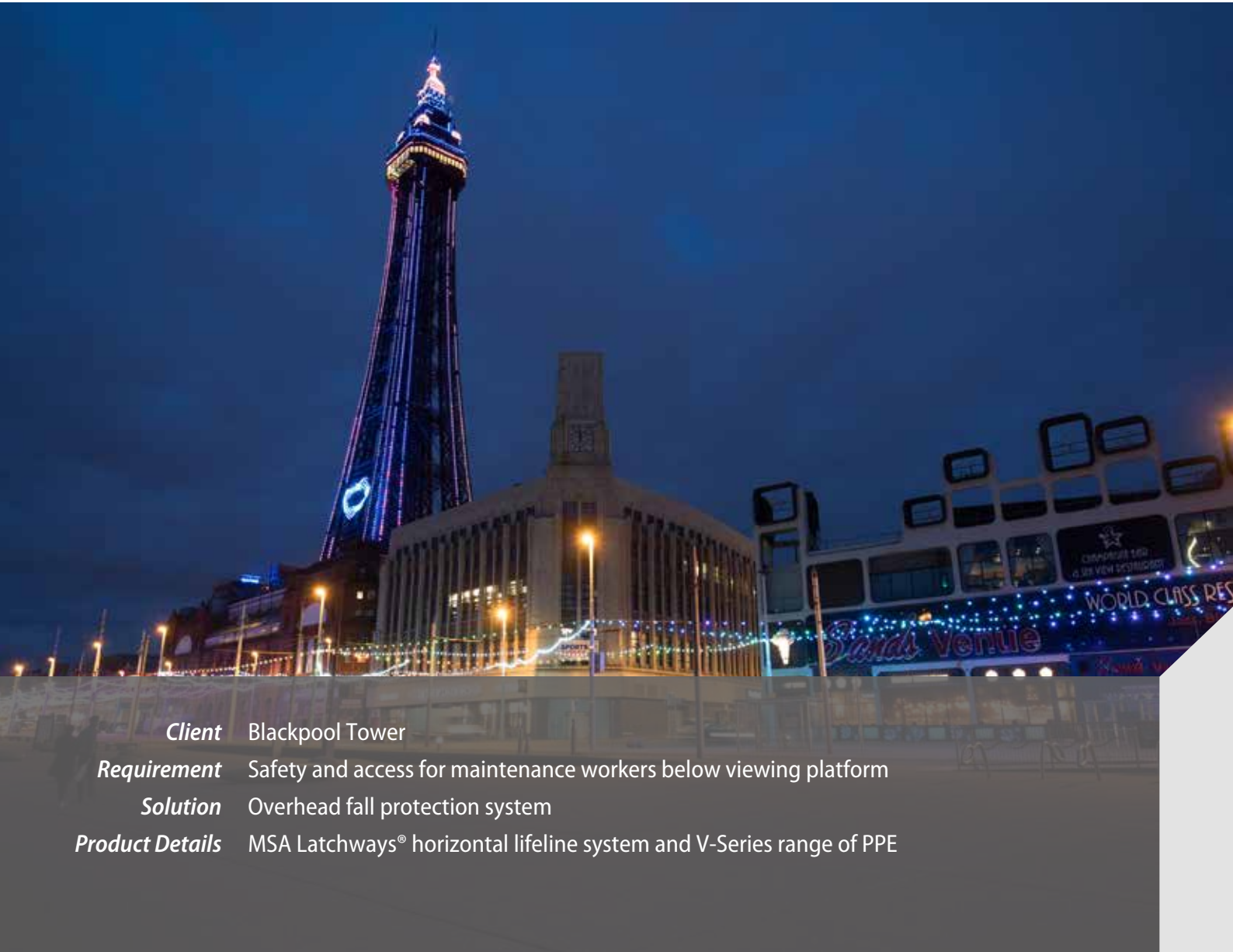


# Case Study

Blackpool Tower



**Client** Blackpool Tower

**Requirement** Safety and access for maintenance workers below viewing platform

**Solution** Overhead fall protection system

**Product Details** MSA Latchways® horizontal lifeline system and V-Series range of PPE

**WE KNOW WHAT'S AT STAKE.**

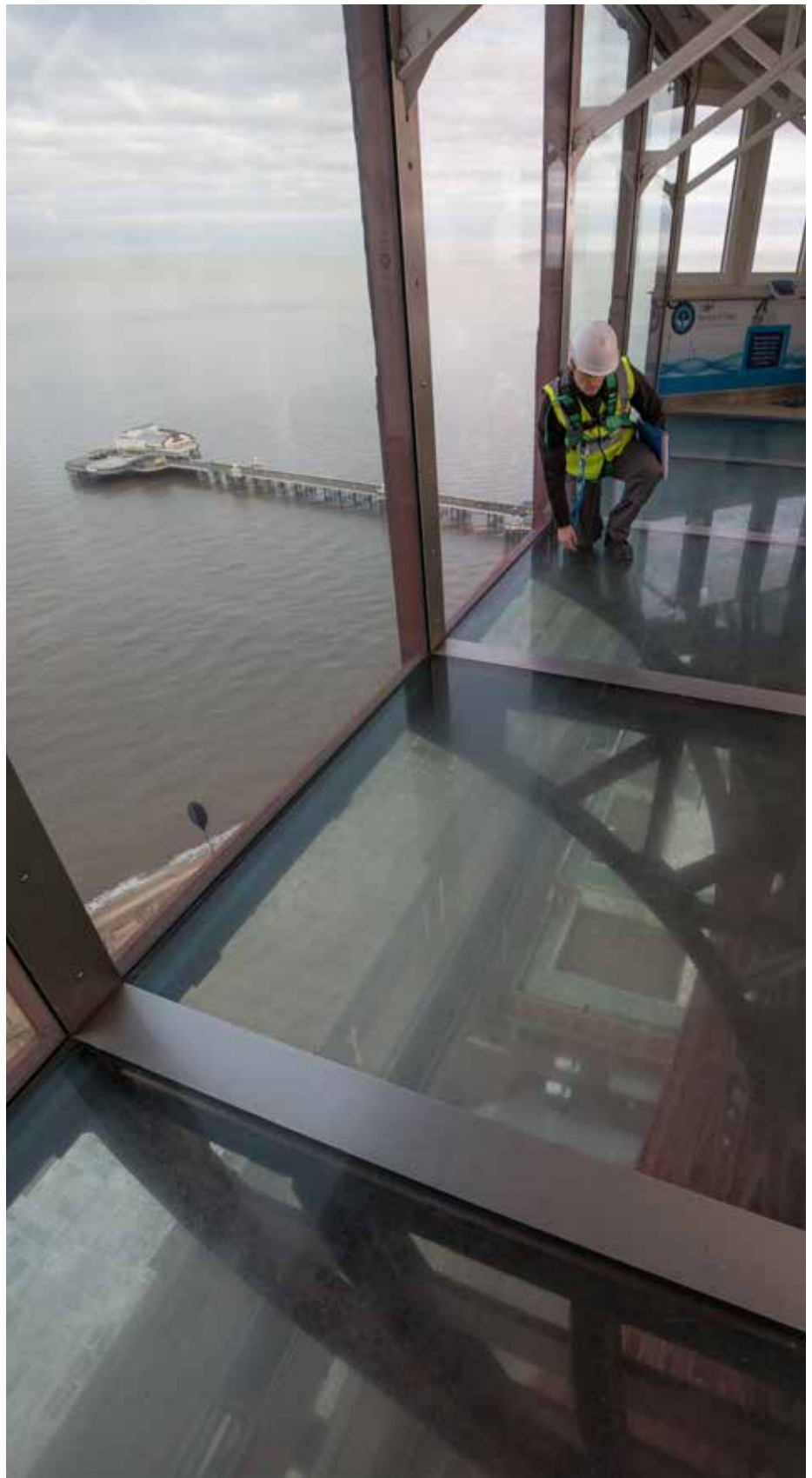
# Case Study

## Background

The SkyWalk at Blackpool Tower is an impressive 380ft high glass viewing platform. The floor of the platform is five centimetres thick and from the platform there are spectacular views into the Irish Sea and over the famous Blackpool Promenade. It is the highest observation deck in North West England.

Visitors can look right through the glass below their feet for an exhilarating sense of how high they actually are. To make sure they can enjoy this to its full effect, the floor of the platform has to remain transparent with the underside being cleaned at least twice a year.

This is not a job for the faint-hearted, but it is one that the facilities team at Blackpool Tower are committed to making as risk-free as possible. With that in mind they called on installer Eurosafe Solutions, working closely with MSA Safety, to provide the most innovative and easy to use solution available.





## The Requirement

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The project raised several challenges. The most obvious was the height at which the installation team would be working. One of the reasons that Eurosafe was a good fit for the job was because the team had experience of working on similar projects, for instance the O2 in London.

