

MECHANICAL TO AIR-POWERED UPGRADE



Company: Henrich Logistics

Location: Mayville, WI

Industry: Warehousing

Challenge Overview: Replace mechanical dock levelers with push button operated levelers that do not rely on electricity in the pit.

Equipment Solution: McGuire CentraAir® Levelers

Challenge

For years Henrich Logistics had operated with mechanical levelers at their loading docks. However, as operations grew, the time came to upgrade to a more efficient leveler.

Howard Henrich, president of Henrich Logistics, researched the use of air bag or hydraulic levelers and discovered the added cost of installation. He wasn't keen on the expense of installing electrical power at the back of every single pit, especially since his staff was planning to install the levelers themselves and not hire additional subcontractors.

Howard turned to McGuire for advice on alternatives for his loading dock needs with eight dock positions planned.

Solution

Installation of levelers can have high costs, especially if electrical installation is also required at each pit, as Henrich Logistics discovered. To keep these installation costs down, McGuire recommended their CentraAir® (CA) Levelers.

The McGuire CA operates with compressed air, either from existing plant air or with a dedicated compressor. When used with a pneumatic push button control, the CA does not require any electricity at each pit to operate, thus reducing the installation costs for Henrich Logistics.

To keep things simplistic, Howard decided to utilize a dedicated compressor for the new levelers. His team was able to successfully install the levelers and only run electricity to the compressor.

Results

With the new CentraAir levelers in place, Howard and his employees love the new equipment. The push button operation removed the need for them to bend over to pull a chain or walk the leveler down to the trailer bed.

Additionally, without any heavy duty springs and a hold down in the pit that the mechanical levelers required, Henrich Logistics has flawless service in the CA with significantly less maintenance and replacement parts needed over the life of the levelers.

"I highly recommend the CA leveler from McGuire. It's a much better alternative to a mechanical dock leveler that can save thousands of dollars in maintenance and parts over the lifetime of the leveler."
– Howard Henrich, President