


BEST PRACTICE

LOCATION:		ARTICLE YEAR:	2008
ACTIVITY:	Production and Processing	COMPANY:	Aggregate Industries
SUB ACTIVITY:	Asphalt & coated stone	COMPANY LOCATION:	Westleigh Quarry, Devon
BEST PRACTICE No:	BP596	COMPANY TEL:	07740934114

TITLE

 On Video

Asphalt plant swing pyrometer

ARTICLE

On asphalt plants the temperature of the feed material is critical to the final quality of the product. Many plants use a pyrometer positioned just above the flow of the material in the dryer discharge chute to ensure an accurate reading. However, there is limited clearance such that when a piece of oversized material leaves the dryer there can be insufficient clearance within the chute around the fixed pyrometer sensor, resulting in a serious plant blockage.

In the past this often led to operators subjecting themselves to the following risks:

- L Confined space working;
- L Excessive heat exposure;
- L Manual handling of any spillage on the floor beside the discharge chute;
- L Burns, fumes and fire risk from any spillage; and
- L The risk of slips, trips and falls from any spillage

To overcome these issues many plants have moved the pyrometer out of the chute, removing the potential for a blockage but increasing the risk of poor quality control of the product.

A simple swing-mounting arrangement was developed for the pyrometer, directly above the chute. As a result, any oversized material travelling down the chute is able to push the pyrometer out of the way before the pyrometer swings back into position. The ,Swing Pyrometer™ was fitted to the plant in June 2007 and has to date totally eliminated any blockages.

ARTICLE IMAGES

