

sales & service

sales | hires | servicing



Unusual but far from unknown

We've been providing rigging and stage engineering solutions to the UK, Europe and beyond for 35 years, during which time we've developed a reputation as one of the leading rigging companies in the world. Working closely within the entertainment, special event, exhibition and presentation sectors, we are extremely proud of the work we do and the relationships that we have with our customers.

Each of the projects in which we play a role calls for an innovative solution – whether that's how to rig an enormous, heavy show in a small theatre with an old flying system, devising a way of getting a space capsule onto the third floor of a museum which doesn't have a lift big enough to accommodate it, or providing the rigging infrastructure for global sporting events.

We know that sometimes a customer wants to add to their existing stock, while other times they just need a few extra bits for a fixed duration of time. What makes us Unusual is that we are not tied or restricted to particular suppliers or products. As a design house we believe in arriving at the best solution for our clients without compromise. We opened a new warehouse in 2015 to house our rental stock, and to enable us to build and test rigs more easily. We also have the capability to manufacture bespoke items as well as standard rigging equipment.

This brochure runs through just what you can expect from us, whether you choose to buy or hire equipment for your project – not just the products you receive, but the follow up support and inspection you can expect too.

You can order through our website, by emailing sales@unusual.co.uk or by calling us on 01604 830083

"I've never known a team like Unusual. They appear on the first day – and after that they're like little elves – you never see them, just the results of their amazing work. Quite often you find people are frustrated when we are constantly changing elements of the show, but that's part of the nature of what we do – theatre changes and evolves – with Unusual's attitude, there is always a way through it."

Sacha Milroy
Production Manager
Tina: The Musical



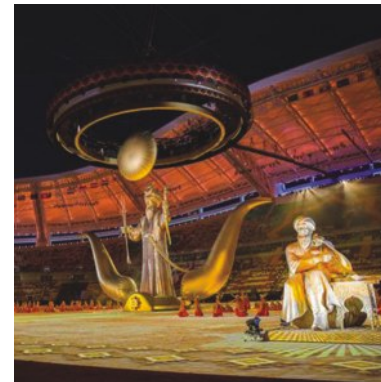
Tina: The Musical



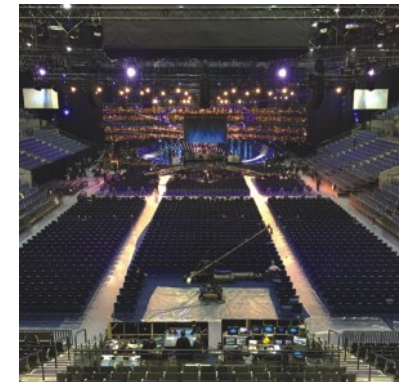
Jaguar LandRover



Chatsworth RHS



5th Asian Indoor & Martial Arts Games



Sports Personality of the Year



SALES



We are proud to be the sales and service partner for several manufacturers and many different suppliers within our industry. Not only that – we sell a range of kit that we design and manufacture ourselves. We can manufacture SWR assemblies using 1mm – 22mm steel wire rope and can also produce bespoke fabrication items in our purpose built workshop.

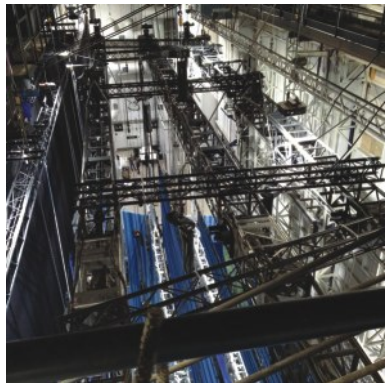
We have fantastic relationships with manufacturers such as Liftket Hoffman GmbH for whom we are the UK distributor. Liftket is the world leader in the development of electric chain hoists, and caters for all types of environments – from installations to theatre, touring shows and complex show moves. Renowned for their reliability, Liftket hoists are the hoists of choice within the industry.

We added Stageket to our sales stock in 2014 and it remains our most popular chain hoist, addressing all the challenges related to low operating noise, safety and flexibility. Liftket can supply a chain hoist to any specification – in fact there are too many to list!