Not only did Eurosafe have to overcome the risk to the installers and the cleaning team, they also had to put in place safe working practices in terms of securing the tools they used. If they dropped any of their tools it could cause serious harm to people on the ground below.

The shape of the tower was also an issue that had to be overcome. Modelled on the Eiffel Tower in Paris, the angular steelwork created a challenge when it came to installing the fixings for any fall protection system.



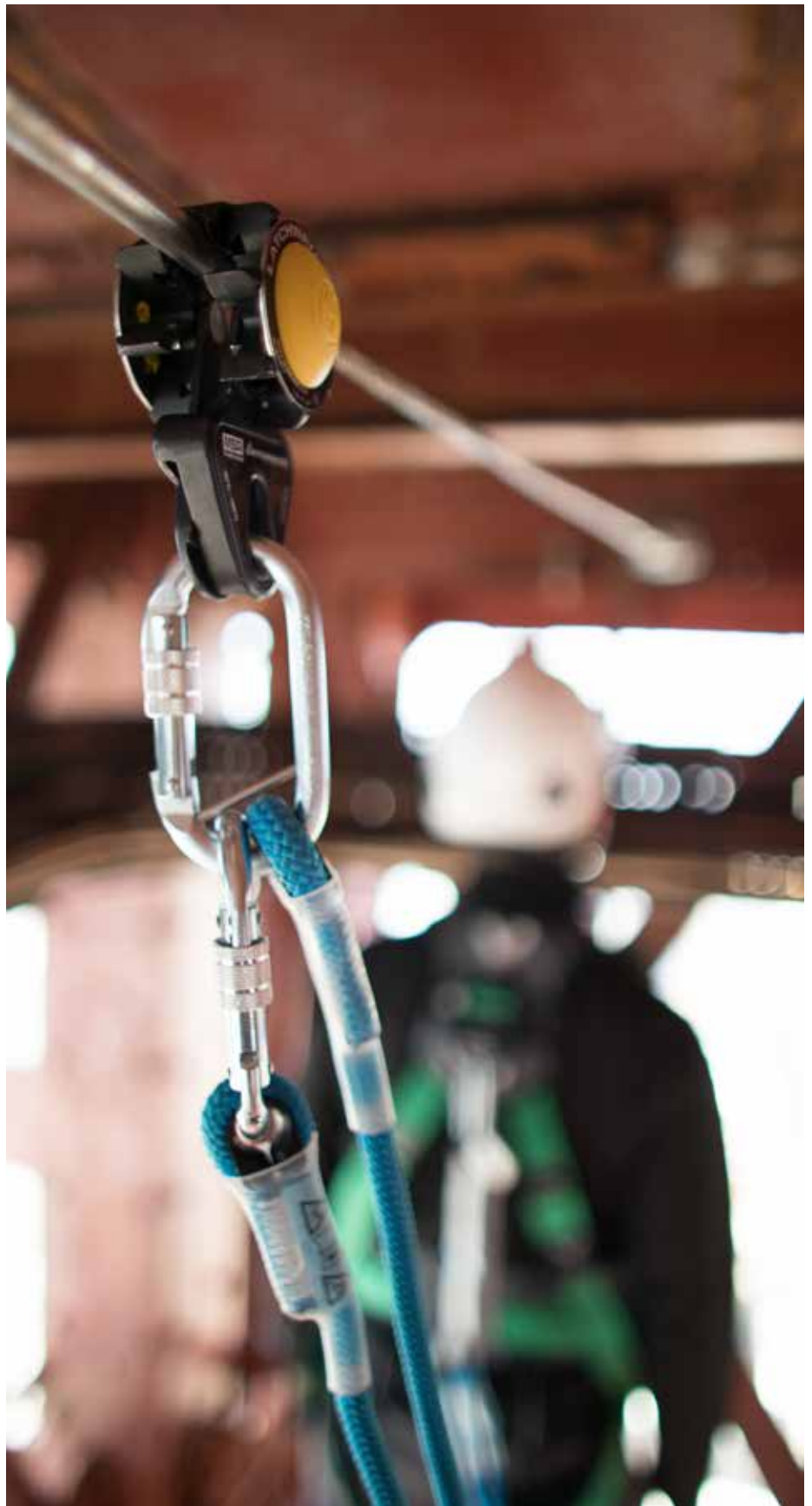
### The MSA Solution

Eurosafe chose the MSA Latchways overhead system as the most practical and safe solution, especially when used in conjunction with MSA's V-Series range of PPE equipment. MSA and Eurosafe enjoy a strong relationship, having worked closely together since 2001. Together they have been able to provide the most effective solution for a variety of bespoke environments and Blackpool Tower was just such a challenge.

