**Batching Products** 



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# Market: Bulk Storage and Loadout of Wheat Flour

## **CUSTOMER**

The Wall-Rogalsky Milling Co. in McPherson, Kansas.

# **SITUATION**

The flour mill operates on a time schedule. "We bulk load trucks and occasional railcars," says Max Streit, plant manager of The Wall-Rogalsky Milling Co. "The flour would go through a dumpscale and we would eventually find our flour storage was long or possibly short of flour. With the addition of two tanks with Kistler-Morse load stands, we are now able to measure our total weight of flour in each tank, so that we only provide the amount of flour that we need -- or we fill the tanks to capacity and know exactly how much flour we have on hand. Now we can schedule better and be more exact on how much flour is really needed to fill orders. We do not have a lot of extra, unneeded flour for a shipment. We can also check production while on orders, to be sure that mill production is consistent with our schedule. It means we're more informed of what the mill is producing at the time the order is made."

#### APPLICATION

In 1988, the facility began using a Kistler-Morse Batch Control System (Model 1200 Batcher and Load Stand Transducers) to monitor the quantity of flour emptied from two 100-ton flour tanks. An air conveying system blows the flour out through a pipe in the bottom of the flour-holding vessels and into an air-locked hoppper. By measuring the weight loss in the flour-holding vessels, Wall-Rogalsky is able to determine how much flour is loaded into trucks and railcars. "With calibration adjustments, it's been very consistent," says Streit.

## BENEFIT

The Wall-Rogalsky Milling Co. is able to quickly and accurately load flour into bulk trucks and railcars. "On a 160,000-pound railcar, the (Kistler-Morse) batcher delivered within one-half to one percent off," Streit says. "On truck loadouts of 46,000 to 50,000 pounds, the readouts are in the same range."

#### CONCLUSION

The Kistler-Morse batch loadout system "provides very good inventory control," Streit says, "We're on more of an exact schedule now."