



21064

'Gateway to SafeDay'

Acheson & Glover > Fivemiletown 2



Gate at crossing point

DESCRIPTION

Acheson & Glover's Fivemiletown site operates in a high-risk quarrying and manufacturing environment where vehicle and pedestrian interactions are frequent, presenting significant hazards. Analysis of incidents showed that 62% of its dangerous occurrences and near misses involved mobile plant, particularly forklifts, a number of these whilst loading or unloading.

The company introduced a 'Gateway to SafeDay' project to promote a positive safety culture across the site and raise awareness of the hazards associated with workplace transport among employees, customers, hauliers, and contractors. The initiative involved employees at all levels of the business.

A wide range of initiatives and actions were explored, developed, and implemented, this included:

Improvement of employee visibility

- A change from yellow to full Hi-Vis orange increased employee visibility
- Changing facilities upgraded and moved to the entrance of the site.

Improving pedestrian routes

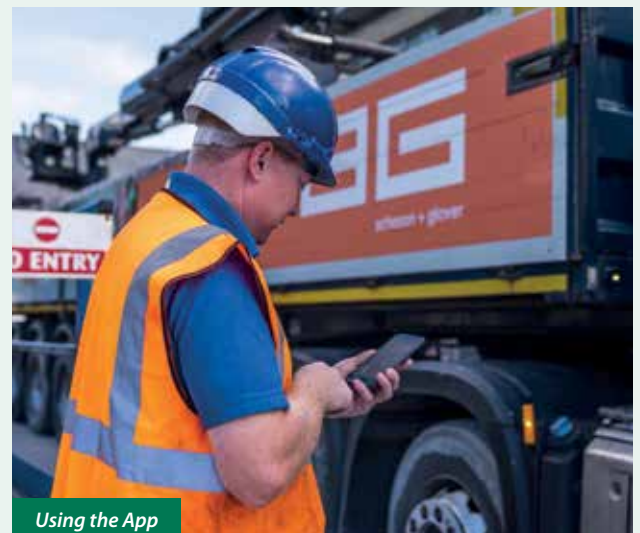
- An interactive and iterative process involving all stakeholders took place to implement pedestrian routes across the site
- Physical barriers were put in place to segregate pedestrian routes from traffic routes
- Spring loaded self-closing gates were positioned at all crossing junctions
- Signage was updated across the site to highlight pedestrian routes
- Communication of the routes was delivered initially through digital (VMS) signage to alert visitors of the changes
- TV screens and toolbox talks were used to communicate improvements to employees
- Staff were empowered to address non-compliance directly.

Initiatives to improve safety of loading and unloading

- Identifying the safest locations for loading bays
- Clearly signing and marking out loading bays
- Segregating domestic customers from hauliers and lorry loading
- On-line loading and unloading awareness sessions for employees and contractors
- Introducing rule that no loading permitted until drivers safely in their vehicles
- New barriers located at dispatch to better control vehicles entering the site
- Briefing customers on-site safety rules and route to their designated loading area.

Forklift and mobile plant

- The forklift and mobile plant policies were reviewed and improved
- Yard SOPs were improved and trained out to operators
- All mobile plant and forklifts were fitted with pedestrian assistance lighting ensuring that a safe exclusion zone is highlighted when in operation
- Speed limiters fitted to forklifts
- High visibility red seat belts introduced to ensure that they were visibly worn
- Older forklifts with poor visibility replaced with modern fleet
- A new haul road created separating the mobile plant moving aggregate to production facilities from the main yard.



Using the App

Visit www.safequarry.com for more details or email: info@safequarry.com



Safe Plant and Maintenance

- Mobile App introduced to improve the tracking and actioning of maintenance issues identified in daily checks and eliminating paperwork
- The App is also used for live hazard reporting.

Since the introduction of these measures there have been no incidents, near misses or dangerous occurrences involving mobile plant or pedestrians.

AG successfully gained recertification to ISO45001 in March with no non-conformances raised and the external auditor commented:

“Leadership and commitment to HSEQ is evident throughout the site. I have seen a remarkable improvement in housekeeping, traffic management, pedestrian segregation, and dust control from my visit in March 2020. This is a significant achievement considering the external challenges of 2020/2021, epitomising the commitment to continuous improvement in AG”

BENEFITS

- Significant improvement in pedestrian safety
- Significant improvement in the safety culture on-site
- Employees feel empowered to address safety issues
- More effective reporting of defects identified in daily checks
- More effective management and resolution of defects

- Increased use of App based systems reducing paperwork
- Improved flow of traffic around site
- More efficient operation of activities on-site
- Improved housekeeping and appearance of site
- Contributed to achieving recertification to ISO45001
- Recognition by all visitors that unsafe behaviour would not be accepted
- A safer work environment for all.

TRANSFERABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT

- AG is following a path of continuous improvement enhancing the App and introducing digital noticeboards to improve communications. These changes are now being introduced to an additional 5 AG sites
- These changes could also be applied to other sites across the industry if considered appropriate after a site-specific risk assessment.

