

Case Study

Richard Soan Roofing Service
(University of Brighton)



Client **Richard Soan Roofing Services
(University of Brighton)**

Requirement **Method for fixing solar panels to roof which
would maintain the roof warranty.**

Solution **Constant Force® Solar Panel Support Post**

Product Details **Supply of 55 Constant Force® Solar
Panel Support Posts installed by
HCL Safety Ltd.**

WE KNOW WHAT'S AT STAKE.

Case Study



Background

In 2011, the University of Brighton took the decision to invest in a solar photovoltaics (PV) installation onto the pitched roof of their Cockcroft building—with the intention being to not only reduce their carbon footprint, but also create their own power for long-term sustainability. In 2012, the University installed 132 solar panels onto the existing concrete roof.

The Requirement

For the installation, Richard Soan Roofing required a method of fixing for the PV panels that wouldn't invalidate the manufacturer's warranty on the roof. The roof had a felt finish, overlaid with 120mm insulation and a Sarnafil membrane—which meant they couldn't use the more traditional method of concrete counterweights due to their effect on drainage channels and also over-compression of supporting insulation. The 17 degree pitch of the roof, coastal location and height of the building—therefore reliance on good weather—all combined to mean this was potentially quite an awkward installation.

The MSA Latchways Solution

Richard Soan Roofing, used the Latchways Solar Panel Support Post to affix the panels to the membrane roof. The Solar Panel Support Post is secured to the roof using tried and tested fixing solutions derived from the Constant Force post fall protection product range and provides a base to which the PV frame can be attached. For peace-of-mind, Latchways and HCL Safety undertook further test fixings, to confirm the depth of fixing, and tested a single fixing which easily achieved 2.5 kN. The Installation has created the largest green power station in Brighton and Hove.

About MSA Latchways

Established in 1974, Latchways has become a worldwide leading brand synonymous with engineering strength in fall protection. Maybe it's because we were the very first company to successfully develop and market engineered cable-based fall arrest systems. Or maybe it's because our constant innovations in worker safety at height have improved so many workplaces and lives. One thing is certain: In a global industry with ever evolving demands and ever-changing regulations, the call for fall protection that works with you and your specific needs has never been stronger. That's why, in October 2015, Latchways joined forces with MSA Safety, Inc., a Pennsylvania-based Fortune 500 company with sales and manufacturing operations in more than 140 countries. Together, we bring unprecedented global leadership to protecting workers and satisfying customers around the world.



“Before this project we had only known of Latchways as a supplier of Fall Protection systems so were pleasantly surprised to find out they had extended their range with a complementary product such as the Solar Panel Support Post. Knowing the stringent testing procedures that Latchways put all their products through gave us the confidence that we could trust them to supply to the correct kit for the job. We also had the guarantee that, due to the fixing methods, the warranty on the roof wouldn't be jeopardised—which was another box ticked for both us and the client. The client was also happy as the Post was the best-looking solution we had found for the whole installation! Both Latchways, and their installer HCL, were good to deal with and provided us with all the information we needed for a product which was new to us.”

Mr Anthony Donaldson, Richard Soan Roofing Services

MSA—The Safety Company

Our business is safety. We've been the world's leading manufacturer of high-quality safety products since 1914. MSA products may be simple to use and maintain, but they're also highly-sophisticated devices and protective gear — the result of countless R&D hours, relentless testing and an unwavering commitment to quality that saves lives and protects millions of men and women each and every day. Many of our most popular products integrate multiple combinations of electronics, mechanical systems and advanced materials to help ensure that users around the world remain protected in even the most hazardous of situations.

Learn More About Constant Force Technology

<http://au.msasafety.com/roofing/constant-force>

Our Mission

MSA's mission is to see to it that men and women may work in safety and that they, their families and their communities may live in health throughout the world.

MSA: Because every life has a purpose.

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This is intended for general information and guideline uses only. It should be understood that legislation is changed and amended. Manufacturer instructions must be followed at all times and MSA Latchways® systems must be installed by a Latchways Registered Installer.

Subject to change without notice