

# BEST PRACTICE

**LOCATION:** **ARTICLE YEAR:** 2008  
**ACTIVITY:** Access & Egress & Working at Height **COMPANY:** CEMEX  
**SUB ACTIVITY:** N/A **COMPANY LOCATION:** Staveley Coating Plant, Derbyshire  
**BEST PRACTICE No:** BP566 **COMPANY TEL:** 01246 475115

## TITLE

Retractable steps

## ARTICLE

The tail end of the incline conveyor is situated in a concrete sump. A concrete ramp was used to access the conveyor to carry out any maintenance on the tail drum or to track the conveyor. These activities were hazardous in wet conditions, as the ramp could become unsafe to walk on, potentially leading to injury through a slip, trip or fall.

A set of steps needed to be fitted to make access and egress to the conveyor tail end safer. However, there was a further issue as access under the conveyor was required to clean up spillages and the steps would block this task.

The solution to this was to design a set of steps that could be moved into place for access and egress and moved away to facilitate cleaning, whilst at the same time avoiding manual handling. This was achieved by designing the steps to be foldable and controlled by an electrically powered winch. Raising and lowering the steps is achieved at the flick of a switch.

## ARTICLE IMAGES

