are manufactured from aluminium, as it's a strong, lightweight and versatile material. Different profiles and extrusions offer endless configurations, which can be seen by the thousands of designs in our drawing library. Aluminium is not the only material we use to manufacture our rail maintenance platforms. Fibreglass is widely used where overhead or third line electrification is present. Insulated to 100kv per foot it offers personnel protection against potential electrocution. Additionally, it is as flexible as aluminium in terms of the designs that we offer.

A depot can also be a congested space often being built post-war and having to contend with 21st century trains. We offer special mobile rail access solutions, typically on triple wheels that are now seen as an industry standard. There are also fixed options too, such as gantries and walkways that offer access over a continuous run.

### **RAIL ACCESS SOLUTIONS INCLUDE**

#### **CARRIAGE DOOR ACCESS STEPS**

We have a number of designs covering this type of access solution. There are single and double platform heights that account for vehicles being raised on jacks. Double stair cases offering access from both sides.

#### DOOR BARRIERS (SINGLE AND DOUBLE)

When steps are removed and carriage doors left open these simple and quick to fit barriers help prevent falls from height.

#### **ROOF ACCESS PLATFORMS**

The services in most rail vehicles are located within the train roof section. Our roof access platforms have been designed with user safety as the driving factor. Fold-out boxing rings give personnel 360 degree fall protection when working on air conditioning units and roof maintenance work.

#### **FRONT END ACCESS PLATFORM**

With most of the features as our carriage door access systems these platforms give access to the windscreen and services on the front of the train.

#### **FIXED GANTRIES**

Offer engineers a continuous run over many metres. This reduces the time taken to ascend and descend whilst working at height.

#### PITBOARDS

Not all work at height is from above ground. Pitboards that span the maintenance pit below the train means the maintenance line can be crossed quickly and safely. Simple in design and to fit they come with options including handrails and pit access steps.





## **WALK THIS WAY**

*Lightweight aluminium walkway and staging system in one versatile unit.* 



hanks to its unique reversible design our walkways can be joined end to end to form a continuous 'run' or side by side to form a decked area. Suitable for interior and exterior use it offers unrivalled combinations and uses.

High strength aluminium construction ensures our walkway is lightweight and remains maintenance free whilst integral toeboards enable it to be used safely. Guardrail posts and guardrails are fitted to provide a safe working environment. They can also be used in conjunction with all scaffold types and towers to form continuous span walkways with up to 9 metres unsupported suspended systems, and we offer widths of 610 and 1220mm.





Manufactured in accordance with BS EN ISO 14122 Part 2: Working Platforms and Walkways. The standard states, "When the walkway is usually subject to passage or crossing of several persons simultaneously, the width shall be increased to a minimum of 1220mm".







## **COMPUTER AIDED DESIGN (CAD)**

iving customers a highly-accurate visual representation of bespoke work at height equipment is invaluable in the development process.

User documentation is a vital part of customer experience by enabling users to have firsthand interaction with the product, sometimes even before the product is ready for delivery. The Publisher software is intuitive as in it recognises any amendments made to the original version and automatically updates the end result, logically referenced to the original CAD render.

CAD also helps us evaluate designs and extract vital information for the purposes of technical manuals. It is used to simulate flatpacking equipment into a container, ready for shipping, which is vital for customers and our own project managers.

Planet Platforms operates the Quality Management System, ISO 9001:2015, which covers both the design and manufacture of access equipment using aluminium, steel and fibreglass to customers' particular requirements and accepted industry standards.

## INDUSTRY ACCREDITATIONS

enchmarking our products against relevant directives is something that as a manufacturer we constantly aim to achieve.

Being able to prove that these products have been assessed to meet high health, safety and environmental

requirements gives our customers the confidence that when dealing with Planet Platforms they have a company that is leading the way.

The CE accreditation we have been awarded for the manufacture of access equipment reaffirms this commitment to excellence.

Taking a year to achieve, the assessment process looked at all areas within the manufacturing process from the procurement of raw materials, welding and fabrication through to quality and inspection before delivery.

Approved by the auditory body Alcumus ISOQAR, Planet Platforms are one of just a very small number of UK companies operating in the access market to offer CE conformity on all of their manufactured products.





UK

### ALUMINIUM Towers

f you're looking to tackle an access problem that requires versatility and speed then our range of modular components is the solution.

With a vast range of different tower configurations, integral ladders, façade systems, walkways and fold away 'Snappy' platforms, we can kit out an entire construction site, or help with small maintenance tasks.

Assembled on computer controlled assembly rigs to deliver consistent specifications and optimum safety performance, our components share key features which make them ideal for both indoor and outdoor maintenance tasks.

