



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
M5 Junction 4a – 6 SMP	Balfour Beatty Vinci JV	12/09/16
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Description of Blue Star Item

During the last few weeks Assett International and the Balfour Beatty / Vinci Joint Venture had been working on and developing a moveable barrier system that can temporarily close works access/exit points to enable construction works to be undertaken at these points.

Generally, the works access/ exit points were closed by a line of cones at 3m centres and a safety zone established behind these cones. However, concerns had been raised that this gap (48m) in the temporary barrier, closed by cones, could easily be breached by errant vehicles.

A more substantial barrier was required to close these gaps and from this the Works Access Gate (WAG) was developed.

The WAG is based on Asset's Solarguard temporary barrier system. It can be moved and positioned manually by "jacking" the system up on to fixed trolley types wheels. This allows the system to be moved in and out of place at any works access/ exit point. The barrier can be slid into position at any time without affecting the traffic flows (lane closures) as it is assembled behind a safety zone within the works.

Once the WAG is in place it is secured by drilling specifically sized holes and bolts dropped in place into the surfacing. A permit to penetrate will be required.

Benefits of Blue Star Item

The WAG gives greater protection to the workforce when carrying out works in these areas.

The increase in safety measures enable the workforce to feel more confident in carrying out works in these areas. The added confidence means that the workforce work in a much calmer manner as they no longer feel they have to rush to get out of the area and this has added benefits in respect of safety. Haste traditionally leads to a higher risk of accidents.

The WAG can be installed from within the works area by specially trained site operatives which reduces the need for lane closures and traffic management operatives being put at risk by having to install cones and safety lines.

More flexibility as the works can be done during the daytime now rather than having to put people onto night shift which in itself adds additional risks.

The barrier can be rolled and does not have to be lifted when moved short distances thus reducing risks associated with lifting

The training to carry out installation is carried out free of charge by Asset

Details and Cost of any Specific Product

There is a daily hire charge which is same as conventional fixed varioguard.



Photograph



Works Access Gate (WAG) system

Photograph



Towing bar for pulling WAG into position