Safeguarding concrete grain storage structures



Annual concrete grain storage

Sample checklist

The following information may be collected and verified for each concrete grain storage structure at the property and stored in a centralized location.

Designation/ name of structure	
Date of construction	
USDA warehouse diagram (bin chart)	Showing bin layout and bushels per foot
Vendors	General contractor
	Purchase agreement
	Concrete engineer
	Concrete contractor
	Equipment installation contractor
	Geotechnical firm
Plans	Foundation plans
	Wall reinforcing plans
	Roof reinforcing plans
Equipment	Flow diagram
	Equipment list and age
	Equipment capacities
Operations	Structure erector/designer operational manual
	Written fill procedures
	Written emptying procedures
	Written fan operation procedures
	Written maintenance procedures
	Written bin entry procedures
	Written lock-out/tag-out procedures
Inspections	Photo documentation during construction
	Photo documentation of last significant remodel / repair
	Date of last inspection
	Previous inspection report
Maintenance	Record of past maintenance
	Dates
	Activities
	Contractors involved
	Photos
Site training	Site plan map with evacuation route clearly posted
	Topic and date of last site training
	Number of previously trained employees still at location

Annual inspection when empty

The following information should be collected and verified for each concrete grain storage structure on the property annually at a time when the structure is empty.

Designation/ name of structure	
Date of inspection	
Foundation	Identify and document any foundation cracks Verify that water flows away from the foundation Verify the foundation is level Identify and document areas of differential settlement
Boots and reclaim tunnels	Dry Clean Free of signs of structural cracking and differential movement
Silo walls	Identify and document any wall cracks
Roof	Identify and document areas of keyway cracking
Openings	Inspect reclaim tunnel for cracks at and near gate openings Inspect overhead bin floors for cracks at and near gate openings Inspect wall openings for cracks at and near wall openings
Equipment	Operate the following to assure proper function Aeration fans



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Safety equipment	Motor, equipment, and drive assembly guarding in place
	What types of hazard monitoring equipment in place?
	All hazard monitoring equipment operating properly
	All means of egress properly labeled and structurally sound
	Points of entry (ladders, doors, cages etc.) properly protected to prevent trespassing
Housekeeping	Update and review written housekeeping plan to assure it is appropriate
	Verify housekeeping plan is being implemented
	Verify that all spouts and conveyors are in good condition and "dust tight"
	Verify that grain is not actively leaking from the structure
	Verify that grain is not actively leaking from grain handling equipment
Greasing and	Update and review written greasing and lubrication plan to assure it is appropriate and
lubrication	being adequately implemented
	Where bearings require sufficient greasing to cause grease to be expelled from the
	bearing assembly assure that all expelled grease is cleaned away to prevent build-up
	near rotating components
Training	Provide annual refresher training for proper loading and unloading of structure
	Provide annual refresher training on lock-out/tag-out procedures
	Provide annual refresher training on bin/silo entry procedures
Miscellaneous	Verify all elevated landings, walkways and ladders are structurally stable
	Verify that grain is not/has been leaking from silo to silo
	Verify that pieces of concrete have not been found in the grain removed from
	the structure
	Verify the condition and quantity of any carry-over grain that may still be present within
	the structure
	Age of carry-over grain
	Verify there are no visible signs of grain stuck on the inside of the silo walls, this could
	be an indication of water leaks or grain management problems



Annual inspection when full

The following information should be collected and verified for each concrete grain storage structure on the property annually after they have been filled as a follow-up to the inspection when empty.

Designation/ name of structure	
Date of Inspection	
Foundation Movement	The foundation and any foundation cracking or movement that may have been present prior to filling look generally the same after filling with grain
Silo walls and openings	No visible indications of new cracking or widening of existing cracking No visible wall bulging or deformation
Equipment operation	All previously tested equipment operates functions as desired after loading
Roof	Check the bin roof for leaks
Housekeeping	Verify that grain is not actively leaking from the structure Verify that grain is not actively leaking from grain handling equipment
Fall protection (if applicable)	Fall protection anchorage is sound Fall protection lanyard and harness inspections are current



For assistance with risk management services or safety resources, contact us at RMSolutions@nationwide.com or 1-800-260-1356.

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