

# Project Overview



*“Tailored Construction Services”*

HANCE  
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## *Rail Tanker Wash Facility*

**Project/Property Type:** Industrial

**Hance Construction Role:** Design/Build

**Architecture Firm:** Kenneth Quabeck, A.I.A.

**Structural Engineer:** Beth Pochtar, P.E.

**Project Overview:** *Our client produces plastics to insulate high-voltage wires. Purity is critical—any impurities in the final product would cause arcing in the wire. Railroad tankers carry the rough product (plastic pellets) onto the site and then those pellets are refined into a final, super clean product. Those same tanker cars are then used to carry the final product away. Thus, a complex system is used to thoroughly wash the tankers inside and out between uses, with tracks to maneuver them through the facility. In this case, the owner had one such facility, but needed to add another next to it.*

### **Logistical Challenges...**

The owner provided Hance Construction, Inc. a finite window of time, only seven days, to tear up existing track, excavate the road base, form and pour foundations/slabs, and re-set the track. The clean environment also required that there was no exposed insulation in the building, so a unique field assembled composite panel was used. To add to this challenge, all the work was immediately adjacent to active rail lines, thus stringent safety/shutdown requirements had to be coordinated.

### **Unique Ideas from Hance...**

Hance Construction, Inc. suggested innovative approaches. Instead of building a free-standing building as originally planned, Hance Construction, Inc. utilized the existing steel columns on one side of the original building—this design saved money and time, and also provided additional interior space, while not compromising structural integrity in any manner.

Additionally, unlike the platform used in the original building to hold the sprayers, Hance Construction, Inc. instead used railings suspended from the roof of the building. The elimination of the platform saved the owner considerable construction costs.

