

# THE YOUNGLOVE CONVEYOR

FOR EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF YOUNGLOVE CONSTRUCTION, L.L.C.

► Leaders in the design and construction of bulk materials handling facilities

Builders of value... Builders of trust... Since 1896

## The Hazards of Pits and Vapors

**“Bill’s Perspective” by William L. Bradbury, P.E., Senior Vice President**

Within a two-week period last summer, I was alarmed to read about an accident in the Midwest that killed two men in a sewer manhole; and then I had another incident where I noticed an ammonia smell while I was touring one of our recently completed feed mills. I feel it is important to discuss these with you so neither Younglove nor its customers are exposing people to potentially dangerous situations. In both of these cases, vapors were present that created the hazard.

The two men killed in the sewer manhole accident worked for a sewer cleaning company, and they were cleaning a sewer that was obviously clogged or partially clogged with organic matter. When organic matter decays in the absence of

oxygen (as occurs in a sewer), one of the byproducts is hydrogen sulfide gas. This colorless gas has a rotten egg odor in low concentrations and is heavier than air. In high concentrations, it cannot be smelled, as it paralyzes our sense of smell.

As hydrogen sulfide gas accumulates in a sewer system, since it is heavier than air, it displaces the oxygen. Thus, as a man enters a manhole system that needs cleaning, the deeper he goes, the more submerged he becomes in a higher concentration of hydrogen sulfide gas. Because of the high concentration, he cannot smell the gas, he no longer has oxygen, and he faints and falls to the bottom of the manhole. The fainting/falling happens very quickly—before the person even knows what is happening.

I suspect this is what occurred last summer. The first man fainted, fell to the bottom of the



manhole, and was pronounced dead at the scene. The second man must have thought his partner had slipped and fallen from the ladder. He called for help and then entered the manhole on his own to try to help his partner before the emergency personnel arrived. The lack of oxygen also made the second man faint and fall. The second man was soon rescued by emergency personnel. His time without oxygen was less than that of his partner; however, it only allowed him to live just a few days before he, too, died.

This very tragic accident could have been avoided with the proper air testing equipment, special

*Continued on Page 2*

*This very tragic accident could have been avoided with the proper air testing equipment, special ventilation, and strict adherence to safety procedures.*

**OVERS**

By Michael A. Gunsch, P.E.  
President



Our cautious optimism last year at this time has been amply rewarded! The past two-year decline in our work load and prospects has been replaced over the past several months with our largest work load in several years, as well as an outstanding group of potential new projects—reminiscent of the “ethanol boom” days.

With more than a month left, 2010 appears to be heading toward a very successful conclusion. As I noted in previous issues, Younglove has been

blessed the past couple of years with wonderful customers; and 2010 has been no exception. All but two of our current projects under contract are for past customers. Upon the successful conclusion of the projects for our two first-time clients, we certainly hope that someday we might be able to add them to the repeat business category as well!

There is an interesting side note to our project list. Instead of our traditional heavy concentration of feed mills and grain storage projects, we currently include one feed mill facility, one wheat storage facility, one grain renovation project, one pet food expansion project, one nut processing and packaging plant, one citrus processing and packaging plant, and one sand storage and loadout facility. No, that is not a

typo—this will be our first silo complex for handling sand!

We have touched on the need for continuing to work on our safety goals in the last several *Conveyor* issues, as we have found you can never take safety for granted or diminish its importance. Our efforts to continuously improve our job site safety have been rewarded for the second year in a row. Our insurance year (which ends September 30) resulted in a reduction in the number of accidents, no lost work days, and an EMR safety mod factor reduced from .83 last year to .79 for the upcoming year.

Congratulations to everyone on your outstanding efforts! I know we will continue to strive for even better results in the future!

**BILL'S PERSPECTIVE (CONTINUED)**

(continued from Page 1)

ventilation, and strict adherence to safety procedures.

The second incident that prompted me to write on this topic was the ammonia smell I noticed during the feed mill tour I took. I was in an electric room at warehouse level when I noticed a strong ammonia smell. The owner's plant consultant advised that the smell originated in the receiving pit. Because ammonia vapors are lighter than air, the vapors had risen up into the electric room via a spare conduit that was not sealed. I was told the

ammonia was the result of a soybean meal spill in the receiving pit that had not been cleaned up and had started to decay.

I later discussed this with a chemical engineer, who advised me that the decay of any protein matter in the presence of moisture produces ammonia as a byproduct. He advised that, before entering any boot pit or tunnel that does not have constant, adequate ventilation, it should be checked for harmful vapors/gases and an adequate oxygen level. He also advised that employees need to understand that grain and meal

spills can crust over and have only a small level of ammonia present. However, once the crust of the material is disturbed, the ammonia is quickly freed, endangering the workers with the fumes.

