

BEST PRACTICE

LOCATION: Recycling Plant
ACTIVITY: Access & Egress & Working at Height
SUB ACTIVITY: N/A
BEST PRACTICE No: BP2235
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:

ARTICLE YEAR: 2024
COMPANY: Blue Phoenix
COMPANY LOCATION: Ridham
COMPANY TEL: 0000

TITLE

Binder screen safe entry and working - Highly Commended

ARTICLE

The site had a new binder screen installed, replacing an existing one. After installation, concerns were raised regarding entering and exiting the screen as the entry point had been changed and the old access steps were no longer adequate - increasing risk when working and potentially falling from height.

Whilst inside the screen there was also a risk of an operative falling/sliding out of the end of the screen and down the chute onto the conveyor below and possibly over the top onto the floor.

A company who specialised in overhead lanyard systems was contacted with the requirements needed i.e. durable, easy to maintain and clean, and an annual inspection to ensure optimal working. The system had to be accessible so operatives could easily clip the lanyard onto their harness before entry, but it was essential it did not become a trip hazard. It had to be safe for two people to move around but not impede each other and support them both, if the worst happened and they fell.

Two lanyard wires running off the overhead wire on wheels were installed, allowing each worker to be on opposite ends of the binder screen and would support both workers if necessary.

Please see additional pdf for details of the design process

Benefits

- By getting everyone involved in the planning of the health and safety upgrades, the team had an input in the installations, raising the morale and buy in of the team.
- Entry and maintenance to the screen has been made significantly safer and an additional handrail and protection around the chute has prevented falling from height.
- The health and safety culture has improved on site and management have seen an increase of operatives with ideas on how to fix things and showing a great pride in the site.
- Subsequent interest in the system has been shown both in-company and externally.

ARTICLE IMAGES