

## *Access for maintenance at power stations*

Time constraints are a challenge when working for power producers, as they have tight schedules, and there is always pressure to complete the maintenance shut downs as quickly as possible. Most



power stations are large facilities consisting of boilers, cooling towers and smoke stacks. Safe access to these facilities is a challenge, and scaffolding can be time consuming and expensive to erect. Rope access specialist Skyriders has provided quality rope access services to Eskom for over 15 years. Recently, the company undertook maintenance work at Matimba, Medupi and Tutuka power stations using rope access. The work at Matimba required working at a height of 250 m. The steel erection at Medupi made use of rope access as it was a quicker and cheaper alternative to scaffolding. The recent work at Tutuka required industrial vacuum cleaning work on hard-to-reach structures which are inaccessible using scaffolding, making rope access the ideal solution.

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