

# CASE STUDY – RADOME SERVICING AND MAINTENANCE

**Project Type:** Radome Servicing

**Client:** L3 Essco Communications

**Site Owner:** Ministry of Defence (MOD)

**Location:** United Kingdom



Fig.1 Existing Radome prior to renovation

## Brief

L3 Essco contracted Jaggard to undertake the exterior renovation of an existing S-77 L3 Essco Radome structure. The radome is owned and utilised by the RAF and is considered critical infrastructure. The Radome is structurally sound and the works required form part of a scheduled maintenance program.



Fig.2 Detail of Radome prior to renovation

## Scope of Works (SOW)

- Prepare and submit full Risk Assessment and Method Statement prior to mobilisation.
- Clean exterior of Radome thoroughly in preparation for re-painting.
- Key the surface of existing paint in preparation for re-painting.
- Inspect all exterior panel sealant and repair where necessary.
- Re-paint exterior of radome to customers criteria - ensuring even coat thickness to specified tolerance.
- Clear site and dispose of waste material correctly.



Fig.3 Jet Washing with IRATA trained climbers

## Constraints

Due to operational requirements the RAF's system 'down-time' had to be kept to a minimum whilst the works were undertaken. Delays in the execution of the prescribed works could not be tolerated and maintaining the project schedule was paramount.

Health and Safety practices needed to be employed to satisfy, as a minimum, British, US OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) and Royal Air Force standards.

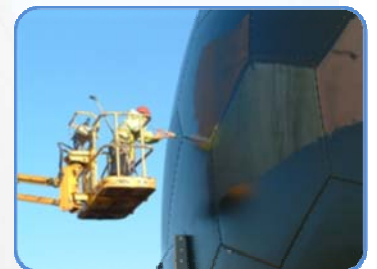


Fig.4 Inspection and application of sealant

## Method

Drawing on Jaggard's skilled workforce resource we utilised our experienced IRATA (Industrial Rope Access Trade Association) accredited climbers in conjunction with suitable access plant. The radome was jet-washed, keyed, and repainted to the client's requirements. The paint was repeatedly checked for coat thickness using paint gauges. Health and Safety and Environmental standards were maintained at all times.



Fig.5 IRATA trained climbers painting



Fig.6 Access Machinery in use

## Result

Despite days of inclement weather Jaggard succeeded in completing the required work elements to the exacting standards of both the Royal Air Force and L3 Essco. Project completion and site handover was achieved ahead of schedule.



Fig.7 Detail of Radome after renovation

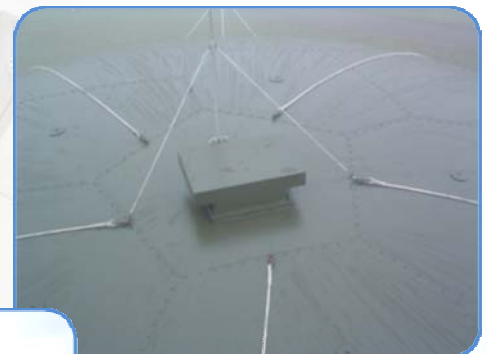


Fig.8 Detail of Radome after renovation



Fig.9 Completed Radome

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