Products include: Span 300, Span 400, Snappy, VX Base and Aluminium walkways.



## FLAT PACK SOLUTIONS

ervicing customers with large manufactured products is difficult when they are at the opposite end of the country. Delivering them into another country and the task becomes even more challenging. With a number of Planet Platforms customers meeting these very criteria it was important that we changed our approach.

Transporting large manufactured and assembled platforms is costly simply due to their physical size. The idea was revolutionary, yet simplistic in its form. Why not supply the items flat-packed?





### SPECIAL ACCESS SYSTEMS



f you need quick, easy access or something more permanent, our bespoke design service can create safe, strong and compliant options to lift both people and product.

Having a platform that can work at different heights is a must for some of our customers. Achieving it can be tricky but at Planet we've come up with some modest and innovative ways.

On more complex projects we've manufactured platforms that will adjust in height through the use of hydraulic and pneumatic systems. These can dramatically change the height at which an engineer can work and it's possible to achieve differences of up to 3m.

We have also designed some more subtle features to our staging such as multiple working platforms on a piece of equipment that give the variable height that is needed. If this is a feature that you require you can guarantee we'll already have a design.



hree million people in Great Britain work on or near vehicles as part of their regular job. Every year the statistics show hundreds are seriously injured as a result of falling from a vehicle with over two-thirds of these accidents happening to non-drivers.

The Work at Height Regulations (WAHR) support a simple 3-tier hierarchy for those planning work at height. These being avoid, prevent and control.

In most instances avoiding work at height on vehicles is impossible with maintenance, loading and unloading being the most common cause of accidents.

Over the last decade Planet Platforms has seen a significant rise in the request for bespoke platforms to work on or alongside a variety of vehicles. In the WAHR hierarchy these prevent falls from occurring.

Innovative solutions, such as height variable platforms, allow users to deploy the same platform on several different vehicles. With a potential stroke range of 1m and fitted with steps that level automatically, these more complex systems provide personnel with a much safer method of work.



### ADJUSTABLE PITBOARDS

elp is at hand for safe access across maintenance pits with our versatile Pitboards.

Highly visible, strong — 500kgs SWL — and easy to install, our aluminium Pitboards offer the perfect solution for a safe working environment.

The Pitboards feature adjustable brackets that enable them to fit any pit, this eliminates the need for a number of different Pitboards, ensures they are fitted correctly and therefore are safe to use. They can also be left in position whilst rolling stock is using the road.

Right size for the job – Our Pitboards come in two sizes for ultimate flexibility. Choose from 1m boards with four handles, or 0.5m boards with two handles. You can even join multiple boards together to create any length using our simple tool-free joining brackets.

Lightweight and strong – Easy to carry and install using the flush fitting handles. All boards have a safe working load of 500kgs as standard. Handrails and pit access steps are available as an option.



Special thanks to Crich Tramway Museum for use of their image

### INSPECTIONS AND TRAINING

e understand that the use of access equipment must comply with prevalent legislation, service and maintenance.

We help clients by providing the complete service that includes training necessary to meet the stipulated regulations, and we

have developed a number of safety packages for companies to conform to all health and safety legislation.

In the case of mobile scaffold towers, custom-built access staging and ladders/ steps, we have an inspection programme that reflects the frequency of use of each individual item of access equipment. We can also specify inspection schedules, service intervals for access equipment such as bespoke machinery or staging to ensure that clients are always compliant.



## CLEMTECH

"I would like to thank Planet Platforms for the excellent service. They have been very professional with the information provided, very helpful and quick to respond and have kept us fully informed."

— Paul Adcock, Operations Manager, Clemtech Rail



*"Extremely impressed with your efforts over the last couple of months on this. Thanks for your hard work."* 

— Sam Turner, Manufacturing Engineer, Rolls-Royce



"Planet have done an excellent job with the steps supplied. Many thanks to everyone concerned with this difficult project."

— Keith Shimwell, Procurement Manager, Integra



"The equipment supplied will allow our engineers to work safely which is what we were trying to achieve."

— Dave Thorne, Production Leader, Terex



SKANSKA

"The platforms supplied are great. Our engineers are really pleased with them and they will allow us to complete the installation."

— Craig Lyttle, Project Manager, Costain Skanska



"Thank you for the prompt response and kind gesture of rectification. Your team have been very helpful and extremely professional throughout this planned work."

— Martin Brand, Major Repair Business Manager, First Group





Certificate Number 12882 ISO 9001 : 2015

## **GET IN TOUCH**

Brunel Close, Century Park, Wakefield 41 Industrial Estate, Wakefield, WF2 OXG.



planetplatforms.co.uk

Bespoke Access Equipment

Design | Build | Inspect | Maintain