

# Expedited Grain Receiving

COOPERATIVE ADDS STORAGE, HANDLING, DRYING, AND TRUCK WEIGHING CAPACITY



Scircleville  
★  
INDIANA

**Co-Alliance LLP**

Avon, IN • 317-745-4491

**Founded:** 1927

**Storage capacity:** 25 million bushels at 15 locations in two states

**Annual volume:** 65 million bushels

**Annual revenues:** \$950 million

**Number of members:** 7,500

**Number of employees:** 500

**Crops handled:** Corn, soybeans, soft red winter wheat

**Services:** Grain handling and merchandising, feed, agronomy, energy, farrow-to-finish swine production

#### Key personnel at Scircleville:

- Bill Klee, location manager
- John Brammeier, grain division mgr.
- Darren Clouse, grain originator
- Chris Poole, grain originator
- Kyle Walters, superintendent
- Rick Terrell, weighmaster/bookkeeper
- Theresa Treadway, weighmaster/bookkeeper

#### Supplier List

**Aeration fans**.....Rolfes@Boone

**Bin sweeps** .....GSI Group LLC

**Bucket elevators**...GSI Group LLC,  
Hawthorne-Seving

**Catwalks** .... LeMar Industries Corp.

**Contractor/millwright** ..... Elevator  
Services & Storage, Inc.

**Conveyors** ..... GSI Group LLC,  
Hawthorne-Seving

**Distributor**.....Hayes & Stolz Ind.  
Mfg. Co. Inc.

**Elevator buckets** ..... Maxi-Lift Inc.

**Grain dryers**..Zimmerman Grain Dryers

**Grain temp. system** ...Rolfes@Boone

**Leg belting**..... Goodyear Belting,  
All-State Industries Inc.

**Steel storage**.....GSI Group LLC

**Tower support system** .....LeMar  
Industries Corp.

**Truck scales**.....Rice Lake Weighing  
Systems



*Co-Alliance LLP rail terminal at Scircleville, IN, with two new 691,000-bushel GSI steel tanks at left. Photos by Ed Zdrojewski.*

As every country elevator manager knows, if a farmer has a choice of elevators at which to deliver grain during a busy harvest, the one with the shortest wait in line has an advantage over the competition.

“As we moved forward in recent years, we saw a need to expedite the truck dumping process,” says Location Manager Bill Klee at the Co-Alliance LLP rail terminal in Scircleville, IN (765-249-2258), which can load 85-car unit trains on the Norfolk Southern. Klee has worked for Co-Alliance for the past 10 years and has 38 years of grain industry experience.

Up until 2010, the elevator had about 2 million bushels of upright storage and 4 million in three temporary storage piles.

In order to increase the efficiency of both truck and grain flow, Co-Alliance in 2010 used the foundation of one of the three temporary piles, in order to place a pair of new 691,000-bushel corrugated steel tanks.

In addition, Co-Alliance added a new receiving pit and 20,000-bph leg and other grain handling equipment to serve the new tanks. The elevator also added a pair of 2,500-bph grain dryers, bringing total drying capacity at Scircleville to 10,000 bph, and a new outbound truck scale.

To construct the project, Co-Alliance brought in Elevator Services & Storage, Inc. (ESSI), Beavertown, OH (419-643-5111), as general contrac-



*Scircleville Location Manager Bill Klee (left) and Grain Division Manager John Brammeier.*

tor. “They’ve been doing work at Co-Alliance facilities for a quarter century,” Klee comments.

Work began on the upgrade in April 2010, and the project was completed by the end of August, “two hours before the start of bean harvest.” The cost is confidential.

#### Storage Tanks

On the site of the old temporary storage ring, ESSI constructed a pair of GSI corrugated steel tanks standing 105 feet in diameter, 85-1/2 feet tall at the eaves, and 114-1/2 feet tall at the peak.

The flat-bottom tanks have outside stiffeners, 16-inch GSI Series II sweep augers with roughly 10,000-bph capacity, and 24-cable Rolfes@Boone grain temperature monitoring systems.



*Two new 2,500-bph Zimmerman tower dryers, selected instead of a single 5,000-bph model for space reasons.*

A set of four 30-hp Rolfes@Boone centrifugal fans provide 1/10 cfm per bushel worth of aeration with the assistance of nine 2-hp rooftop exhausters.

Each tank is equipped with a manually-operated sidedraw spout. Once grain drops below that level, the tanks empty onto 15,000-bph Hawthorne-Seving drag conveyors in above-ground tunnels, which carry grain either to truck loading stations or back to existing

concrete storage.

### **Grain Handling**

Between the two new tanks, ESSI constructed a new 200-bushel mechanical receiving pit, the fifth at the Scircleville facility.

Despite the small size of the pit, it is served by a 20,000-bph drag conveyor and leg for fast unloading. The leg has 20x8 Maxi-Lift CC-MAX low-profile buckets mounted on a 22-inch Good-year belt.

The leg deposits grain into a four-hole Hayes & Stolz automated distributor, which in turn, sends grain onto 20,000-bph GSI overhead drag conveyors running out to the new storage.

The elevator already had a 10-year-old, 5,000-bph Zimmerman tower dryer, which remains in operation. “We’ve had good luck with it,” says Grain Division Manager John Brammeier. “It’s easy to clean out and maintain, and it has good heat recycling.”

However, there wasn’t space for ►



*New 20,000-bph receiving leg accepts grain from the newest of the facility's five receiving pits.*

## Circle With an "S"?

The name of the town of Scircleville, IN in Clinton County is not a misspelling, historical or otherwise.

Rather, Scircleville is named for George Adam Scircle, who platted the town in 1873, according to *Wikipedia*.

The unusual spelling has caused some confusion for truckers attempting to deliver parts and supplies to the Co-Alliance LLP grain elevator at Scircleville, says Location Manager Bill Klee.

"We've had truckers calling for us from Circleville, IN, which is about 100 miles southeast of here, asking for directions," he says.

another 5,000-bph dryer. Instead, Co-Alliance opted for a pair of 2,500-bph Zimmerman dryers in a space between two sections of existing concrete storage. These dryers are fired by liquid propane



*New 70-foot Rice Lake pitless scale for outbound trucks.*

stored in a nearby tank.

However, Klee and Brammeier are unable to comment on their performance, since most of the grain arriving during the 2010 harvest was dry enough to go straight into storage.

In addition to everything else, Co-Alliance installed a 75-foot pitless Rice Lake truck scale adjacent to an existing 70-foot scale for outbound weighing.

"The new construction was excellent," Klee comments. "ESSI bends over backwards to make everything right."

*Ed Zdrojewski, editor*