

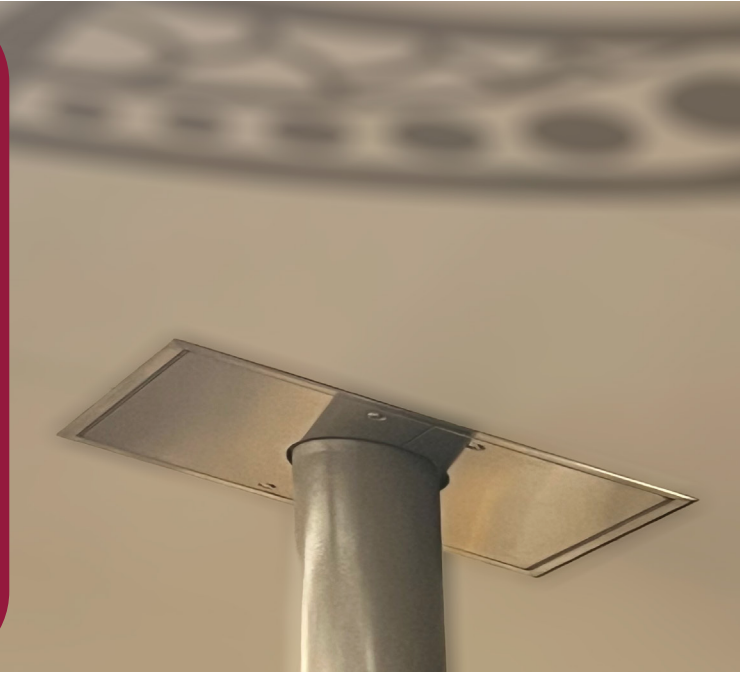
Case Study

NSW Ferry Wharf Upgrades with Custom Access Solutions

As part of the upgrades to the NSW ferry wharves, A&L Interiors partnered with Trafalgar Access to tackle a unique set of challenges. The project aimed not only to modernise the infrastructure but also to ensure its resilience against the demanding coastal environment, all while maintaining a sharp eye on aesthetic integrity and functionality.

Project Description

The core of the upgrade involved phasing out obsolete timber structures, tidal steps, and piles in favor of installing robust new steel piles, gangways, and a state-of-the-art floating pontoon system. This transformation was critical for enhancing the safety, durability, and overall user experience of the ferry wharves, setting a new benchmark for public infrastructure. As the project progressed, a critical and unforeseen challenge emerged that threatened the safety and integrity of the newly upgraded structures: the loosening of bolts within the ceiling structures due to the persistent high winds, characteristic of the wharves environment.



Challenges

These bolts are crucial for the structural integrity of the wharves, and their failure posed a potential safety hazard. The corrosive impact of the salty sea air added another layer of complexity, threatening the longevity of metal components. Moreover, integrating any new solution with the upgraded wharves aesthetic vision was paramount; it was essential that functional improvements did not compromise the sleek, modern design of the space.



Artist's impression of the NSW Wharf Upgrade (Source: TransportNSW)

Solution

In response, Trafalgar Access introduced a meticulously designed solution: **Custom Double Door 316-Grade Stainless Steel Panels**. These panels were tailored specifically so that the bolts were securely locked in place, effectively countering the impact of high winds. The choice of stainless steel material provided dual advantages: unmatched durability against corrosion and the strength to withstand the maritime environment's rigors.

The panels' design was conceived with aesthetic harmony in mind. Featuring bespoke hole cut-outs, they blended seamlessly into the ceiling architecture, appearing as integral components of the wharves design rather than functional add-ons. This thoughtful integration ensured the preservation of the wharves' modern aesthetic while providing easy access for maintenance, allowing for regular inspections and servicing with minimal disruption.



Benefits

Custom Solution: This bespoke strategy ensured that each component was not only a perfect functional fit but also an integral part of the upgraded infrastructure's ecosystem. Our engineering team engaged in a detailed analysis of the project's requirements, adapting our designs to meet the specific needs and challenges posed by the environment and the architectural vision of the wharves.

Quality and Durability: The choice of 316-marine grade stainless steel in the construction of our access panels underscores our commitment to quality and durability. This material was selected for its superior corrosion resistance and strength, essential qualities in the harsh maritime environment of the NSW ferry wharves. These panels are designed to withstand the test of time, providing a long-lasting solution that maintains its integrity and appearance despite constant exposure to saltwater and high winds.

Aesthetic Integration: In designing the access panels for the wharves, care was taken to ensure they complemented the modern style of the surroundings. The goal was to maintain a sleek and contemporary look. Attention to detail was paramount, ensuring the panels not only blended in seamlessly but also enhanced the area's aesthetic. This approach demonstrates that practical elements can be aesthetically pleasing and contribute positively to the visual appeal of a place, effectively combining functionality with style.

Access for Maintenance: The design of the access panels prioritises easy maintenance, recognising its role in the durability and dependability of public infrastructure. These panels offer simple access to the structures beneath, making regular checks and repairs hassle-free. With this focus, maintenance becomes more efficient and impactful, ensuring the wharves remain in prime condition while minimising operational interruptions.

Unparalleled Technical Support: Trafalgar Access provides comprehensive technical support and documentation for all our products. From installation guides to maintenance manuals, we ensure that our clients have all the information and assistance they need for a smooth implementation process. Our dedicated support team is always ready to address any queries or concerns, exemplifying our commitment to customer satisfaction and project success.

Australian Made Quality and Manufacturing:

Trafalgar Access's dedication to sustainable, high-quality manufacturing is a cornerstone of our operations. Our ISO certification is a testament to our rigorous standards and sustainable practices. By manufacturing our products in Australia, we contribute to the local economy, support Australian jobs, and minimise our environmental footprint. Our commitment to local production ensures strict quality control, rapid response times, and a level of craftsmanship that sets our solutions apart in the global market.



Conclusion

The NSW ferry wharves upgrade project is a prime example of how custom-engineered access panels can beautifully merge functionality with aesthetic appeal in public infrastructure. Addressing complex technical challenges, the project placed a premium on safety, durability, and an enhanced visual aesthetic. A&L Interiors decision to select these bespoke solutions for the project signifies a strong endorsement of their quality and effectiveness. This choice not only reflects a shared commitment to excellence but also underscores the significance of innovative and precise design in advancing the access solutions sector, illustrating the impactful contribution of well-designed, tailored components to the success of infrastructure enhancements.

Testimonial

"Thank you to the Trafalgar Access team for the help on our access panel project. It was more than pleasant to deal with Jacqueline and the team with this project as well as the previous.

I hope we can grow and expand our business relationship in the future."

Damir Muratovic
A&L Interiors Pty Ltd