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## Safety Net System for Padeswood Cyclones

A system of hanging stainless steel mesh nets underneath the roof of the Preheater Cyclones was tested at Padeswood. It is intended to catch any large pieces of refractory or build up that could drop off and injure anyone working in the cyclone. The nets will be fitted prior to anyone entering the cyclone.

Platinum Controls Installations were on site doing some refractory plugs to seal the roof where holes had been cut to allow the safety nets to be hauled into place

Holes have been core drilled through the cyclone roofs and a 110mm i/d pipe fitted with a flange on top. Platinum have cast some 75mm o/d plugs to fit into the holes.



Cyclone roof

Flanges

The plugs were made by welding an anchor to a flange and then the 75mm pipe was fitted central to the flange and refractory added. It was decided to leave the plastic pipe attached, as there was plenty of clearance around the plugs, and removing them added the risk of damaging the refractory.



Flanges with anchors



Completed plugs



There were a series of nets that were hauled into position one at a time, there was a slight overlap as the two end holes were used for the two adjacent nets.

The nets are pulled up on 5 ropes and secured by bolts on the stub pipes on the cyclone roof, the net is hung directly below the roof refractory and should hold any large pieces of refractory or coating that may fall from the roof.



Nets laid out on the floor, the photo on the left shows one of the ropes used for pulling the net up to roof attached.



Nets being hoisted into position



Although not very clear the photo above shows the second net not quite fully in position. (The camera flash could not be used because of the dust in the cyclone).

The photo below shows two of the nets in position





Platinum had four men on site, Peter.F.Parkes Technical Manager, Gary Manterfield Projects Director ,plus two installers Nathan Mann and Nabeel Lewis, they were very positive in their thoughts of what they saw and felt it was a good step forward in improving safety inside the cyclones.

There were slight gaps at the outer edge of the nets and in the centre around the dip tube, as the wires were pulled tight in a straight line, however these were only small and would only allow small pieces of material to drop.

The system looked very promising and will hopefully be taken up by other sites. Paul Cowell is attending the MPA Cement Preheater Tower safety workshop on Friday 26th October at Lafarge Head Offices and will be informing the rest of the Cement Industry of their success.

Peter.F.Parkes  
Technical Manger  
Platinum Controls Installations