

GE Energy 1.5 Turbine New Style Nacelle



ALTEZZA

GE Energy has recently introduced a new style nacelle which in turn has implications for access, anchorage, rescue and evacuation. These new nacelles will become ever more common, and already some sites share both the old and the new versions.

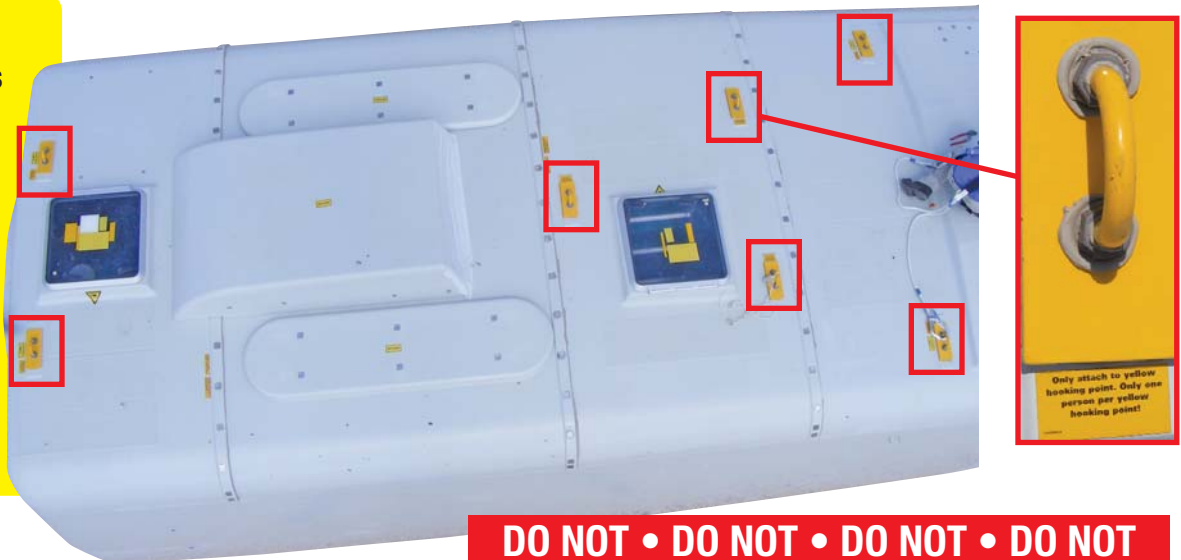
All field personnel should be aware of the difference between the two types and the requirements for access and anchorage, particularly in relation to rescue and evacuation.

The purpose of this notice is to introduce the new nacelle to those who may be unfamiliar with it, to identify the anchor points and the restrictions in access, and to illustrate the new method by which rescue and evacuation will now take place, with particular emphasis on the anchoring of the device.



All GE Energy Field Technicians should be made aware of the contents of this notice.

The following applies to the new style nacelle only.



Anchors for PPE

The most obvious change to the nacelle roof is that there are now two access hatches to the roof – one in the front just as in the old style nacelle, and one towards the rear. The roof bar that ran down the side of the old nacelle has now been replaced by a series of seven U bolts that are identified by the color yellow. These are anchor points for PPE attachment. Importantly, only one person may be attached to any one of these anchor points at any time.

Another major change is that you must not transit from one end of the nacelle to the other by way of the roof. If you need to work at the front of the nacelle/access the hub, you must use the front hatch. If you need to work on the Met equipment/FAA light, you must use the rear hatch.

It's also worth mentioning that the stanchion or mast that supports the Met equipment or the bracket for the FAA light, are not anchor points for any purpose, and certainly not for PPE.



Contents copyrighted Altezza 2008



Call: 1-877-500-ALTEZZA
or office@altezzaglobal.com

Anchors for Rescue & Evacuation

Perhaps the most important aspect of the new roof layout is the implication for rescue and evacuation. In many respects the new arrangement is better insofar as the new anchor points are now rated and more easily identifiable. They also allow direct attachment for the 'last man down' procedure – see separate notice 'Last Man Down Procedure' downloadable as a pdf and without charge, from www.altezzaglobal.com

In the event that someone becomes suspended over the side, take the device and anchor rope from the bag and quickly inspect them to ensure they are 'fit for purpose', ie not damaged.

