

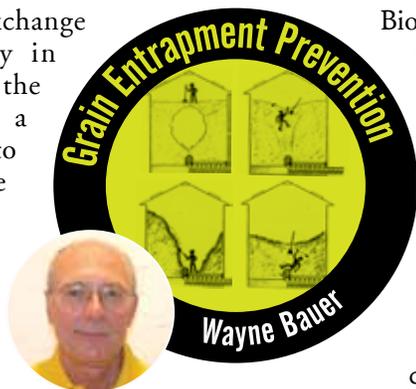
Cherokee Strip Connection

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY LEADS PIONEERING WORK IN BIN RESCUE

Before GEAPS Exchange 2010 got underway in Wichita, KS, I had the opportunity to take a trip to Stillwater, OK to visit Oklahoma State University (OSU) on Feb. 19.

I met a very impressive group at the OSU Grain Research Farm. This diverse group has been working together effectively for more than three years. Its participants include:

- Carol Jones and her staff at the OSU



Bio-systems Department
(405-744-5099).

- The OSU Stored Products Research & Education Center.

- Triangle Insurance Co. (580-237-4276)

- The GEAPS Cherokee Strip chapter.

- Johnston Enterprises,

Enid, OK.

- Jess Andrews, formerly with Autry Tech in Enid.

- Firefighters with the Enid Fire Depart-

ment and others.

I found this group to be very focused and working hard on a number of projects that will benefit the Grain Entrapment Prevention Initiative in the years ahead.



Combined Effort

A few positive examples of this combined effort include:

1. Design and production of the "Aspen Lift," which can be used like a tripod on the top of steel tank roofs that have slopes from zero to 45 degrees. This group has been conducting tests on this unit, and hopefully, it will be available to the industry in 2011. It is a great device for use in assisting with the quick setup and

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So-called "Aspen Lift" unit under development on the Oklahoma State University campus is designed to fit on steel tank roofs with slopes up to 45 degrees for extracting entrapment victims and rescuers. After testing is completed, plans are to make the lift available to the grain industry. Photos courtesy of Triangle Insurance Co.

Response No. 1041



The Cherokee Strip Connection group has been working effectively with getting industry and emergency response groups to form regional rescue teams in Oklahoma.

Grain industry personnel and emergency responders have been working to form regional response teams trained in bin rescue and located around Oklahoma.

removal of victims and rescuers out of steel tanks.

2. Production of a new training DVD to help raise awareness of the dangers and hazards involving bin entry and thoughts on prevention. This video/DVD is being produced at OSU and will be available to the industry in 2011. It will touch upon topics like grain conditioning and prevention of grain entrapments.

3. Utilization of 16-inch-x-4-foot hard plywood pieces lashed together with a rope and used as a cofferdam and/or restraining wall in emergency rescue operations involving entrapments or engulfment. The group has been looking at various low-cost techniques for restraining wall systems to isolate and free up entrapment victims.

4. The group has been working effectively with getting industry and emergency response groups to form regional rescue teams in Oklahoma. The industry nationally needs to follow their example of working and partnering to form groups that train effectively together and prepare for grain entrapment incidents.

In short, I was very impressed with the partnerships formed in the past three years in this area and the way they complement each other and share resources and ideas for the common good. We could learn from their example.

Keep up the good work!

Wayne Bauer is safety and security director of Star of the West Milling Co., Frankenmuth, MI; 989-652-7026.

GRAIN CONVEYORS

Drive Over Conveyor (pictured right)

- Moves easily on four wheel system
- 42 inch V Cleat Belt
- 20 hp motor
- Unload a semi in under five minutes
- Discharges onto 36x120 grain stacker



Belt Conveyor (pictured below)

- 36 inches x 120 feet
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- Discharge height 40 feet
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- Chevron V-cleat belting



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