This is another reminder that companies need to be diligent in their housekeeping and maintenance of equipment, eliminating the root cause of the problem. If grain and meal spills are eliminated or quickly cleaned up, then ammonia vapors will not be present.

The bottom line: Be careful—both for your own sake and for the sake of those around you!

# Peco Foods Selects Younglove for Lake, Mississippi, Feed Mill

**Feed Mill; Peco Foods, Inc.; Lake, Mississippi**

**Loren Field, Vice President and Project Manager; Dave Wilberg, Project Superintendent**

Early last summer, Peco Foods, Inc., selected Younglove to design and construct their new integrated poultry feed mill in Lake, Mississippi. We've been fully mobilized now for approximately two months; and the job is gaining momentum as the receiving tunnel and pit are now in place, with the backfilling operation ongoing.

The soy silo pile cap is in place, and we should have the mill pile cap poured by publication of this issue. The next two months will find us working on grain silo reclaim tunnels, grain storage piling, and grain storage pile cap.

We anticipate an early January feed mill slip, with the grain

storage to follow a couple of months later.

*This will be Younglove's first project for Peco Foods, and we are*

*looking forward to building a first-class facility for them!*



*Above: Tunnel walls, waterproofed and ready for backfill*



*Left: Placing mill foundation reinforcing*



# Time—Spending vs. Investing

by Jared L. Myers, Project Manager

**H**ow are you spending your limited time? Are you *spending* your time? Do you look back and say, “I don’t have time for that” or “I’ll do that later”? *Spending* time usually results in poor time management, procrastination, not getting important things done, and not having time to do the important things in your life. Most of the time, when you tell yourself you’ll do something tomorrow, tomorrow never comes.

*Investing* your time is the best choice you can make, because your time is limited and valuable. This time of year, everyone makes resolutions to change or improve things in their lives. Everyone has good intentions. Now your challenge is to make the choice that will allow you to accomplish your resolutions.

*Invest* your time for yourself:

- Enjoy your family and friends.
- Learn new things you enjoy.
- Help others by volunteering.
- Go out of your way to do something for others.
- Read a book.
- Focus on first things first—those things that are most important to you.

To make a choice on how to *invest* your time, you must know what is most important to you. Think about the things you hold closest to your heart. What gives you motivation to get up and out the door in the morning—family, friends, God, career, etc.?

Knowing what you value most is your guide to either *spending* or *investing* your time. If our time choices do not help us achieve our most important values, we are *spending* our time wastefully.

Take a moment to look back at your time. Did you make a difference? Did you *invest* your time? It is your choice to *spend* or *invest*!



Have a safe and blessed holiday season!

## PROJECT UPDATE

# Younglove Returns to Fremont, Nebraska, for Natura Plant Expansion

**Plant Expansion; Natura Pet Products; Fremont, Nebraska**  
**Jeff Poss, Vice President and Project Manager;**  
**Dar Bierman, Project Superintendent**

**D**ar Bierman is back with some old

cronies again. Almost a decade ago, he and his crew built the Natura plant. Dar recently relocated back there to start on a major expansion.

Our scope includes new receiving and distribution equipment, a new ingredient tower with batching, and a few other general upgrades as we tie everything back into the existing facility.



There are some different twists this time around. Last time we worked directly for Natura Pet Products, which was recently purchased by Procter & Gamble (owners of Iams). They hired Boyd Jones Construction of Omaha, Nebraska, as the general contractor; and we will be working for Boyd Jones.



"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son,  
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.  
For God did not send His Son into the world  
to condemn the world,  
but to save the world through Him.  
John 3:16-17

Wishing you

# Christ's Blessings

This Christmas & Always

The Younglove Construction Staff



## **Mississippi Crew Gets Training**

On November 6, these Younglove employees completed the CPR/First Aid/Blood Borne Pathogens classes held at the Younglove/Peco Foods Administrative Office in Lake, Mississippi. Front row (left to right): Jason Reed, Francisco Garcia, Fernando Cisneros, Jose Solorzano, Rene Parra. Back row: John Fritchey, Dave Wilberg, Annette Viktor, "Annie", Vince Jimenez, Jose Torres, Robert Jones, Hector Algarin. Not pictured: Jim Hornung.

**YOUNGLOVE  
OPERATING VALUES**

Each *Conveyor* issue sets forth our Mission Statement, as shown at the bottom of Page 7. Younglove also has a set of five “Operating Values”. These values are the foundation upon which Younglove’s past, present, and future success is built; and our expectations are that every Younglove employee follow these principles. As shown below, we’ve elaborated on the first two values; and we’ll plan to focus on the remaining values in future *Conveyor* issues.

***Ethical Behavior***

- Be honest in all matters.
- Conduct all of our activities with the highest degree of integrity.
- Perform in accordance with professional and legal standards.
- Be fair in our treatment of others.