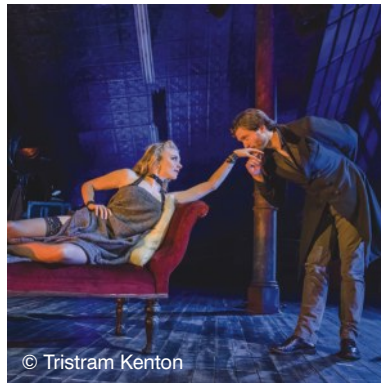
Our relationship with Doughty Engineering goes back years and we are proud to stock and recommend the company's products. From clamps to pulleys to the award winning Modular Rigging System, all Doughty branded products are made in the company's 2,300m² factory in Ringwood, Hampshire, ensuring full control over the quality and production of each and every piece of kit.

“We decided many years ago to find a supplier that we could rely on to consistently provide us with quality rigging equipment as our business grew. The most important factor in that selection process was choosing a supplier that would understand what we wanted and why we wanted it. Quite simply, Unusual deliver what we need, when we need it.”

Bowie Ebrill
Partner
DLM Event Services Ltd



Mama Mia Helsinki



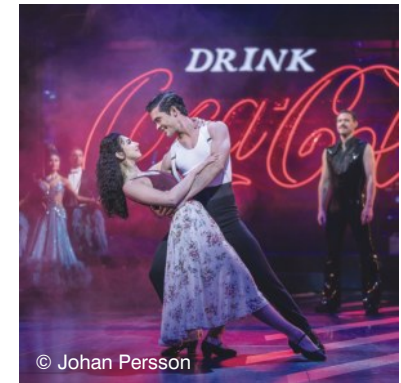
Venus in Fur



Hamilton

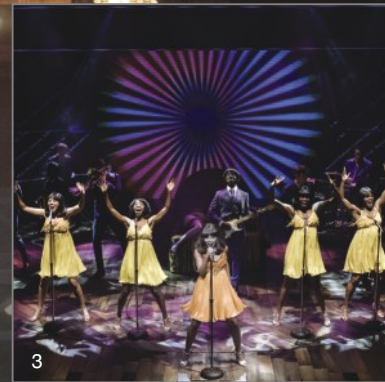


RAF Museum, Hendon



Strictly Ballroom

AN UNUSUAL YEAR





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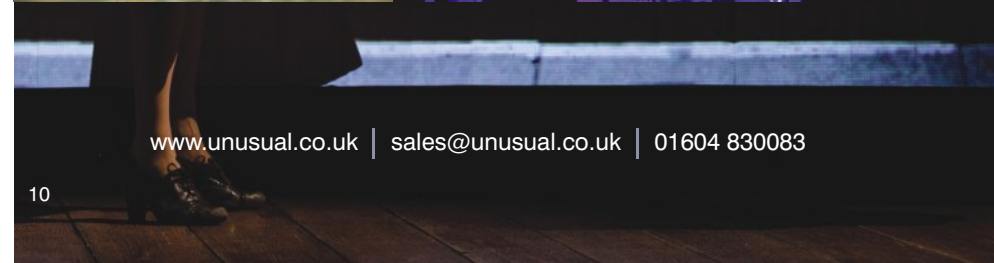
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1,2 & 3 – Tina: The Musical © Manuel Harlan. 4 – Streb.
 5 – Lumiere London © Matthew Andrews. 6 – Huawei WMC Barcelona.
 7 – Bat out of Hell. 8 – Wind In The Willows © Helen Maybanks.
 9 – Laureus Awards 2018 © Getty Images for Laureus. 10 – Brief Encounter © Steve Tanner.

The main image shows a large stadium under construction. In the foreground, there are rows of tiered seating, with some sections in red and orange, and others in grey. The seating is arranged in a semi-circular pattern. In the background, several tall, white, lattice-structured towers are visible, which are part of the stadium's lighting system. A long, horizontal metal truss structure runs across the middle of the image, supported by these towers. The sky is clear and blue. In the distance, there are some hills and a small building.

HIRES

Aladdin's Cave has nothing on our warehouse. It is simply not possible to list all the products stocked in our 1600m² facility, but if you want it, chances are we've got it.

Come to us with a shopping list or a wish list – we can work with both. We probably carry more hire stock of truss, variable speed winches and chain hoists, control and other rigging equipment than any other supplier in the UK. We appreciate that regardless of which sector you work in – theatre, TV, museums or the exhibition industry, sometimes an extra bit of kit or an extra pair of hands are necessary – and we can supply it all.

