

# TANKER TRUCK UNLOADING – FALL PROTECTION

**Problem:** Every time a tanker truck arrived on the plant site, a hatch on the top of the trailer would need to be opened in order to sample the product and allow venting during the unload process. Accessing this hatch created a serious fall/fatality hazard for the customer. Justification was categorized as “Fatality Prevention” with a projected cost of approximately \$65,000.

Prior to the installation of this system, workers had to climb a vertical ladder attached to the side of the trailer. Once on top, the worker would stand on a small platform without handrails. During the winter months this posed an especially dangerous threat where snow and ice would build up on the platforms.

**Solution:** PTS was responsible for a turnkey solution which included a fixed staircase, manually operated gangway, truck wheel guides, foundation design and installation with Stop/Go lighting. The new system allows the truck driver or client employee to access the top of the tanker trailer while being 100% protected by handrail, eliminating the risks of a falling.

With PTS due diligence and while working through the fall prevention solution, another hazard was discovered. The unloading procedure would take place on ground level at the rear of the truck. The employee had no protection from the truck if it unexpectedly moved backward. Therefore, wheel stops were installed near the unload station to stop the truck from unintentional travel. The wheel stops also allowed the truck drivers to have a repeatable parked position during the unload procedure.



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