

Effective SAFETY Solutions

WHERE

Company: ALCOA (03)

Business:

THE ISSUE

Fall protection during the loading and unloading of trucks. Vendargue has to load and unload trucks containing stillages or boxes of aluminium profiles. These are loaded or unloaded by overhead crane. This requires employees to climb to the top of the load to take off, or put in place, the aluminium spacers which secure the load. During this operation the employees were exposed to a fall hazard from the top of the load and from the back of the truck.

THE SOLUTION

Two changes were made to the operation.

A procedural change was made which prohibited the loading of the trucks to roof height. All suppliers were informed to only load vehicles to 1.8 metres below the top of the side of the vehicle. This gave fall protection from falling over the side of the truck.

Falls from the back of the truck during climbing and removal of the spacers was achieved with the design of a new access platform. This platform has a moveable platform to allow access to all levels of a load.

PICTURES.



Side protection is given by side gates.

Platform can be raised or lowered

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SAFETY BENEFITS – pros/cons

- Fall hazards eliminated.
- Can access several working levels from one platform.
- Easy to use.
- Mobile, can be easily moved by one man.
- Operators involved in the design, increasing safety ownership.

Following success at the Vendargue site, the solution was also implemented at the nearby Baillargue site. 4 are now in use across both sites.

IMPLEMENTATION COST

Each unit costs € 5002. This included development cost.