

MOBILE DAVIT ARM

MRPA in conjunction with LITE industries have developed a mobile davit arm that meets fall prevention requirements, is easily transportable and can be assembled by hand.

Metropolitan Roads Project Alliance (MRPA) have collaborated with LITE industries in developing a mobile davit arm.

The mobile davit arm offers an alternative fall prevention solution using smaller equipment without compromising on safety.



Mobile Davit Arm and trench view (left), using concrete temporary fence blocks as counterweight (right).

The situation

On the Clyde Road project, there are several trenches that are being worked in.

To gain access to exposed trench edges, with a fall from height risk, fall prevention controls need to be implemented. Traditionally, these could include tethering to a large concrete block anchor, or a guard rail and davit arm mounted to a shoring box.

However, in tight, congested, and dynamic work fronts with limited means of access and varying trench widths, as on the Clyde Road Project, the traditional approach is not always practicable. A solution was required that would allow full access to the exposed trench edges without compromising worker safety.

The solution

The Clyde Road project team identified that a more mobile solution to working on exposed edges would be to create an anchor point using temporary fence blocks placed on an aluminium frame.

The aluminium frame can be easily positioned by a forklift, or a two-man lift, with the fence blocks placed on top to achieve the specified counterweight.

A standard davit arm was then fitted by LITE Industries to the aluminium frame, and when combined with the use of a safety harness, the anchor point can be used to allow workers to safely access the exposed edges.

The system can be easily re-located or demobilised without using heavy machinery, making it ideal for use on the trenches of the Clyde Road Project Area.

Benefits and learnings

This system offers the advantage of using readily available items (fence blocks) that can be manoeuvred into awkward spots without the need for heavy machinery.

Additional benefits include:

- Smaller equipment footprint
- Easily manoeuvred
- Reduced logistics required
- Can access awkward trench edge locations
- Increased efficiency, i.e., time saving
- No heavy lifting equipment needed.

Program Office: Level Crossing Removal Project
Work Package: Clyde Road Level Crossing Removal
Principal Contractor: Fulton Hogan

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