



Frederick Thomas
ELECTRICAL & MAINTENANCE LTD

**SPECIAL
TESTING
SERVICES**

INDUSTRIAL

PARAGON MATERIALS



With headquarters in Chatham, Kent, Paragon Materials was set up with the sole purpose of importing cement into the UK, using four strategically sited facilities at established docks.

When a ship berths and is ready to unload, the uninterrupted operation of the plant is critical. Wasted time due to outages or critical switchgear failure is very expensive, due to time penalties incurred.

To forward the product to PreMix plants, tankers are used which rely on the site running efficiently and continuously for a quick turn-around.

As virtually all the cement transfer plant uses electric motors, FTE&M Special Testing Services is the ideal solution for Paragon, ensuring all switchgear and motor control centres are thoroughly checked on an annual basis

To perform FTE&M Special Testing Services a normal working load on equipment being tested is paramount. The results of the test then reflect the true condition of the switchgear and connections to it, giving a 'live' snapshot of how equipment is performing in everyday operation.



PARAGON MATERIALS

Testing Procedure

The switchgear was prepared for a typical morning at a Paragon site, with a queue of tankers ready to load. Notes were also taken of how the equipment cabinets were resisting the ingress of cement, a highly corrosive and conductive material.

Some of the electric motors start direct on line (DoL). The integrity of connections is crucial, in order for them to withstand the seven-to-ten times starting currents associated with this method of operation.



A tight deadline does not mean corners are cut; the safety of our staff and the uninterrupted operation of the facilities is always our number one priority.

An Ultrasonic scan of the panels is undertaken first as an 'early warning' safety precaution, our Technicians, suitably protected, then safely open the panels. Direct line of sight to critical areas of switchgear is essential to obtain accurate IR temperature measurements.

Our test instrumentation is highly advanced and our technicians are highly trained. Our reporting system, provides the option of a CD ROM based report, as well as the traditional hard copy.

If we find any issues with the Client's equipment, we establish the causes and identify practical ways in which these may corrected. Our technicians are fully qualified NICEIC Electricians, as well as trained IR and Ultrasound technicians. The report is prepared by an experienced Electrical Project Engineer.

We deliver practical engineering solutions.

REGISTERED MEMBER



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