Attach one end of the white anchor rope to the device and the other end directly to a yellow anchor point. It doesn't matter which anchor point you choose to attach to, but allow yourself room to work without exposing yourself to the risk of falling. An anchor point on the side opposite to the fallen casualty may be the most suitable, but make an assessment based on your training.

Lay the rescue device on the roof. You will have extra scope to adjust exactly where you want the device to sit, by adjusting the anchor rope's rope grab.

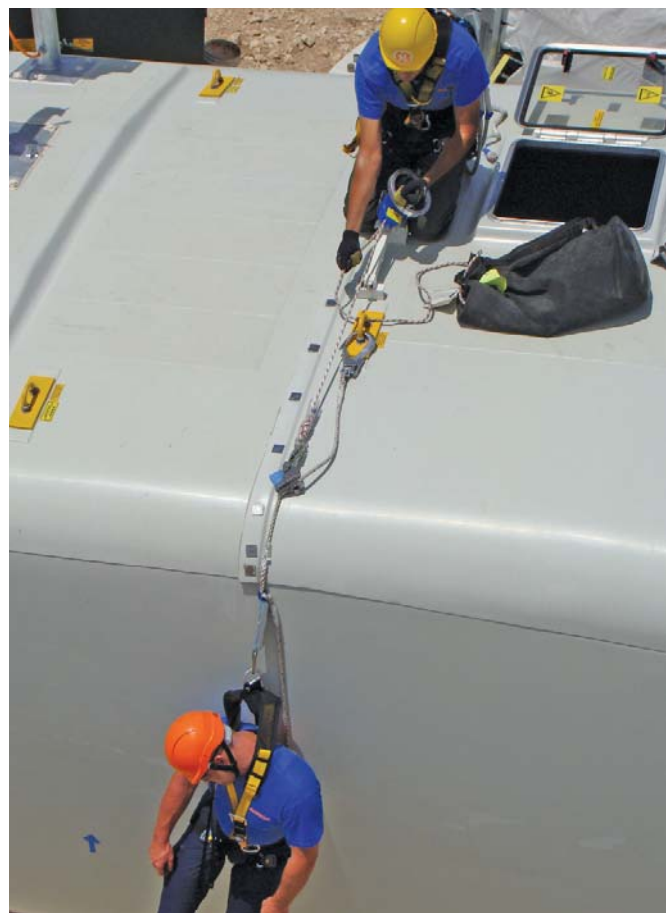
Pull the rescue carabiner and rope through the device and attach to the casualty's fall arrest lanyard as per your current training. The rescue device will be unstable at this point and want to fall on its side. This problem can easily be addressed by kneeling over the device and supporting it in use, with your knees. This simple technique ensures the device remains stable in use, and once the weight of the casualty comes onto the system, the device becomes stable in its own right.

The rescue is then carried out as per your existing training. Anchorage for hub rescue remains unaffected by the new roof layout.

Remember do not to put yourself in danger at any point in the rescue. **Think and assess always!**

Remember.....

- You must not access the hub in wind speeds in excess of 15 meters per second for blades in the flagged position.
- You must apply the manual hub rotor lock before making a hub entry.
- Additional manning considerations apply for hub work.
- You must not climb the tower or enter the nacelle in wind speeds in excess of 20 meters per second.
- When accessing the roof or hub you MUST wear full PPE which will include a full body harness, double legged lanyard, Suspension Trauma sling, safety glasses and, in some cases, a full spec climbing helmet.
- You will stay attached 100% of the time while on the nacelle or hub roof.



For more information or clarification on any of the above, or for any height related concerns, please contact Richard Hallam at richard@altezzaglobal.com

Copyright ALTEZZA Contracting Inc 2008