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Spider Puts Contractors to Work on Marbella Apartment, Jersey City



Seattle – Spider, a division of SafeWorks, LLC, recently provided a complete access solution to enable façade restoration on the 427-ft tall Marbella residential building on the windy shores of the Hudson River in Jersey City, New Jersey.

The customer, American Architectural Restoration, exclusively turned to Spider to overcome numerous access challenges they would face during their pointing, caulking, masonry repair, and waterproofing work on the building’s façade and balconies.

The most challenging aspect of this project was that the balconies on the structure varied in size and shape, had a slight arch, and occasionally overlapped at the corners, requiring a customizable solution. Four u-shaped modular platforms powered by SC1000 hoists enabled the customer to access all three sides of each balcony simultaneously. Adjustable corners enabled the platforms to be customized to perfectly conform to the varying dimensions of each balcony. The close fit was a critical means to stabilize the platforms in this environment where high winds were a daily consideration. Finally, walk-thru stirrups were used to safely balance each platform, maintaining a safe, stable work surface for the workers.

Spider debris netting enclosed the platforms during the masonry repairs to prevent scraps of concrete façade from dangerously falling to the streets below.

Tight roof access and large parapet walls presented unique rigging challenges. Spider incorporated its new Outrigger Beam Support Frames (OBSF) to squeeze the outrigger beams into the narrow areas, and 8-ft Max Reach Assemblies to extend the reach of the outrigger beams, clearing the protruding balconies.

Spider fall protection equipment, including harnesses, lanyards, rope grabs, and safety lines, ensured worker safety and compliance.

Finally, the American Architectural Restoration team attended Spider’s NYC DOB-approved 16-hour Suspended Scaffolding Safety Class before the project began as well as an on-site refresh session led by Spider New York trainer Marc Frato to ensure all workers on the jobsite were safely operating the access equipment and complying with safety regulations.

“Several years ago, we started out as a Spider rental customer but we quickly gained confidence in their equipment and purchased items for our own fleet,” said Anthony Dragone Sr., President of American Architectural Restoration. “We immediately turned to Spider for the Marbella façade



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restoration, and after three job walks and a few weeks of planning, they proposed a solution that effectively met all our access and fall protection needs. The service we receive from their New York team is top-notch. They are always ready to help, even during off hours and weekends.”

“Spider consistently provides solid equipment that makes our workers feel safe,” added Mike O’Hagan, Project Manager. “That’s priceless.”

Spider’s solution has been providing the customer with safe, reliable, affordable access since the work began in early December 2013. The façade restoration is expected to be completed in summer 2014.

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About Spider:

Founded in 1947, Spider, a division of SafeWorks, created the powered suspended access business by introducing the well-known Spider basket. Since then, our product and service offering has expanded greatly to serve the needs of an ever-growing marketplace. Spider is the largest manufacturer and distributor of access and safety solutions in North America, serving more customers from more locations with a wider variety of products and services than any other company. From baskets, traction hoist and platform rental, to safety and training, to specialty-engineered products - Spider has a strong team of professionals, along with a national network of sales, service and support capabilities to provide you with the most reliable access solutions available.



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