



THOMAS & BETTS

Highlighting employee safety with Corner-Vu

For more than 100 years, Thomas & Betts has been a leader in providing products for commercial and industrial construction, industrial plant maintenance, repair and operation, electrical utility distribution, communications and original equipment manufacturing.

The company traces its roots back to 1898 when incandescent, electric lighting was first introduced, and today they supply over 70 percent of the items used in a typical electrical application. More than 6,000 electrical, industrial, specialty and retail distributors stock and sell Thomas & Betts products in their communities.

Focus on safety

One of the 10 guiding principles of the company states "We are committed to operational excellence and providing a safe and healthy workplace. We put quality and safety first in all we do, from manufacturing to sales to customer service."

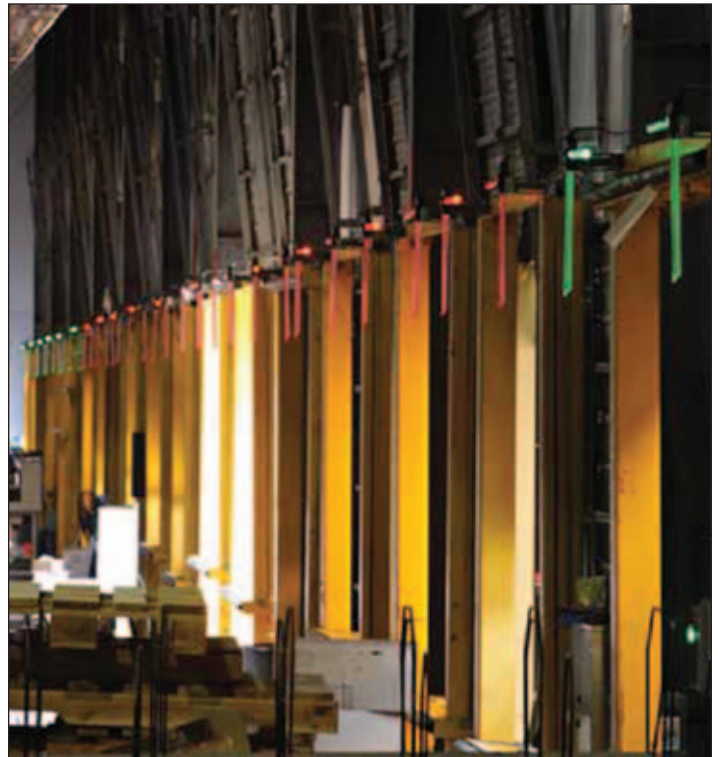
An effective solution to loading dock safety at their distribution center in Byhalia, MS was to install Rite-Hite Dok-Lok® vehicle restraints with Corner-Vu, part of the Rite-Vu™ Light Communication System. The one million square foot facility located outside of Memphis, TN has 66 dock positions with Dok-Loks and Corner-Vu.

The facility was using Glad Hand trailer locking devices with manual lights to secure trailers to the dock.

However, with the fast pace of the forklifts loading and unloading trailers, loud rattling overhead conveyors, and staged product in front of dock doors, there was potential for miscommunication and accidents at the loading docks.

Quick facts

- Application: Distribution Center
- Products:
- ▶ Corner-Vu
 - ▶ RHR-1000 Dok-Lok Vehicle Restraint
- Benefits:
- Corner-Vu:**
- ▶ Clear communication to dock personnel
 - ▶ Enhance Dok-Lok communication
 - ▶ Improve visual management
 - ▶ Increase productivity
- Dok-Lok:**
- ▶ Safely secure trailer to the dock
 - ▶ Prevent all types of trailer separation accidents



RITE-VU™ CASE STUDY



Corner-Vu provides clear, effective communication of the status of the Dok-Lok restraint — even when staged product is obstructing the forklift operator's view of the control box.

Clear communication is key

"We proactively looked into alternative safety solutions that would provide clear communication to the dock workers and supervisors," says Gary King, Engineering Manager at Thomas & Betts.

Corner-Vu provides clear, concise communication of the Dok-Lok control box to the forklift driver as he enters the trailer. It also provides status-at-a-glance notification to dock personnel if the Dok-Lok is "locked", and therefore it is safe to enter the trailer.



The decision to invest in Rite-Hite Dok-Loks and Corner-Vu involved all team players – from supervisors and managers all the way to forklift drivers to ensure they were utilizing the best safety solution for the facility.

"Corner-Vu and Dok-Loks are an investment in our people," Gary continues. "The deciding factor in getting the Dok-Loks was the clear communication benefit that the Corner-Vu Light Communication System provides."

Improving efficiency inside and outside the dock

With the large amount of dock positions on multiple sides of the facility and product staged in front of the doors, it can be difficult to see the Dok-Lok control boxes, which can slow productivity.

Corner-Vu helps with visual management, so dock personnel can quickly and easily see which trailers are locked.

With that, Dok-Loks have a higher capture percentage for the trailers they see, including standard semi-trailers and ISO containers. In addition to the improved safety, they are also seeing efficiency gains with the Dok-Loks because no one has to go outside to chock a wheel or to use the Glad Hands.

Moving forward

Due to the safety and productivity benefits of Corner-Vu at this facility, it has been recommended for additional dock positions at other Thomas & Betts facilities.

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