



> Case study

**Safe access** for inspection and maintenance of flood defences.

COMPANY

Safety First Lifting for  
Bam Nuttall Ltd

DATE

2021

LOCATION

Huckers Bow,  
Weston-super-Mare, UK

PRODUCT

TDAVIT Double Winched  
and Flush Mount Socket



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we can help with your lifting  
and lowering requirements:

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A Double Winched **TDAVIT** allows engineers to safely access the maintenance ladder installed to inspect a new flood defence structure managed by the Somerset Drainage Boards Consortium and the Environment Agency on the Bristol channel coast in the UK.

**The background**

A new flood defence system has been built at the Huckers Bow tidal outfall to protect nearly 300 houses, park homes and caravans in nearby Kewstoke from the risk of flooding. Regular inspection and maintenance are required via a ladder installed to give engineers access to the new tidal outlet flap valve.

**The challenge**

Bam Nuttall Ltd carried out the flood defence work under a contract managed by the Environment Agency. The maintenance ladder they installed to provide access to the newly protected shoreline had to be fitted without safety loops. This was because there is a high probability of floating debris around the tidal outfall and it was felt that this could potentially get trapped in the loops and damage either the ladder or the structure itself. The team at Bam Nuttall approached REID Lifting distributor Safety First Lifting for advice about the best way for engineers to safely access the ladder without the loops.

**The solution**

Bam Nuttall Ltd had already looked at safety harnesses to access the ladder, but Safety First Lifting advised that the REID **TDAVIT** would be a simpler and easier to maintain, non-permanent solution providing the fall protection required.

REID's sales manager joined Safety First Lifting to demonstrate the system to the engineers on site. Bam Nuttall liked the fact that the REID **TDAVIT** was lightweight and portable enough to be stored locally and assembled quickly and easily on site by one person. They also liked the fact that the socket for the **TDAVIT** was flush and obtrusive on the concrete footpath next to the safety handrail.

The REID double winched **TDAVIT** is specially designed for fall protection applications, including confined space entry. It is suitable for use by a single user and comes with a double shackle head for attaching a wide range of fall arrest devices.

At Huckers Bow, Safety First Lifting specified a model with a 78¾" high, 62lb column and a 63" reach beam arm. The lifting height ranges from 77" to 98", and the personnel lifting capacity is 330lb, easily meeting the requirements laid down by Bam Nuttall.

The OSHA compliant REID **TDAVIT** comes with a range of winch bracket options and a sheave at both ends of the beam for attaching either a rope or cable.

**The feedback**

Steve Marshall, Managing Director, Safety First Lifting:  
"The aluminium REID Lifting **TDAVIT** gave Bam Nuttall and the Somerset Drainage Boards Consortium exactly what they needed – a lightweight, easy to transport and assemble solution which means they can still access the ladder even without safety loops."