Full Vertical FasTrax®FR Door

Hansen Storage Case Study

High-Speed Doors Reliably Control Freezer Temperatures

Insulated and impact-resistant doors set the freezer thermostat 6 degrees lower in the first day.

Hansen Storage, a fifth-generation family-owned storage company located in Milwaukee, Wis., operates more than 1 million square feet of warehousing space throughout southeastern Wisconsin.

At its 350,000 square-foot storage facility in Wauwatosa, the company offers dry and cold storage in addition to three industrial freezers. After installing high-speed, insulated doors (Rite-Hite, ritehite.com) Hansen improved productivity and temperature control.

The company's freezers store a variety of products, such as meat, fish and poultry, and range in size from 10,000 to 20,000 square feet. The management team sought to keep 50,000 square feet of freezer space cold despite constant in-and-out traffic.

"When the old freezer door would open, it was like a wind tunnel coming out of the freezer. It was difficult to maintain temperature control," says president Peter

Hansen, who doesn't miss the old doors' frequent downtime. "This is a fast-paced environment, so we're very tough on doors. We were constantly fixing our old door, which meant additional costs."

The new door can take an impact from a forklift, safely break away and automatically reset itself without human intervention. It is also able to open and close quickly despite heavy forklift traffic. A variable-frequency drive allows the door to operate at speeds up to 100 inches per second. An insulated barrier between the freezer and door tracks eliminates drafts and ensures a consistent R-value from top to bottom.

The company lowered the temperatures in its freezer by 6 degrees within the first day after installation. "This door will pay for itself within a year or two," Hansen says. "We have two other freezers in our facility and we're planning to put high-speed doors on those as well."

