CASE HISTORY

INTRODUCTION
This job story focuses on the benefits of safe and accurate level detection in silos and hoppers. The Customer in this study is a leading global supplier of catalysts, engineered packaging materials, and specialty construction chemicals and building materials located in the Middle Atlantic States.

PROBLEM IN MORE DETAIL
To measure material level, the Customer was using an unsophisticated, and sometimes dangerous, drop line method to acquire level readings in each silo. To measure the contents of the silo, an employee had to climb an outside stairway then walk on catwalks that were exposed to the elements. This danger was elevated during inclement weather, especially snow. The Customer wanted a solution that would eliminate the safety hazards and wasted labor that this method required as well as provide more accurate inventory control.

SOLUTION
AIRMATIC Application Specialists surveyed the situation to find a solution that would eliminate the safety problem, meet level detection and measurement needs, and fit the Company’s budget. In the end, a BINMASTER® SMARTBOB II was selected and installed. The SMARTBOB II is a highly reliable and accurate inventory management system used in a variety of industries to monitor stored powders and bulk solids. The product can be used for a single bin, tank, or silo, or for an entire network of storage vessels. The sensor is mounted on top of the bin and automatically drops a weighted cable to the material surface to take a precise measurement before sending the measurement data to a readout console, allowing for greater measuring accuracy. The SMARTBOB II offers the strongest and smartest cable-based inventory measurement system currently on the market, with the ability to manage 1 to 128 bins with heights up to 180 feet. This system enabled management to acquire an accurate reading on demand of the silo, while at the same time improving employee safety.

CONCLUSION
As this case study shows, this project was deemed a success since the Customer immediately saw improvements in measurement accuracy as well as eliminating a serious safety concern. Within four months of installation, another system was purchased for a second silo. The BINMASTER® SMARTBOB II satisfied all Customer requirements and they are now performing beyond expectations on all silos.

For more information on Silo Inventory Management Systems and other products and services provided by AIRMATIC INC, click here.