CLAIMS

1. A device for loading solid particles into an enclosure, notably a chemical or petrochemical reactor, comprising at least one conduit (18, 20) for the passage of the solid particles and at least one movable element (40) for controlling the fall velocity of the particles, this element being designed to be slidably movable inside said conduit (18, 20), characterized in that said device comprises a plurality of identical guide plates (12a, 12b) interconnected by fastening means (14, 16), and in that said at least one conduit (18, 20) is made from a flexible material, each guide plate (12a, 12b) in the form of a flat plate and having at least one through opening (28, 30) for receiving and guiding said at least one conduit (18, 20) in a position of use in which the longitudinal axis of the conduit extends substantially perpendicularly to the plane of each guide plate.

2. The device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that each conduit (18, 20) is formed by a plurality of segments interconnected by fastening and joining means.

3. The device as claimed in either of claims 1 and 2, characterized in that, in the position of use of the device, the fastening means (16, 14) are shaped so that the guide plates are spaced apart from each other along the longitudinal axis of the conduit, or so that sets of two interconnected adjacent guide plates are spaced apart from each other along the longitudinal axis of the conduit.

4. The device as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that it includes a plurality of modules (10), each module comprising an upper guide plate (12a) and a lower guide plate (12b) connected to each other, each module including reversible means (14) for fastening to another module, such that, when two modules are assembled, their upper and lower guide plates are superimposed and in face-to-face contact.

5. The device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that each conduit is formed by a plurality of segments, in that each guide plate of a module is provided with means for fastening an end of a segment, and in that each module comprises at least one segment of conduit whose ends are fixed to the guide plates of said module.

6. The device as claimed in claim 4 or 5, characterized in that the guide plates are provided with a sealing element designed to ensure the sealing of at least one conduit between two adjacent modules.