Industrial

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT



Hirschvogel Inc.

Vertical Lift Storage Raises the Bar, Not the Roof

THE CHALLENGE

In most cases, the challenge for a company is deciding which storage solution is right for their circumstances. For one Columbus, Ohio company, though, the dilemma was, instead, how to come up with a fix creative enough that would allow them to implement their chosen solution.

Hirschvogel Incorporated, a company that manufactures automotive parts, had a clear goal. It wanted to increase its storage capacity while also clearing more space for non-storage purposes; among them, adding a new furnace to its parts processing department.

Because vertical carousel systems had been used in the company's other facilities – to great success – the decision-makers in Columbus decided they'd go that way, too. But with a ceiling height of just 15 feet, there didn't seem to be a way to bring that goal to fruition.

THE SOLUTION

"We knew that to get the most bang for our buck, we needed to go as high as we possibly could," said Jason Cudak, a project manager at Hirschvogel. *"So in order to get to that height, we had to install it outside the wall of the facility. Once we made that decision, we were able to go to 35 feet high. Then we created a shell around the equipment on the outside of the building."*

To be exact, Hirschvogel added three Hanel Lean-Lifts – a pair of 35-foot high units and a third that rises to 53 feet. They are used to store raw materials (tooling, maintenance, and production components) for finished automotive parts. Openings were made in the side of the building in strategic areas, and the lifts were added immediately adjacent to it. To protect the units from the elements, pre-engineered metal structures with steel supports and pre-fabricated siding were erected.

All three units measure 95 inches wide by 110 inches deep. Cudak oversaw the pouring a new foundations underneath the giants and the subsequent erection of the surrounding structures.

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Jason Cudak
Project Manager
Hirschvogel

THE OUTCOME

“Prior to the installation, we had a lot of tools that we had been storing on our conventional racking inside the building,” said Cudak. *“We were getting to the point where we needed to install more equipment. We were processing more goods. So, space became very valuable.”*

Today, the freed-up space has indeed allowed Hirschvogel to install that furnace, increase its storage capacity and free up additional space to accommodate more growth.

“Patterson Pope was willing to work with the owner to accomplish something that was maybe a little unusual, but there was never a point where anyone said, ‘Oh, this is impossible.’ It was a challenging project. It was definitely nice to be able to work with a company that was committed to seeing the project through to the end and to have it be successful. We’re very happy.”







