

Complex Integrated Railcar & Truck Loading System

Sheffield Village, OH – March, 2020 — [Benko Products, Inc.](#) — a manufacturer and innovator in truck and railcar loading safety equipment - custom designed a complex rail and truck loading system for a client in TX.

Benko Products recently completed a complex integrated railcar and truck loading system for a major chemical client in Chocolate Bayou, TX. The client sought out a manufacturer who had strong vendor partnerships and was capable of overseeing and managing the entire rail loading rack and truck loading project. After numerous engineering hours developing the appropriate solution for the client, Benko Products was awarded the contract.

The rail car loading rack was to be located between two rail spurs so it could service rail cars on each side. Crossover stairs and catwalks were used to allow operators to safely cross over the rail tracks while loading the cars. Each loading spot needed safety bridges to allow operators access to the connections on the rail car. Due to the variances in rail car hatch designs, pneumatic safety cages were employed so that the operators are surrounded by safety handrails during the entire loading process.



The client wanted the ability to load multiple, compatible products from each loading spot. A product selector arm, spring-balanced and articulated for ease of use, was designed so that operators could easily move between different product feed lines, depending on what the customer had ordered to be loaded into the rail car.

Each rail loading spot, as well as one truck bottom unloading station adjacent to the rail tracks, also needed metering and process control skids that could interface in a central programmable logic controller (PLC) cabinet to be located in an operator's building placed in the middle of the loading rack. This system had to be designed not only to make operation fool-proof but to also communicate with the new chemical plant's distributed control system, or DCS. The PLC also had to keep track of the numerous safety instrumentation devices Benko supplied such as proximity switches to inform the PLC which product line had been selected and overfill protection sensors to prevent product spills.

Benko Products successfully coordinated the manufacturing efforts of four different vendors as well as directly manufacturing all of the platform structure, stairs, pneumatic cages, safety bridges, and catwalks. Whether you are looking for an extensive integrated loading system like this one or something less complicated, *Benko Products can deliver.*

About GREEN Access & Fall Protection

For over 40 years, [GREEN Access & Fall Protection](#) has been the trusted leader in safety equipment, designing and building the most reliable, durable, and affordable access and fall protection equipment for tank trucks and rail cars. The GREEN Access & Fall Protection line includes gangways, loading racks, stationary and portable platforms, large tank truck and rail car loading systems, horizontal lifeline systems and caged ladders. The G-RAFF elevating tank truck platform is also part of the GREEN Access & Fall Protection family of safety solutions. GREEN Access & Fall Protection is manufactured by Benko Products, Inc. in its state-of-the-art facility in Sheffield Village, OH.

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