

# A SAFER CATERING TRUCK FOR THE A 380

For the past 10 years, several fatal or serious accidents have occurred on the apron of the airports : the risk of falling from heights has been highlighted by the French authorities.

The ground support equipments (GSE) were mostly designed a long time ago without any major change during the last decades. But the general hub organisations, the cost reduction of human resources and time pressure have increased failures to observe complex procedures. In the meantime, the European harmonized standards have described existing GSE, not necessarily considering the required improvements due to the "Machine Directive".

Different alternatives have been considered since 2004 : retrofit the existing equipments and/or change the European standards. But standards cannot describe prospective solutions. Therefore, it has been decided to work with partners to develop innovating solutions, then to incorporate new requirements based on operational prototypes in the revised standards.

The upper deck of the new A380 is located more than 8 meters above the tarmac. The proposed goal for the manufacturer was that no worker should be facing the void directly at any phase of his work. The result is entirely satisfactory and new GSE are now expected for smaller aircrafts.

## DOCKING



A380



Catering truck



Front platform

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Stabilizer with interlocks

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Catering truck in operating position



Approaching the plane safely

## CATERING

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Opening safely the door of the plane



Full contact to the plane

From the plane towards the truck



A safe platform for the transfer of catering

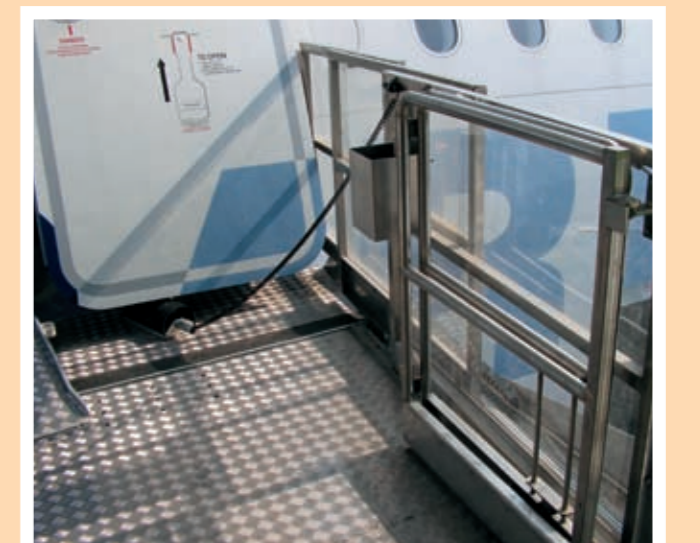
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Inside the van



Folded front guard rail



Lateral guard rails fully extended

## CONTROL

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Control panel in the cabin



Control panel on the platform



Detector on the lateral guard rail



Detector mounted on the nose of the front platform

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General view of safety devices



Interlock on the front guard rail



Forwards camera



Rear view



Buzzer and Backwards camera



Control actuators of powered rear door