

## BEST PRACTICE

<b>LOCATION:</b>	Quarry	<b>ARTICLE YEAR:</b>	2005
<b>ACTIVITY:</b>	Working at Height	<b>COMPANY:</b>	Tarmac
<b>SUB ACTIVITY:</b>	N/A	<b>COMPANY LOCATION:</b>	Silomate Croxden, Staffordshire
<b>BEST PRACTICE No:</b>	BP57	<b>COMPANY TEL:</b>	01538 724236

### TITLE

Access platform for portable silo

### ARTICLE

Croxden Quarry has improved safe and secure access to its portable silos by introducing a purpose designed mobile access platform.

The platform is fitted with four braked wheels that allow positioning over the silo access hatch when the silo is placed in a horizontal position. A large platform area above the silo entry point provides a large working area, and a small hinged flap in the 'Flow forge' floor gives controlled access into the silo. A rigid and tested lifting beam above the access point facilitates the use of a recovery winch to allow safe access and emergency egress from a designated confined space.

The platform can also be used to inspect the interior of the silo whilst the latter is in the upright position. The platform has been designed so that it is at the correct height to allow opening and inspection through the side hatch on the silo. The unit is wheeled into position against the silo with a curved section on the platform matching the curvature of the cylindrical silo.

When in position, the wheels are locked in place and an opening gate in the platform handrail permits access to the hatch and internal inspection of the silo.

However, in this position, the platform is not used for entry. Another advantage of the platform is safe cleaning of the silo. These are frequently returned from site in a heavily contaminated condition. With the platform placed over the horizontal silo, the upper surface can be easily jet washed from the platform, avoiding the use of any other improvised access arrangements.

### ARTICLE IMAGES