



FIBERGLASS GRATING & STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS

A GIBRALTAR INDUSTRIES COMPANY

Success Stories

Midwest Food Processing Plants Pick GatorGrate for Safety & Corrosion-Resistance

Three food processing firms in the Upper Midwest recently installed GatorGrate molded grating and in every case, either or both primary reasons driving the sale were worker protection or corrosion-resistance.

In processing meat and poultry, personnel work all shifts on raised access platforms. The integral slip-resistant GatorGrate surface minimizes slips and falls in an environment that is often wet and covered with remnants of each process. Ergonomically, the grating provides a more comfortable work platform that reduces fatigue due to the grating's slight flexing action. When the process is finished, the grating can be lifted out and cleaned easily, eliminating entrapment of waste and bacteria growth. During the clean up, the corrosion capability of GatorGrate stands up to the chemicals used to disinfect the food processing areas.



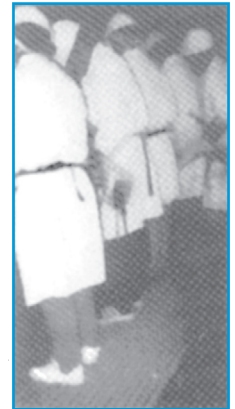
A GatorGrate Walkway runs the length of the cooking area.

“Slip resistance was important in a plant that repackages frozen beef,” according to the local Seasafe Stocking Representative. “The low ambient temperature keeps everything icy and it’s vital to keep workers from slipping and falling. GatorGrate’s integral anti-slip top surface helped make the sale.”



These workers can concentrate on their work without worrying about their footing- and the resilient platform also helps reduce leg and back fatigue.

A pet food processor had different conditions: Ambient temperatures around 75 degrees, and plenty of liquid and by-products around to make almost any surface slippery. What clinched the sale? The anti-slip surface, of course, plus “the workers liked the resiliency of the GatorGrate work platforms” according to a Seasafe representative. Gray, square pattern, GatorGrate was used for the work platforms and green square pattern was installed around the cooking vessels.



Workers on the pet food packaging line stand on a raised GatorGrate work platform (on adjustable pedestals) using an entire 4-foot by 12-foot panel. The raised platform expedites the frequent washdowns that are required. Any debris that falls on the grating is easily hosed off.



The end of the turkey processing line in the poultry plant. Note the two-level work platform at lower left.

The third installation- a poultry processor- also opted for both GatorGrate work platforms and walkways in the cooking area. Two-level work platforms were used on the processing line, providing ergonomic benefits for workers of various heights.

Price was not the key factor in any of the sales. USDA acceptance was, which we have. And in the repackaging plant, the grating has to withstand the impact of dropping a 70 lb. block of frozen beef on it, which it does.