The team installed a single overhead line, 10 metres long, directly below the glass walkway; the system utilised heavy duty end anchor and navigated the existing structure using intermediate brackets. The exceptional engineering behind the development of MSA's components ensures that the system can resist being exposed to the extremes of weather at such a height.

The system was fitted in a single day, with another day for all relevant safety checks. The tight timeframe was made even more acute as the installation team could only access the walkway by using the passenger lift, which was only in operation when wind speeds were low. All the team's tools were secured using lanyards.

The recently launched V-Series range is perfectly suited for accessing MSA's overhead system. Light and easy to use, the V-FIT harness combines simplicity with safety. Its intuitive design ensures correct fitting first time, while the streamlined harness can be fastened securely and released quickly. Used in combination with the V-Gard 900 helmet and V-FORM energy absorbing lanyard, this approach provides a highly reassuring level of PPE for any maintenance workers on the SkyWalk.

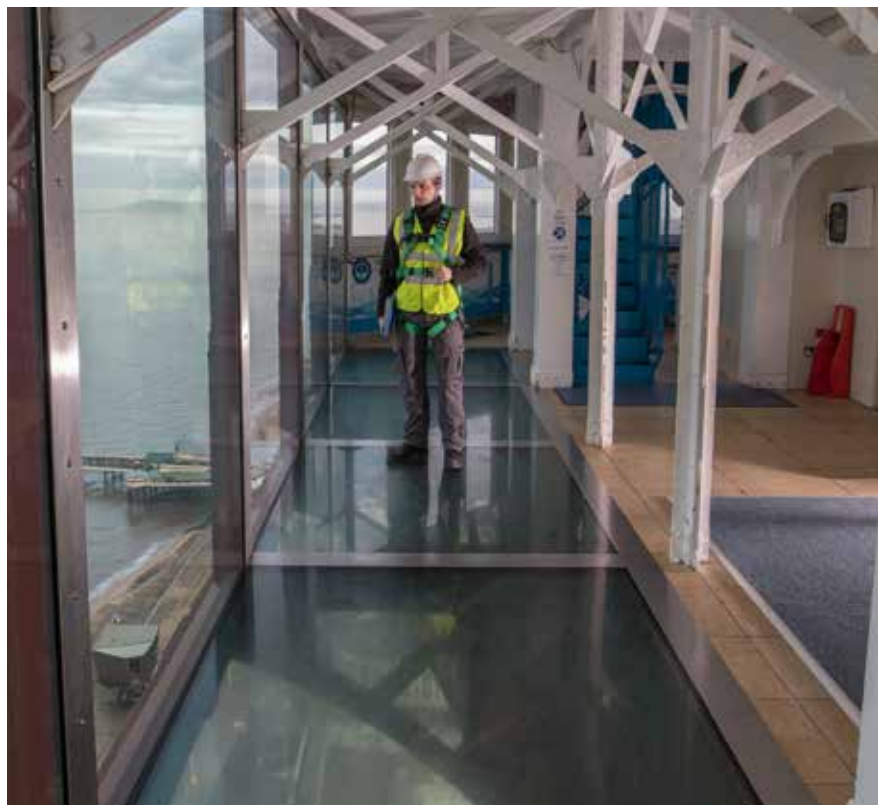




## Benefits to Blackpool Tower

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- Meets all legal requirements - MSA systems are fully compliant with current legislation and meet EN 795:2012 and CEN TS 161415:2013 test standards.
- Durable - Designed with high quality materials and proven use within the harshest conditions
- Greater productivity - The system's ease of use will result in simpler and faster tower maintenance
- Peace of mind - Equipment that inspires confidence in trained workers



# MSA—The Safety Company

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*All around the world, people work safely at heights thanks to MSA fall protection systems. With nearly 100 years of experience at the cutting edge of fall protection, MSA sets the standard for innovation, performance and quality. MSA is trusted to ensure worker safety on a wide range of buildings and structures, as well as throughout industries such as aerospace, oil and gas and energy and utilities.*

## Our Mission

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MSA's mission is to see to it that men and women may work in safety and that they, their families and their communities may live in health throughout the world.

**MSA: Because every life has a purpose.**

## Your direct contact



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For contact details of your local MSA affiliate, please visit our website.