

# THE FACILITIES REPORT 2021

THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO  
PLANT BUILDING/  
EXPANSION

A user's guide  
to **today's most  
innovative ag retail  
facilities** and the  
partners it took to  
make them a reality

A REPRINT FROM  
THE CROPLIFE®  
FACILITIES REPORT  
JULY 2021



CropLife®

# MURRAY EQUIPMENT INC./ICS

GRAINCO FS INC. ▶ MAZON, IL



The location features three load-out bays, 1.18 million gallons of liquid fertilizer, and 65,000 gallons herbicide.



A conveniently located touchscreen panel allows employees to quickly create accurate batches.



The third unattended bay is accessible 24/7. It is used by GRAINCO and area growers to transport product round the clock and offers both top and bottom load-out.



The intuitive ICS 24-7-8 Controls verify drivers and equipment. The same ICS Control Pro software that runs the facility is used in the touchscreen control panel for seamless operation.

ABOVE: GRAINCO FS's new liquid fertilizer and crop chemical building is part of a larger multi-service location in Mazon, IL.

## WHAT THEY NEEDED

When a fire burned down the chemical shed at GRAINCO FS Inc.'s Mazon, IL location, it presented an opportunity to fully automate the location and redesign the equipment from the ground up.

GRAINCO FS's Mazon location specializes in producing hot loads in addition to straight chemical and fertilizer loads. The company fills both its own vehicles and sprayers as well as customers' tanks.

"We had a few simple product presets before," explained Brian Mino, GRAINCO FS Operations Manager. "Now, with full automation, we have a lot more product diversity."



Mino

Speed and accuracy were at the forefront — producing the right blends in a timely manner. GRAINCO FS needed an equipment and automation provider that would give them the flexibility to produce the multitude of blends required by their customers, accurately, and quickly.

Having worked with Murray Equipment and used that company's ICS controls previously, the decision was easy for GRAINCO.

## WHAT WE DESIGNED

The 18,000-square foot facility has three load-out bays — two bottom-load, and a 24/7 unattended load-out with top and bottom load, a mini-bulk filling station, 1 million-gallon solution tank, 180,000 gallons of liquid fertilizer, and 65,000 gallons of bulk herbicide storage. ICS ControlPro software connects with GRAINCO FS's agronomy software bringing in ticket, formula, and material information. It also manages equipment and customer information for the unattended bay. The two attended bays are managed by ICS 240c touchscreen control boxes. The unattended bay features a touchscreen control box with full keyboard for equipment/driver verification.

"We get along great with ICS. The support is good. It's easy to run," expressed Mino.

## BENEFITS ACHIEVED

The Mazon, IL, site has become the location of choice for area growers. The speed, accuracy, and number of blends available are a big customer draw.

“We had customers that would take chemicals and mix it themselves in the field,” Mino said. “Now they come here and get hot loads for the ease, and because they can get in and out of here quickly.”

During the planting season, trucks used to be lined up outside non-stop. Now, traffic flows through the building much more smoothly resulting in happier customers and employees.

“It used to take 45 minutes to fill a semi. Now, the semi is in and out in under 15 minutes,” shared Mino. “Before we could only load in two bays, but now we can load in three.”



All the equipment, plumbing, metering, and controls were engineered by Murray Equipment. The goal was to offer an extensive line of liquid fertilizers, chemicals, and hot loads.



The facility features two bottom load attended bay that specialize in hot loads.



MEI's unparalleled understanding of both equipment and automation is behind this neat, convenient, and compact facility layout.

## SPECS AT A GLANCE

- **Business Name & Location:** GRAINCO FS Inc. — Mazon, IL
- **Type of Business:** Retail
- **Products Offered:** Liquid fertilizer, crop protection chemicals
- **Square Feet:** 18,000 square feet
- **No. of Bays:** Two bottom load, one unattended top or bottom load
- **Receive Product Via:** Truck

### LIQUID FERTILIZER

- **Liquid Fertilizer Storage Capacity:** 1.18 million gallons
- **Hot Loads:** Yes
- **Number of Operators Required:** 1
- **Control System/Automation:** ICS Control Pro

### CROP PROTECTION

- **Bulk Chemical Storage Capacity:** 65,000 gallons bulk
- **Mini-Bulk Storage:** Yes
- **Mixing:** Yes
- **Repackaging:** Yes
- **Number of Operators Required:** 1
- **Control System/Automation:** ICS Control Pro



Production and load-out are controlled by ICS 240c with two expansions, which are used to manage the large number of customer blends.



Semis can be loaded in less than 15 minutes. Previously it would take more than 45 minutes.

## CONTACT US

### MURRAY EQUIPMENT INC.

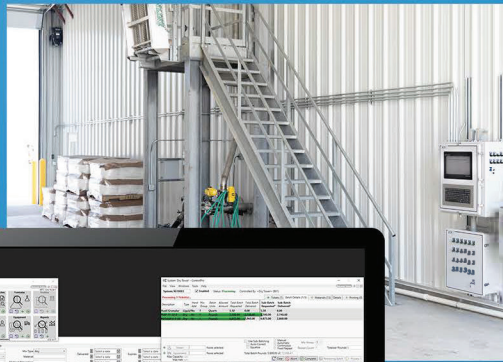
2515 Charleston Place  
Fort Wayne, IN 46808  
800-348-4753 | 260-484-0382

Todd Scobie  
Director of Sales and Marketing  
Sales@MurrayEquipment.com  
www.MurrayEquipment.com





Equipment, Systems, and Liquid & Dry Automation



**Equipment & controls  
engineered for speed,  
safety, & accuracy.**

**(800) 348-4753 | [www.MurrayEquipment.com/ics](http://www.MurrayEquipment.com/ics)**

