BEST PRACTICE

LOCATION:		**ARTICLE YEAR:**	2008
ACTIVITY:	Production and Processing	**COMPANY:**	Aggregate Industries
SUB ACTIVITY:	Asphalt & coated stone	**COMPANY LOCATION:**	Halton East Works, North Yorkshire
BEST PRACTICE No:	BP528	**COMPANY TEL:**	01756 709219

TITLE

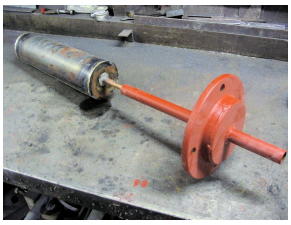
Bitumen tank float gauge

ARTICLE

At Halton East there are a number of measures in place to accommodate safe working with bitumen. These include safety audits and a step-by-step procedure for dealing with bitumen delivery. All bitumen storage tanks are fitted with alarms and monitoring equipment. Although this has proven to be an effective system there are occasions when an unexpected event, such as a power-cut, can lead to dangers. Therefore a manual system was required as a backup to work alongside the electronic system.

The system comprises a simple copper tube attached to a copper float that moves up and down a visible calibrated gauge as the storage tank fills and empties. This is marked with the tank readings, and corresponds with the electronic readings. It is also colour coded to match the electronic monitoring system:

Green - Safe level
Amber - High level
Red - Ultimate High.

This clearly visible piece of equipment has instilled greater levels of confidence in operators delivering the bitumen and storage tanks can be filled to a safe capacity.

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