

TRAILER WALKWAYS

Yuma County, Colorado

Contact:

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Yuma County Road & Bridge

1310 S. Blake Street

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Problem Statement:

An employee suffered a broken leg after slipping and falling while performing maintenance on a belly-dump trailer tarp. There is no good place to stand while lubing or adjusting the tarp. A walk-way was needed for good footing. Ranco Trailers, our supplier, did not have a step or walk-way offered.

Discussion of Solution:

We were able to purchase light weight “galvanized grip strip” from Wray Machine Shop, a local business. Each piece was 12 feet by 12 inches by 2 inches thick. The cost was \$120.00 per piece. 12 feet of “grip strip” is enough to do 1 trailer when cut in half, 6 foot for each, front and back. Each trailer required 8 5/16 inch by 6 6 inch carriage bolts and 8 5/16 lock nuts. These were purchased from our local hardware store for about \$1.00 each for a total of \$8.00 per trailer. Each trailer required 16 inches of 1 by . inch strap iron. This was cut into 4 inch lengths with a 3/8 inch hole drilled into each end. The strap iron was scrap from another project. Our best estimate would be \$2.00 for strap iron per trailer. Labor was 30 minutes to cut, drill, and install; approximately \$7.00 total labor cost for each trailer.

Cost:

Labor: \$7.00

Bolts & Nuts: \$8.00

Strap Iron: \$2.00

Grip Strip: \$120.00

Total: \$137.00

Savings & Benefits:

Our employee was injured in April, and still had not been released for full duty in August – best estimate for workers compensation claim, including doctor’s bills and x-rays, MRI, mileage, and lost wages is \$15,000. There has also been 90 days of lost productivity.

We hope that our walkways will prevent a repeat incident. We operate up to ten tractor trailers, so the opportunity for a repeat incident is likely. Our walkways are completely portable and can be removed from one trailer and attached to another in the event that we trade trailers.

