



Backer's Potato Chips Upgrades Its Bulk Storage Bin System with Vanmark

Overview

Backer's Potato Chip Company is a family business started in 1931 by Grandma and Grandpa Backer on the bank of Hillers Creek in Callaway County, Missouri. Today Backer's processes 7,000 pounds of potato chips per hour in its facility. However, the company has faced multiple challenges in keeping up with product demand.

Their existing bulk bin system was decades old and deteriorating quickly, resulting in performance and production issues. They turned to Vanmark to replace it and optimize their receiving area.

Backer's has a decades-long history with Vanmark and many legacy machines in its facility. The potato chip producer selected Vanmark to fulfill this need because of the durable operation of its existing equipment and the support the company has received over the years.



Solution

A six-bin system was designed to support Backer's production performance. Vanmark's sister company, PFI, installed the system. The ease and cost savings of turnkey equipment and service were attractive to Backers.

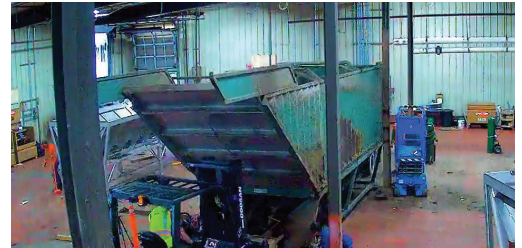


Watch a timelapse of the install



Challenges

- Deteriorating bulk bin storage system required unplanned maintenance
- Single discharge to flume systems caused production bottlenecks
- Rapid wear of parts at “drop points”



Approach

The Backer’s team visited Vanmark’s Creston, Iowa, facility to see the Bulk Storage Bin System equipment. After witnessing the system in action, they placed an order for it and supporting conveyors.

Vanmark’s Bulk Storage Bin System receives potatoes and temporarily holds them until they’re ready for processing. The design’s modularity allows the bins to share interior walls. It’s built for flexibility, durability, and gentle product handling.

The system offers multiple discharge points, allowing Backer’s to discharge product to either of their flume systems and processing lines instead of choosing one. Its surrounding catwalk improves accessibility.

During the design process, Backer’s told Vanmark they’d encountered challenges with their conveyors’ durability at “drop points,” as they’d wear out and break over time. To help prevent similar issues from arising with the new equipment, Vanmark’s engineers designed heavy-duty framing for those areas to reduce wear and tear.

Now

Pleased with their new system, Backer’s no longer has to worry about repairing outdated equipment, and the speed of their unloading process has increased dramatically.

The time saved has allowed Backer’s to focus more time and attention on growing its business.



The Bulk Bin Storage System is only one of Vanmark’s many receiving solutions. Learn more about it at vanmark.com/All-Equipment/Bulk-Storage-Bin-System

Learn more about our commissioning, installation, and field services at [vanmark.com /Service-Parts](https://vanmark.com/Service-Parts)