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| **Topic** | Safer maintenance and housekeeping |
| **Entry number (MPA Ref)** | 202414 |
| **Title of Entry** | Binder Screen Safe Entry & Working |
| **Name of Company** | Blue Phoenix |
| **Location** | Ridham |
| **Video**  **(if yes, please include URL for video)** | No |
| **Other resource X (if yes, please include description)** | 8 images, 1 pdf |
| **Fatal Theme (tick boxes that are applicable) 1  2  3 X 4**  **5  6** | |
| **BACKGROUND** | |
| The site had a new and different binder screen installed replacing an existing one. After installation, concerns were raised regarding entering and exiting the screen, the entry point having been changed and the old access steps were no longer adequate. This meant that operatives had to climb over to gain access for screen cleaning and maintenance, putting themselves at risk when working and potentially falling from height.  Whilst inside the screen there was 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.  Once safety concerns were raised by personnel, discussions were held with the site team to figure out what was required to make it safe and suitable for those working with it.  Ideas were collated and it was discussed with senior management and contractors to look at what was possible. | |
| **MANAGEMENT OF PROCESS** | |
| Following reports and concerns from operatives about the safe access and egress and safety whilst inside of the newly installed binder screen, discussions were held as to how to combat these safety issues.  Previously there was small step to enter and exit the old binder screen which was lower, and therefore an upgrade was needed.  It was realised that adding a platform with a ladder on both sides, would allow easier and safer access and egress, and installing railings to the sides of the screen would reduce the chance of falling into the chute, or falling over the sides onto the walkway.  A contractor was contacted to discuss in detail the concerns raised, what the site needed to eliminate, and the duties undertaken inside the binder screen, to ensure that the solutions were tailormade to the specific problems within the screen.  After installing these safety upgrades, it was highlighted that whilst the site was changing the binder screens, there was still a possibility of falling through to the conveyor below, so an overhead lanyard system was looked at.  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 company was invited to visit the site to help them achieve a better understanding of what was needed within the working environment.  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.  Consequently, there would be two lanyard wires that would run off the overhead wire on wheels, to allow each worker to be on opposite ends of the binder screen and would support both workers as necessary. | |
| **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. It increased the likelihood that the safety measures and devices installed would be used and maintained correctly as it was a team idea.  Entry and maintenance to the screen has been made significantly safer with regards to the access and the 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.  By involving the workers who are doing the job and listening to their concerns, made the result even better as everyone on site has a sense of achievement. | |
| **INNOVATION** | |
| Health and safety has always been to a high standard on site and the team are regularly involved in updating the RAMS and taking part in plant walk arounds, raising safety observations etc. This project gave the team confidence in being able to suggest larger improvements and understand that sometimes it takes many minds to come up with the best solution.  Listening to the people doing the job gives a greater idea of what is needed to complete the job safely without cutting corners. | |
| **DEVELOPMENT & TRANSFERABILITY** | |
| Managers from other sites who have binder screens, have visited the site and are interested in installing the system. Some have stated they had the same problem but were unsure on how to solve the issue.  After the safety upgrades were installed, other contractors on site have observed the overhead lanyard wire system and have requested the details for it to be installed at their other places of work.  If just one site takes the idea, and it prevents an accident, then all the hard work is worth it. | |
| **NB if document has embedded images try and include these**  **If other documents provided say additional information available.** | |