

“The DISAB BagVac™ has made a dramatic difference to dust and waste removal. Now there’s zero waste.”

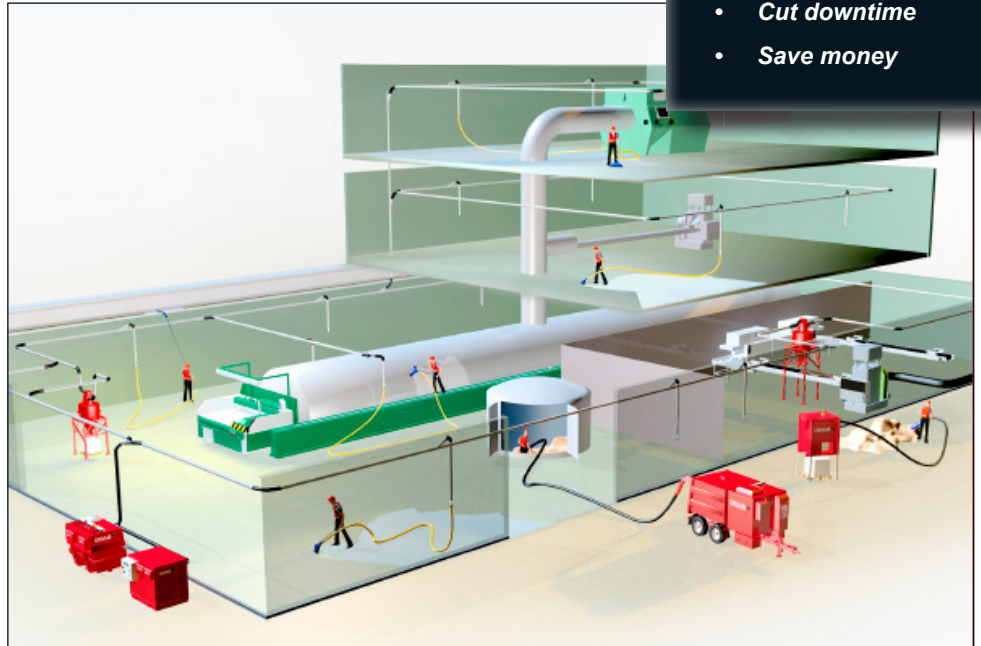
Glendinning purchased a DISAB BagVac™ and fixed pipework system as part of a larger investment programme in new asphalt, crushing and screening plant at their Linhay Hill Quarry. Glendinning’s waste management strategy is aimed at saving time and money coupled with recycling waste, a strategy that is proving popular with their employees.

E & JW Glendinning is the largest independent supplier of quarry and concrete products both to the trade and the end user in Devon and Cornwall. The company produces aggregates along with asphalt, ready-mixed concrete and concrete products, with quarry operations at Ashburton and Bude, concrete plants at Ashburton, Plymouth, Exeter and near Torquay, a block plant producing over 5 million blocks a year, and a paving and walling division. The investment programme at Linhay Hill Quarry has doubled the capacity of stone throughput and opened up valuable limestone reserves located under the 30 year-old redundant processing plant, thus securing the long term future for the 55 year-old business.

Major re-investment in new plant and waste management systems

The investment programme was to replace plant that had reached the end of its engineering lifetime, and the first major item was a new £2.5m asphalt plant. It was designed and built with fixed pipework and inlet valves on all four floors comprising a screen, hot stone bins, mixer and skip levels, so for the first time all floor areas and surfaces could be reached with a DISAB BagVac’s flexible suction hose. Quarry Manager at Linhay Hill, Neil Gibbs, talked about the efficiencies gained:

- *Improve housekeeping*
- *Increase recycling*
- *Cut downtime*
- *Save money*



“Previously, our quarry operatives would have done all this manually using brushes, brooms, shovels and barrows. On the upper floors of any plant, sweeping dust and waste into a pile is one thing, moving that down to ground level for collection and removal is quite another. In addition, because of the very fine dust these processes create, brushing makes more dust and there’s a significantly higher risk of dust exposure to our employees, something we were determined to eliminate through design.”

“As a result in each of the new plants, i.e. asphalt, crushing and screening, fixed pipework systems were built-in and inlet valves were provided on each floor so suction hoses could be attached.”

“With the completion of the investment the full potential of our BagVac™ was realised, as our plant operatives were able to use it to power the pipework system in all the plants and suck up dust and waste up to 50mm in size. This has made a dramatic difference to the dust and waste removal efficiency, and has importantly minimised the risk of dust exposure.”

One tonne of dust and waste a week removed and 100% recycled

“In terms of how much dust and debris is removed, it’s around one IBC or ‘Dumpy’ bag a week, approximately one tonne from all three plants. All we have to do is move the BagVac™ with a forklift or telehandler to wherever it’s needed alongside the plant, connect it to the pipework inlet, turn the BagVac™ on and it’s ready to clean each floor and every surface.”

“On the crushing and screening plant, we set aside about three quarters of a day a week for plant maintenance which includes cleaning and housekeeping tasks, but on the hot asphalt plant we usually do the cleaning on a Saturday morning. All the material is collected in the IBC bag and then put back into the process, so there’s zero waste.”

Neil’s delighted with the DISAB BagVac™, and so are his quarry employees:

“The BagVac’s™ more than lived up to our expectations. As the key cleaning system on each plant, the BagVac™ ensures all the possible dust, debris and waste it can handle is removed safely and efficiently. The use of a plant vacuum system is clearly far more efficient than brooms and brushes. Everything goes into the collection bag, and from nozzle to bag it is a fully enclosed process.”

Dust exposure minimised

“It’s far more popular with the employees as well, who no longer have to face the back breaking and very laborious chore of doing this manually, and of course, they know they’re working in an environment in which the risk of dust exposure is minimised.”

“All this makes a difference to the external inspections as well. When BSI come to inspect our product quality, a clean and dust free plant is a major factor in their audit. Processing plant that’s kept clean means quality end product for our customers. In what we all know is a very competitive marketplace, that kind of endorsement is priceless when it comes to winning and retaining business.”

