



# Case study

## Monarch Aircraft Engineering

**Client**

Monarch Aircraft Engineering

**Requirement**

Flexible fall protection to maximise hangar use

**Solution**

System that can be used on any aircraft, anywhere in the hangar

**Product details**

WinGrip lifelines / WinGrip all in one

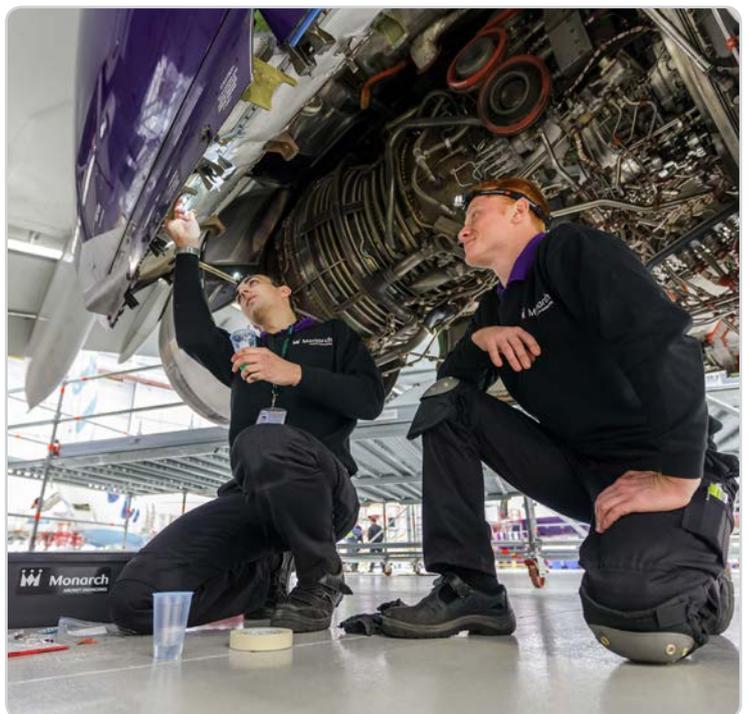


## Background

Monarch Aircraft Engineering (MAEL) is part of the Monarch Group, the UK's leading independent travel group with core activities in scheduled airline operations, tour operations and aircraft engineering

MAEL provides a range of services including base maintenance, line maintenance, engineering and fleet technical support, component and full material support and technical training.

As the UK's No.1 MRO (maintenance, repair and overhaul services company), MAEL has hangars in Birmingham, Manchester and Luton. It also offers line maintenance globally. The company has a growing third-party customer base and accounts for approximately 10% of the Monarch Group's gross turnover.





## The requirement

MAEL maintains its own fleet of aircraft as well as those of other airlines and the UK military. With business continuing to grow it opened a new maintenance hangar in 2013 in Birmingham. This vast building is big enough to accommodate 2 x 787 aircraft or up to seven smaller aircraft of varying sizes.

Naturally, the safety of MAEL's staff is their top priority and they aim to be at the forefront of H&S within the aircraft industry. With that in mind they demanded the best fall protection system they could find for their new hangar – and one that could make the most of the flexible design.

Hangars have traditionally had fixed docking solutions – where the aircraft have to be positioned in place under overhead safety rails or lifelines. However, MAEL's new hangar was built to offer far fewer restrictions on working location.

Having used Latchways' Fall Protection systems at their hangars in Luton and Manchester, MAEL were keen to speak with Latchways about flexible solutions for Birmingham.



## The Latchways Solution

After seeing how versatile the Latchways WinGrip® systems were, MAEL purchased them for their new hangar. The primary solution being used by MAEL is the WinGrip multi-user lifelines, which can be used on any size of aircraft—including the A330.

WinGrip is a vacuum anchor fall protection system specifically designed for use during aircraft maintenance and manufacturing. Extremely safe and flexible, it can be used on the fuselage, stabilisers and wings. WinGrip is quick to install, simple to use and has systems suitable for work both inside the hangar and outside on the apron. It has become a valuable tool for many aviation companies and is a recommended solution in both Boeing and Airbus Maintenance Manuals.



For MAEL, WinGrip is ideal as it provides the flexibility to position aircraft anywhere within the hangar. This maximises their efficiency in working on any type of aircraft —especially as WinGrip can be installed at the same time as the other docking processes are being carried out. This means multiple maintenance activities can be undertaken simultaneously and turnaround times can be improved. With every day on the ground for a 787 costing anything in the region of £100,000 in lost revenue this is a valuable asset for MAEL.

Latchways also provides MAEL with all training for the safe and efficient use of the WinGrip system, as well as a complete maintenance package including on-site servicing.

MAEL have been so happy with the Wingrip system in Birmingham that they are now also using a WinGrip All in One system for line maintenance work on the outside of their hangar in the Luton.

## Benefits to Monarch's business

- Provides greater safety – Peace of mind for all workers at height in MAEL's maintenance hangars
- Always compliant – WinGrip is tested to meet all relevant standards and comply with current legislation
- Increases efficiency - Provides the flexibility needed to work at maximum efficiency within the new hangar
- Simplifies safety requirements - Just one system needed to provide safety at height on all types of aircraft
- Saves time and money – Reduces the time aircraft are out of service, minimising lost revenue for clients



A man in a dark uniform is kneeling on the wing of a white and blue Monarch aircraft in a large hangar. He is using a tool to work on the wing. The hangar has a high ceiling with a complex metal structure and skylights. The aircraft has "monarch.co.uk" written on its side.

“Not only does it give us a reassuring level of safety, but the WinGrip system frees us up to operate our Birmingham hangar at maximum efficiency. We are able to work on a variety of planes simultaneously, and our turnaround times have also improved. This makes us a greater asset to all our clients, as maintenance and overhaul can be carried out even more cost effectively.”

**John Swords, Team Leader – Maintenance Planning and Control**

## About Latchways

All around the world, people work safely at height thanks to Latchways' fall protection systems. With over 40 years of experience at the cutting edge of fall protection Latchways set the standard for innovation, performance and quality. Latchways are trusted to ensure worker safety on a wide range of buildings and structures, as well as throughout industries, such as aerospace, oil and gas, and energy and utilities.



Image on page 2 courtesy of Monarch Aircraft Engineering (MAEL)

WinGrip® is a Registered Trademark of Latchways plc

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