



# Spider casts invisible safety net to protect workers, owners

## Spider

If this magazine predicted that 2010 would have BP embroiled in the worst environmental disaster in history and Toyota reeling from countless safety issues affecting millions of vehicles, you'd wonder if we'd secretly hidden a tabloid inside a BIC Magazine cover. But here we are.

For me, watching BP CEO Tony Hayward standing in shirtsleeves on the beach defending his company's actions to protect people and planet drives home the point that safety stewardship as a leadership skill needs more attention than we have seen delivered to date.

At some point, we each "stand on the beach" to be accountable for how we value our communities and the livelihoods of our employees and stakeholders. Let me take you through how Spider prepares for this.

Spider builds, sells and rents suspended access equipment — swingstages, work cages and related accessories. We install and repair our equipment and train extensively on its safe operation. Hanging people from the top of every landmark in North America, and several in Europe and South America, gives you a unique per-

spective on designing safety and reliability into your solutions.

From our work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Architect of the Capitol, NASA and Military Sealift Command to the Tennessee Valley Authority, ThyssenKrupp, New York's Museum of Contemporary Art, the Walt Disney Co., the Bridge of the Americas, among countless other projects, Spider has earned the right to serve the world's most distinguished facility owners and contracting professionals. The company's ISO 9001:2000 compliant production and operating processes have been audited to meet the expectations of Fortune 50 companies we work with.

Started in 1947 by two painting contractors looking for a better way to access steel structures, Spider has grown to 28 locations globally — 24 across North America — and has built more than 30,000 hoists.

A rare breed, Spider is a manufacturer that owns the product over its entire lifecycle, living the ownership experience in the rental business across a broad geography and a variety of end-users. Taking in the

daily drumbeat of what goes wrong in the field makes Spider a more informed product designer and helps us anticipate trouble to provide better aftermarket support.

Spider pioneered safety devices long before they were required by law. The welding protection we developed for offshore and tank work is one example; integrated overspeed brakes are another. Proactive designs to reduce maintenance costs, prolong component life and simplify inspections have led to the creation of the SC1000 hoist and the recent upgrade of the industrial workhorse, ST-17 Air Spider.

Employers are required to use hoists tested by both a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory and a Qualified Testing Laboratory in compliance with OSHA 1910.28(i)(1) and (g)(3) and 1926.451(d)(13), tested to the UL 1323 standard. Spider makes the choice to have UL® perform this testing on its ST-17 and other hoists, because it provides users equipment that is more thoroughly tested. For peace of mind hoist owners can check our file in TUFV.SA5062 at [www.UL.com](http://www.UL.com). Not all manufacturers invest in UL listing

or in this testing at all. Spider invests in UL and CUL® for your safety.

Safety in preparing rental equipment for use is also a conscious choice. Spider created Standard Work Instructions (SWI) to synchronize fleet inspection and repair standards across all our locations. SWIs exist for all rental items, making a seamless, reliable rental experience. The process of training, inspecting and reinforcing expectations of technicians and service managers is a constant. Our state-of-the-art training center helps make this a regular part of our team's development and when done well, it is invisible to the user. We do it because it drives uptime and removes schedule risk.

Work at elevation has inherent dangers. Spider works at managing the product, its preparation and installation and ultimately the training users receive to mitigate that danger. We train, we listen and we make the trust our customers place in our hands our highest priority.

**For more information, visit [www.spiderstaging.com](http://www.spiderstaging.com) or call (877) 774-3370.**

## NEWS UPDATE

# EPA disapproves Texas' flexible air permit program

DALLAS — EPA issued final disapproval of the flexible permit program the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) had submitted for inclusion in its clean-air implementation plan. EPA determined this program does not meet several national Clean Air Act requirements that help ensure the protection of health and the environment. EPA disapproved the permit program after determining it allows companies to

**EPA is disapproving the permit after determining it allows companies to avoid certain federal clean air requirements.**

avoid certain federal clean air requirements by lumping emissions from multiple units under a single "cap" rather than setting specific emission limits for individual pollution sources.

Regional Administrator Al Armendariz said, "EPA will continue working closely

with Texas, industry, environmental organizations and community leaders to assure an effective and legal air permitting system."

The Clean Air Act ensures businesses across the country operate efficiently and cleanly to safeguard public health from harmful levels of air pollution. Under the act, all states must develop State Implementation Plans for meeting federal requirements to protect public health. EPA's actions represent a final decision to disallow one of the most important changes made by Texas for failing to meet the protective measures of the Clean Air Act.

In September, EPA proposed to disapprove the state's flexible permits program and invited public comment. EPA has carefully reviewed comments and decided to finalize its proposed disapproval of the program.

To ensure no disruptions for facilities, EPA has reached out to industry, the environmental community and TCEQ to discuss how to convert flexible permits into more detailed permits that comply with the Clean Air Act.

**For more information, visit [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov) or call (202) 272-0167.**



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