

# project NEWS

## DIGIT RESTORATION PROJECT AWARD AT TATA STEEL, SCUNTHORPE

**A restoration project by Digit Resource Management and Tata Steel, Scunthorpe has been awarded the Business Award and the Overall Lincolnshire Environmental Award on 21 May 2015 at a Gala dinner in Lincoln, judged and presented by Anglia Water and David Bellamy.**

The award was presented for transforming a contaminated, industrial landscape into a rich wildlife habitat at the same time as stopping wind whipping across a large site that had been causing major dust problems.

Tata Steel's Scunthorpe site falls within an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) because of elevated dust levels caused by wind blowing dust off the site. To alleviate this problem a project to create a green space with the objectives of mitigating wind speed (a major reason for dust dispersion), maintaining soil moisture levels (reducing the problem of dry soil erosion), improving soil stabilisation through tree roots and leaf decomposition and improving biodiversity through new vegetation.

The solution was to construct a bund and manufacture covering soils. Operations Director, Lewis Thomson supported by Ralph Lodge, Technical Director managed the Digit Resource Management operations.

Over 154,000 trees have been planted in the area, while 4 miles of green embankment have been created with 7.5 acres of the project area seeded with wildflowers. The alternative to this was to cover the area in tarmac. Creating a green space has not only benefited nature, it has made a more pleasant environment for people to work in and proved significantly cost effective compared to the alternative.



David Simpson, Business Development Director commented; "This project was particularly challenging for Digit Resource Management. Not only was the site spread out over several locations within the Scunthorpe complex, but the ongoing steel making process at Scunthorpe was not allowed to be interrupted in any way due to our operations. Careful soil zoning and recycling techniques, along with optimal routing of vehicles was essential to help the project run smoothly. It's great to see the final product not only working well to control dust and turn the site "green" but also winning an award on such a regional level. Hopefully we will be able to repeat the success on other Tata Steel sites across the country."

**Graeme McDonald**  
**Managing Director, Digit**

Pictured: Tata Steel Scunthorpe before and after