

Façade Access Design



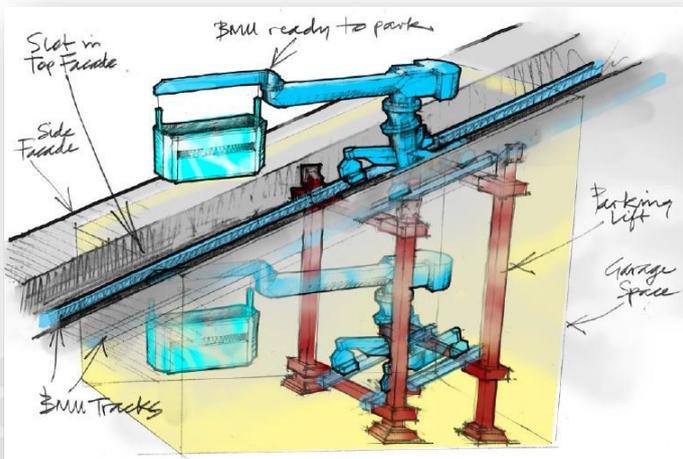
Façade Access Solutions

Now more than ever facade access and maintenance equipment plays an increasingly important role in the design of building envelopes and their safe and efficient future maintenance.

As the quest grows to develop more individual and impressive buildings, increasing emphasis is being placed on the buildings' facades both internally and externally with respect to the detail, quality and proportion of overall budget attributable to this aspect. However, of prime concern to all parties involved in designing and delivering a new building is safe and effective maintenance of the façade.

Client expectations of ever more prestigious and intricate building profiles has led to an increase in the technical expertise necessary to provide appropriate designs for the access equipment. Off-the-shelf equipment may not be appropriate and the designer now requires a comprehensive knowledge of the real capability of companies in the field and the ingenuity to develop appropriate cost-effective solutions incorporating the latest requirements of all the associated H&S legislation.

Our designers bring extensive experience and all the necessary design skills to plan the most cost-effective access equipment solutions for both exterior and interior facade access.



Concept sketch by our design team



Heron Tower, London - Kohn Pederson Fox (KPF)

The duty of care placed upon building owners and managers when it comes to façade access systems (Building Maintenance Units or BMUs) are considerable and involve periodic inspections, tests, risk assessments, training and safe systems of work.

When it comes to refurbishment and retro-fitting facade access equipment, the full scope of options and their impact upon the existing building structure must be fully assessed and considered to arrive at an optimal solution.

Many existing installations may require a survey or audit to review the equipment in the light of changes in codes, standards, legislation and new requirements concerning the need to assess risk and ensure safe working procedures are adopted. The optimum access solution can sometimes require a degree of technical innovation and an element of creativity.