

Custom Air Platforms for Nuclear Power Plant



The Situation

An Airfloat customer required a non-wheel solution for the movement of and installation of tube bundles, which weigh in excess of 100,000 lbs., into the heat exchanger jackets at a nuclear power plant. Low floor-load capacity prohibited the use of wheeled equipment.

The Solution

Airfloat manufactured four of its L50 Platforms, each with 50,000-lb. load capacities. The platforms were then interconnected, causing them to function as one long platform. The platforms utilized 30-in. removable air bearings. Air flow requirements were 80-100 SCFM.

The Result

The load movement system not only allowed easy movement through the plant at floor loading under 300 lbs. per square foot, but also allowed tube bundles to be floated out of and into the heat exchanger jacket. Use of Airfloat equipment resulted in a 50% reduction in the time required for this repair.