

In-Town Annex

OHIO COOPERATIVE UPGRADES STORAGE, RECEIVING CAPACITY



Antwerp Equity

Antwerp, OH • 419-258-8465

Founded: 1917

Storage capacity: 2 million bushels at four locations

Annual volume: 3.6 million bushels

Annual revenues: \$15-18 million

Number of members: 325

Number of employees: 7

Crops handled: Corn, soybeans, soft red winter wheat

Services: Grain handling and merchandising

Key personnel:

- Keith Wiesehan, president
- Scott Moorhead, interim manager
- Susan Arend, office manager

Supplier List

Aeration system Chief Agri/Industrial Division
Bucket elevators Chief Agri/Industrial Division
Contractor T-Square Millwright Services
Conveyors Chief Agri/Industrial Division
Elevator buckets ... Maxi-Lift Inc.
Grain temperature system .. Safe-Grain Inc.
Leg belting Goodyear/All-State Industries
Millwright T-Square Millwright Services
Steel storage Chief Agri/Industrial Division



In the foreground is a 700,000-bushel steel annex built across the street from the main elevator at Antwerp Equity in Antwerp, OH. The relatively new GSI tower dryer at far left was installed about five years ago. Photos by Ed Zdrojewski.

In recent years, Antwerp Equity has had to handle far more grain than it had the capacity to store at its headquarters elevator in the heart of Antwerp, OH. Because of the in-town location, a temporary storage pile simply was out of the question.

As a result, the company often had to ship out grain when the basis was unfavorable. Even though there are four new ethanol plants within 100 miles of Antwerp, the company still lacked sufficient storage space, according to former General Manager Steve Fast.

(Fast left Antwerp Equity in March 2008 to head grain operations at four elevators in Ohio and Indiana owned by Advanced Ag Solutions, Wapakoneta, OH. Scott Moorhead, recently retired as general manager of Payne Equity in Payne, OH, currently is serving as interim general manager at Antwerp Equity.)

As early as October 2005, the company

began drawing up plans for a 700,000-bushel steel annex in the only space it could be built, to the south of the main concrete elevator across Railroad Street.

Location Challenge

It took until the summer of 2006 before ground could break on the first of two new



T-Square crews refurbished an existing receiving leg, visible top left.

Reclaim for the annex involves a pair of above-ground incline conveyors, depositing grain into a jump leg, which in turn, lifts grain onto an overhead drag conveyor or into a truck loadout spout, all rated at 15,000 bph. The design was necessary to avoid displacing city utilities underneath Railroad Street.

corrugated steel tanks, as Antwerp Equity had to petition the city for a zoning change before work could begin.

Even with the rezoning, the challenge with the annex site was the location across the street. Grain could not be reclaimed by way of a below-ground tunnel because of city utilities underneath Railroad Street, including a natural gas main, water main, and storm sewer. As a result, both the fill and reclaim conveyors for the annex were built overhead, allowing traffic to pass underneath.

As general contractor and millwright on the project, Antwerp Equity hired T-Square Millwright Services Inc., North Webster, IN (574-834-1082), on the two-year project. Fast notes that T-Square performed some millwright work for the company about five years ago in the installation of a then-new GSI tower dryer.

Steel Annex

The annex consists of a pair of 350,000-bushel Chief Titan corrugated steel tanks standing 80 feet in diameter, 81 feet tall at the eaves, and 106 feet tall at the peaks.

The flat bottom tanks have outside stiffeners, 16-inch Sudenga sweep augers, and 14-cable Safe-Grain temperature monitoring systems. A set of two 30-hp Caldwell centrifugal fans per tank provides 1/10 cfm per bushel worth of aeration.

A 15,000-bph Chief drag conveyor runs out from the main concrete house across the street to the westernmost of the two tanks, with a second conveyor continuing on the eastern tank.

The tanks empty onto above-ground 15,000-bph Chief conveyors, which incline at the end to deposit grain into a 15,000-bph Chief jump leg. The leg, in turn, lifts grain onto a second 15,000-bph overhead drag conveyor running



back to the concrete house.

Receiving Leg Upgrade

T-Square also upgraded an existing receiving leg housed in a concrete well inside the slipform from 5,000 to 12,500 bph.

The upgrade required the installation of new 14x7 Maxi-Lift HD-MAX low-profile buckets, mounted on a new 15-inch Goodyear belt supplied by All-State Industries.

Ed Zdrojewski, editor