

Scoular's Acquisition

GRAIN COMPANY MAKES IMPROVEMENTS TO ACQUIRED ELEVATOR IN KANSAS



The Scoular Company
Omaha, NE • 402-342-3500

Founded: 1892
Storage capacity: 63.5 million bushels at 31 locations
Annual volume: 200 million bushels
Annual sales: \$3.8 billion
Number of employees: 490
Crops handled: Corn, wheat, sorghum, soybeans, grain byproducts
Services: Grain handling and merchandising, risk management, container shipping

Key personnel at Wellington:

- Phil Van Court, location manager
- Seth Post, merchandiser
- Rachel Barnes, merchandising assistant
- Gary Rains, elevator foreman
- Jamie Cornejos, inventory manager

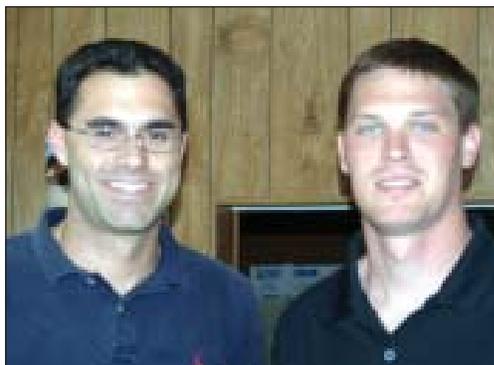
Supplier List

Aeration fans AIRLANCO
Bin sweeps The GSI Group
Bucket elevator MFS/York/Stormor
Bulk weigh scale controls InterSystems
Catwalk LeMar Industries Inc.
Concrete tanks McPherson Concrete Storage Systems
Control system Watson Electric Inc.
Conveyors InterSystems
Distributor Custom Metal Fabricators
Elevator buckets ... Maxi-Lift Inc.
Engineering Manley Structural Engineers
Leg belting Rubber Belting & Hose
Level indicators Monitor Technologies LLC
Millwright HABCO Inc.
Speed reducers Dodge
Steel storage The GSI Group
Steel tank erection .. Blackhawk Inc.
Tower support system HABCO Inc.



The Scoular Company terminal elevator at Wellington, KS, with two new 400,000-bushel McPherson jumpform concrete tanks and three new 100,000-bushel GSI steel tanks visible in foreground. Photos by Ed Zdrojewski.

When Scoular purchased a grain elevator at Wellington, KS (620-326-3313), from Wolcott & Lincoln early in 2006, it was clear that there was a considerable opportunity in expanding the facility due to the density of crop production in the area.



Location Manager Phil Van Court (left) and Merchandiser Seth Post.

“The elevator was shuttle-capable when we bought it, but we really needed more space so that we could handle wheat and milo (sorghum) at the same time,” says Location Manager Phil Van Court, who moved to Wellington in 2007 from Scoular’s Kansas City area office. “The upgrade also allowed us more flexibility to load trains when the market signaled for it instead of having to load every time we filled up.”

That year, the company added a pair of 400,000-bushel jumpform concrete tanks and also replaced three 100,000-bushel steel tanks that had been destroyed in a 1996 tornado, constructing them on the original foundations, effectively doubling total storage capacity at the elevator.

To accomplish this, Scoular hired the team of HABCO Inc., Salina, KS (785-823-0440), and McPherson Concrete Storage, McPherson, KS (800-999-8151). Watson

Electric Inc., Salina (785-827-2924), designed and installed the electrical systems. Blackhawk Inc., Manhattan, KS (785-539-8240), erected the new steel tanks, and Manley Structural Engineers, Salina (785-823-0538), did engineering work on the project.

Construction began in September 2006 and was completed in May 2007 in plenty of time for the Kansas wheat harvest.

New Storage

The two McPherson jumpform tanks stand 72 feet in diameter and 124 feet tall, with flat bottoms, 16-inch GSI sweep augers, and Monitor mechanical level indicators. Because of frequent turnover, the tanks have no grain temperature monitoring systems, but fixtures are in place for a Rolfes@Boone system if ever needed.

A pair of 50-hp AIRLANCO centrifugal fans on each tank provide 1/22 cfm per bushel of aeration in a draw-down-type system.

The elevator utilizes a modified existing leg to elevate grain to fill the jumpform tanks. HABCO installed a new six-hole Custom Metal Fabricators electric distributor and a pair of 20,000-bph InterSystems drag conveyors to fill them. The tanks discharge onto a below-grade 40,000-bph drag that feeds the existing loadout leg.

Steel Replacements

The three new GSI steel tanks stand 48 feet in diameter and 64 feet tall at the eaves. They are equipped with GSI sweeps and utilize existing aeration fans.

A gravity spout from the new distributor drops grain onto new overhead 15,000-bph InterSystems drags to fill the new steel tanks. The tanks are emptied by inclined screw conveyors onto an above-ground 10,000-



Reclaim augers are used to empty the new steel tanks and deposit grain onto an above-ground InterSystems drag conveyor for return to an existing leg.

bph InterSystems drag conveyor that runs to an existing leg.

In addition to the new storage, HABCO boosted the capacity of two existing inside legs in the slipform concrete house from 16,000 to 24,000 bph. The project involved installing 16x7 Maxi-Lift Tiger-Tuff heavy-duty buckets mounted on 18-inch belts supplied by Rubber Belting & Hose.

Finally, a new InterSystems controller was installed on an existing 50,000-bph bulk weigh loadout scale, which Van

Court estimates saves the facility 45 seconds per railcar when loading trains.

“We’re looking forward to having a good crop. We’re eager to generate a high-volume put-through with this facility,” he comments.

The 2007 wheat crop around Wellington was largely wiped out by an April freeze and further damaged by heavy rains at harvest. An annual Kansas Wheat Tour in April predicted an exceptional crop in the area, however.

Ed Zdrojewski, editor