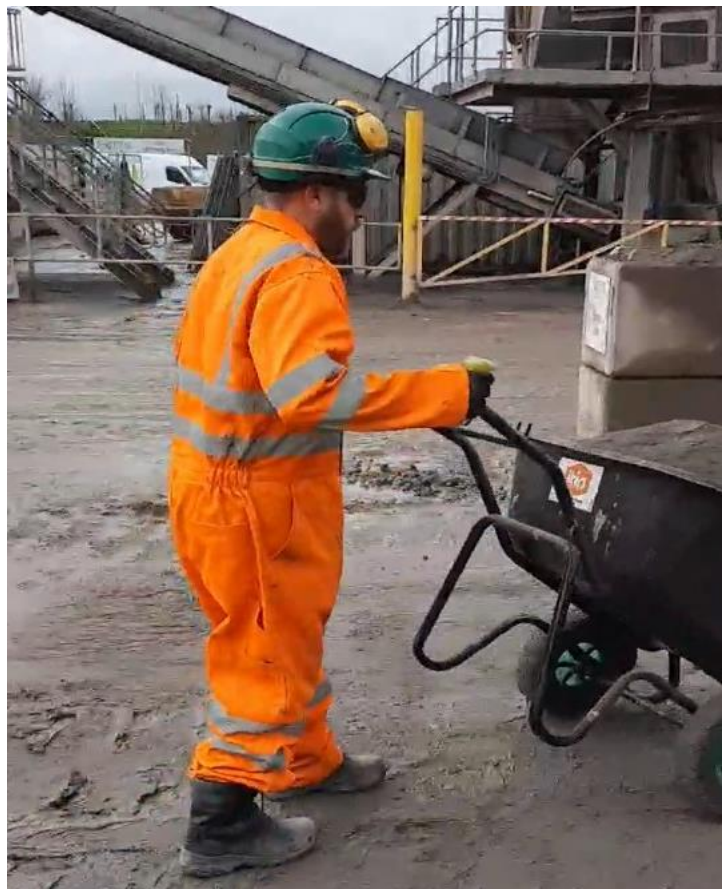


Using ezTip Safety Handles to increase health and safety at Fortis

“The EzTip Safety Handles have performed magnificently on site; they are now an essential part of our handling equipment which reduces the risk of MSD for our employees. We are looking to extend their use to other Fortis sites” Wayne Read, Fortis Site Manager



Tonnes of waste diverted from landfill

Fortis are leaders in Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA) processing in the UK. IBA Aggregate is produced from waste-to-energy facilities from non-recyclable domestic waste which would have otherwise been sent to a landfill, the ash produced from this process is recovered and transported to one of the Fortis start-of-the-art facilities for recycling of ferrous and non-ferrous metals from the IBA. These are re-used worldwide to relieve the burden on mass extraction of low-yielding virgin metal ores such as copper.

The other main part of the process produces a secondary aggregate that is used as an alternative to primary or quarried aggregate in the construction industry, Fortistone® IBA Aggregate. At the Andover site, they move significant quantities of ash using wheelbarrows.



Fortis want to reduce back injuries to their team's manual handling activities. Aggregate processing is hazardous, moving heavy laden wheelbarrows. EzTip Safety Handles have reduced injuries and continue to operate day in, day out for over a year in this hostile environment.

Worker safety is paramount

After a series of trials, sets of EzTip Safety Handles safety handles from iTip were fitted to the manual handling equipment on site. Once the existing wheelbarrows reached end of life, new large 220-gallon double wheelbarrows were provided with EzTip Safety Handles pre-fitted directly from Safety Handles. The combination has not just provided safety but also lasted far longer than normally occurs in this tough environment. Plus, the team are more productive with the bigger wheelbarrows. After a year, The Site Manager, is very satisfied with the results.



Risk Assessment Method Statement (RAMS)

The HSE guidance highlights the importance of carrying out risk assessments for each manual handling application by a trained Health and Safety Professional. This should cover all areas of equipment operation. iTip Safety Handles allows full control of equipment as well as enforcing multiple safety factors. It allows the most complete RAMS to date.

EzTip Safety Handles from iTip Handles on a wheelbarrow at Fortis

Musculoskeletal disorder* (MSD)

12,000 injuries happen a year from manual handling (source Health & Safety Executive of HM Government* HSE). This equates into many lost days off with strains for workers and long-term injuries. However, this can be reduced by the introduction of iTip® Handles as a physical safety measure.

Itip Safety Handles provide safety and control for manual handling

Background

Safety Handles are a UK invention designed to reduce musculoskeletal symptoms such as backache, when completing manual handling tasks. Although automation has reduced the need for human involvement in many tasks, there are still situations where it is more time and cost effective to use traditional methods. iTip Handles have been independently evaluated by the HSE. The scientists summarised the effects as;

“The measured reductions in the wrist angles will, in the long term, decrease the risk of musculoskeletal symptoms and disorders developing in the wrist”

The report is [here](#). There is an additional report at the same location about Safety Handles being independently tested for strength. Safety Handles are rated and exceed the HSE's guidance. Since being introduced to the health and safety industry, Practitioners have found additional benefits from Safety Handles including being used on cement mixers and roll cages. The HSE have a roll cage with Safety Handles at their Buxton Laboratories, to demonstrate safety innovation. In fact, the Innovation Society awarded them the Best International Invention of the Year. They have also won awards such as Product of the Year, Best New Tool, and Best of British. The Highways industry have marked them “Highly Commended”.



iTip Safety Handles are designed to reduce manual handling injuries.



ezTip Safety Handles have the same safety properties and are great when a cleaning process is difficult, or a pram handle is provided on the equipment.

Sustainability

A key parameter for innovation is to make the product as sustainable as possible. To this end Safety Handles readily breakdown in the correct compostable conditions. They are manufactured in Slough, the UK, to reduce their carbon footprint. The nature of manual handling also reduces the need for carbon producing powered equipment to move loads.

Availability

Safety Handles are currently available from www.SafetyHandles.co.uk . They are supplied individually and in bulk trade packs of various multiples. Please contact us on 0333 800 5000 for an account. The commercial variant is provided in high visibility colours to

enhance the safety capability. Individual high visibility commercial sets of iTip or ezTip Handles are available at £25 (+VAT). The 2Tip is available at £50 (+VAT). For exports, please call Paul on 0333 800 5000.



EzTip Safety Handles from iTip Handles are self setting.

Summary

iTip Safety Handles are an inexpensive control measure designed to improve safety and comfort.

“iTip Handles are an easy way to show we care about the welfare of our team”

Ross Bullerwell Managing Director, North Yorkshire Highways

For details contact [Hello@SafetyHandles.co.uk](mailto>Hello@SafetyHandles.co.uk) ring 0333 800 5000 or visit www.SafetyHandles.co.uk.