



Form Ref: HSI-10

Independent Health & Safety Inspection - Blue Star Item

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Awarded for Exceptional Performance or New Initiative not widely used on other sites

Project	Principal Contractor (PC)	Date of Inspection
M6 Smart Motorway J 2 - 4	Balfour Beatty and Vinci JV	24 th April 2018
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Description of Blue Star Item

The M6 project has recently installed narrow lanes and the varioguard has been put in place. The varioguard being used is the next generation design and as such the methods of fixing have been greatly improved.

The EZ Drill purchased by Asset International is a huge breakthrough in the initiative of achieving zero HAVs by 2020.

The drill rig is wheeled into place and the operative then depresses the lever and moves away from the drill – the hole is then drilled without the need for the operator to touch the equipment and a dust extraction unit is fitted which removes all dust produced and this is collected in a specialised bag unit which is sealed and then replaced as required. The dust collection system runs on a compressor which blows air into the hole being drilled to remove any additional dust particles.

Benefits of Blue Star Item

The drilling of varioguard has now become a much safer and healthier activity as the EZ drill completely removes the risk of hand arm vibration as the operatives no longer have to hold the drills.

There is no exposure to dust as the compressed air dust extraction system clears the hole and then the dust is collected in specialised sealed bag units.

There is no manual handling as the operatives do not have to lift and use heavy hammer drills as the equipment is located on an easy to move trolley which is moved from the vehicle by the tail lift and then wheeled into position.

The items listed above also mean that the operatives do not have to have health surveillance for exposure to vibration and dust.

Details and Cost of any Specific Product

The equipment has been purchased by Asset and is manufactured in the USA with the cost of the drill being £7.000 with an additional £3,000 for the extraction unit but Asset state that this cost pales into insignificance compared to the health benefits to the Asset employees.





Photograph

1



Operative positioning the drill

Photograph

2

