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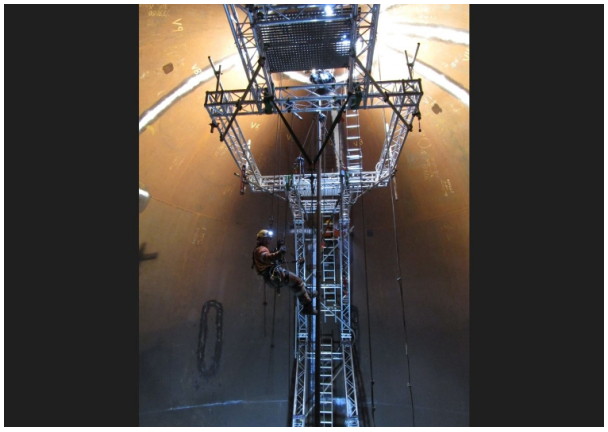
Applus HEX Access System

Applus+ developed the HEX system following a request from a client to provide an alternative access solution for the internal inspection and maintenance of Horton type storage spheres (spherical gas tank)



THE Applus+ SOLUTION

Applus+ HEX provides an alternative access solution to a work scope which has traditionally required full scaffolding to facilitate access for maintenance and inspection personnel.

The HEX, along with rope-access techniques, provides a far more robust system with many benefits for the client. The engineered design assured HEX system is built on-site and suspended using certified lifting equipment and a central rigging point.
The HEX system provides 360-degree access for trained competent personnel to provide a suite of services from inspection preparation to advanced non-destructive testing.

Applus+-trained personnel can provide supervision for external contractors requiring access using the specialist fall-arrest system.

Target customers

This service is of benefit to any client with spherical tanks requiring internal inspection or maintenance. These tanks typically run on an inspection cycle of 5 or 10 years, depending on the client.

Key customer benefits

Clients who turn to the Applus+ HEX access system benefit from:

- Significantly reduced tank downtime (scaffolding = up to 3 months, HEX = 1 month)
- Cost savings – fewer materials required, therefore, lower costs to the client
- Reduced risks due to lower working at height personnel hours
- Improved lighting due to the open system
- Increased confined space rescue capabilities
- Access to multiple areas within the sphere at any given time, allowing inspections and/or maintenance work to be performed simultaneously
- The possibility of performing external works at the same time as internal works