

Work Platform for Custom Transformer Access

SUMMARY

Spika designed and manufactured a custom work platform for a transformer manufacturer. The platform was able to accommodate multiple sizes of transformer.

An American manufacturer and supplier of large-scale transformers was seeking replacement access stands to provide better safety and conformity to rows of transformers. The new systems needed to conform to multiple lengths and sizes of transformer assemblies while providing clear-span access below the stand for ground-level tasks.

Both parties visited each other's sites to better understand the scope of work and to ensure Spika could satisfy the project's unique and rigorous requirements. Spika's engineering team quickly began concept development for the project prior to any financial commitment to ensure all requirements were captured. The client chose Spika based on the upfront investment in concept development, their cost-benefit assessment, and the fact that it was designed and manufactured in the United States.

The resulting mobile work platform system included:

- 79" of electric vertical height adjustability controlled via pendant at ground level
- Deck extension sliders for conformance to multiple sizes and shapes of transformers
- Poly bushing combs on the extension sliders to

eliminate potential FOD concerns

- A pitched ladder for egress at any height
- Additional reconfigurable guardrails for full fall protection during access to smaller transformers
- On-deck handrail storage when additional rails were not required
- Manual positioning and transit by just 1-2 people
- Floor locks for locked positioning during access

Spika manufactured the first article and installed it at the client's facility. After using the platform, the client provided feedback to incorporate into future units. Spika then manufactured five additional platforms based on the revised specifications.