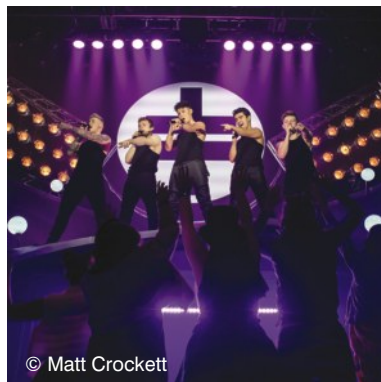
Whether you're after equipment or looking to employ crew, the choice is yours. We are proud and confident that our riggers are the best the UK has to offer. They all have Level 2 Rigging Certificates or higher, and are fully trained in equipment handling – not something every other company can lay claim to.

“Not only has Unusual's service been prompt, helpful and reliable, they have given excellent technical support when required and their prices have proved competitive on a global scale. In many instances it has been cost effective to air freight Kinesys systems to other continents rather than hire locally. If there is a better supplier of Kinesys equipment globally I have yet to find them.”

Devin Stanfield
International Production Manager
The Works Entertainment



Lufftarts Museum, Norway



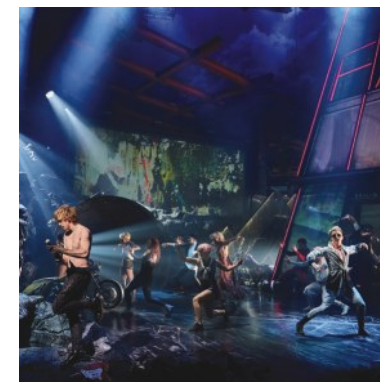
The Band



Bradford Science Media Museum



Ford Focus Global Launch, China



Bat out of Hell



SERVICING

We're only human – we know how difficult it is to find time in a chaotic working day to tick things off the 'to do list' – getting ourselves checked out at the doctors, booking the car in for an MOT . . . which is why we've gone that extra step to make sure that when our clients buy or hire kit from us, they don't have to think about when to get it inspected. Why? Because we will contact you to remind you when a maintenance visit is due and keep records of all work carried out.

How can you be sure that we won't overlook you? Over the past few years we have worked extremely hard to implement a new, up to date asset tracking software system that uses Radio-frequency Identification on the majority of our capital assets. This has allowed us to keep track of our kit with time stamps and accountability, late return reports and automated certification for all rigging and lifting equipment across all our diverse projects. Essentially, we've got our eye on you (but in the nicest possible way)!

Our servicing and inspection software Kinetic is invaluable – not just to us but also our clients. With it, everything is digitalised – no more long correspondence trails. Once inspection has taken place, the information is updated on the customer portal and will ensure a better record of historical reports, as well as any remedial action required. We're a bit like Big Brother – always watching, always knowledge keeping and always having an exact status on every piece of our equipment.

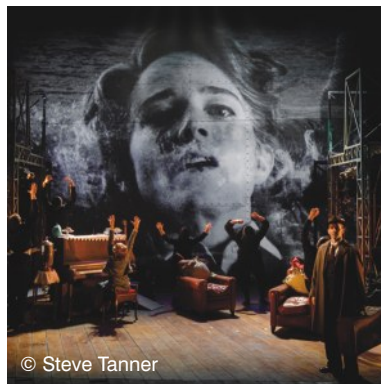
We offer maintenance and inspection for all permanently installed equipment, whether purchased from Unusual Rigging or not – when equipment is properly maintained, things should run smoothly. And on the odd occasion when things do go wrong, we're at your beck and call to ensure the show goes on!

“Working with Unusual is always a pleasure. We have tried to use local non entertainment companies before which just hasn't worked for us . Even something as simple as knowing that you can't use a loud power tool when there is a rehearsal going on is an invaluable quality that you can't put a price on. And of course their depth of knowledge in our specific performance equipment is an added bonus. How many times have you had to explain a counterweight system to a non industry inspector?”

Barry Smith, Technical Manager,
The Ambassadors



Bristol Hippodrome



Brief Encounter



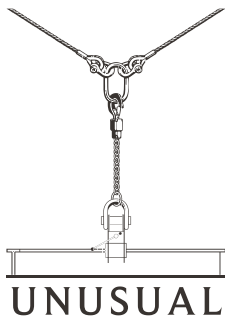
McLaren Manchester



Garsington Opera Pavilion



War Horse Tour



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