***Excellence***

- Build a legacy of quality.
- Strive for complete customer satisfaction.
- Work for continuous improvement in all that we do.
- Pursue innovation in addressing challenges.
- Be proactive in providing the finest service.

***Valuing People***

***Learning***

***Success***

# Decatur Grain Annex Nearing Completion

**Grain Storage Facility; ConAgra Flour Milling Co.; Decatur, Alabama  
Jeff Poss, Vice President; Carlos Rodríguez, Project Manager;  
Mike Bangert, Project Superintendent**



With only a few items left, the construction of two 105-foot-diameter silos for ConAgra Foods in Decatur, Alabama, is close to completion.

Despite temperatures rising up to 110°F during the summer, Mike Bangert and crew offered outstanding performance on this time-challenging project. As promised to ConAgra, we were able to have the silos ready to receive grain the first week of November.

The project consisted of two GSI corrugated steel tanks, concrete foundations, and reclaim tunnels. The two silos will be able to store over 1 million bushels of wheat.

The project also included a rail and truck receiving system rated at 12,000 bushels per hour and a

transfer system of similar capacity from their existing headhouse to the new silos. Warrior Manufacturing provided bridges and towers, with the transfer and reclaim drags provided by GSI.



Once again, we’d like to thank every person involved in this project—from the structural engineers and design group to every single guy in the field. We’d especially

like to thank ConAgra Foods for their continuing trust in Younglove for their construction needs.

Other thanks go to Larson Engineering, Pugh Wright McAnally, Water Brothers, and Cross Country Construction.

# Younglove Begins Work on Sand Storage Facility in Refugio, Texas

**Sand Storage Facility; EOG Resources, Inc.; Refugio, Texas**

**Loren Field, Sr. Vice President; Dave Toel, Project Manager; Terry Dunnette, Project Superintendent**

Younglove has been awarded a contract to design and build 10 slipformed silos for the EOG facility in Refugio, Texas. The scope of the project consists of two rows of five 28-foot-diameter by 120-foot-high silos.

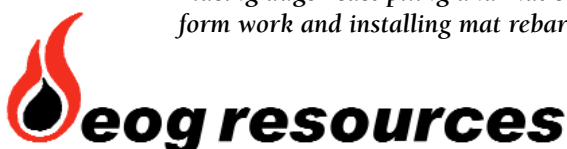
Younglove assigned Superintendent Terry Dunnette and his crew to construct this project, and they began mobilizing to the job in mid-October. The first phase of the project was to install 330 auger-cast piles, each measuring 16 inches in diameter by 55 feet long.

The next construction phase is to install the mat slab formwork, place 83 tons of mat slab rebar, and then place 1,400 cubic yards of mat slab concrete. This should be completed by publication of this newsletter.

After the pour, Terry and crew will start preparing for the slipform process scheduled for the first week of January 2011.



*Placing auger-cast piling and mat slab form work and installing mat rebar*



*We are pleased to have been selected as Strobel Starostka Construction's subcontractor for this scope of work and to provide our services into a new type of industry—the oil business.*



**YOUNGLOVE**

*Builders of value...*

*Builders of trust*

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2015 East Seventh Street (51101)  
P.O. Box 8800 (51102)*

*Sioux City, Iowa  
712-277-3906 • Fax 712-277-5300  
younglove@younglovellc.com  
www.younglovellc.com*

*For more information, please request a corporate brochure at the above address.*

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*Younglove...Since 1896*

## **YOUNGLOVE MISSION STATEMENT**

Our mission is to provide premier construction services, including design, construction, and project management. We build enduring value and trust using a dedicated team approach to continuously improve customer satisfaction, safety, quality, and our work environment.



## YOUNGLOVE

*Builders of value...Builders of trust*

Younglove Construction, L.L.C.

P.O. Box 8800

Sioux City, IA 51102

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### PROJECT UPDATE

# Hawkeye Pride Project Winding Down

**Feed Manufacturing Facility; Hawkeye Pride Egg Farms, LLP; Corwith, Iowa**

**Ken DuBois, Vice President; Dave Toel, Project Manager; Terry Dunnette, Project Superintendent**



Younglove has entered into the final stage of the feed mill project in Corwith, Iowa. With this project winding down, Younglove assigned Terry Dunnette and his crew to a new project in Texas. When asked to relocate to Texas, Terry and his crew couldn't get their bags packed fast enough after three winters in Iowa!

Tom McCracken and a small crew were left behind to finish up just a few punchlist items. Nikkel

*Hawkeye Pride Egg Farms, LLP*



& Associates (the electrical contractor) also has a few punchlist items to address.

*We are pleased to have been a part of the new feed mill project in*

*Corwith, Iowa, and would like to thank J. T.*

*Dean and Jeff*

*Detrick for selecting*

*Younglove as their contractor for this portion of the completed project. We*

*would also like to thank Bill Lyster, the consulting engineer*

*for this project.*