

A wide-angle photograph of a large industrial facility used for thawing railcars. The interior is filled with rows of metal racks, each containing multiple horizontal pipes or coils of red heating cables. These racks are arranged on both sides of a central aisle that leads to a large open bay door at the far end. The floor is dark and appears to be covered in gravel or dirt. The ceiling is high with a complex network of steel beams and several bright industrial lights. In the distance, a brown railcar is visible on tracks leading out of the facility.

# RAILCAR THAWING

A close-up view of the thawing racks, showing the dense arrangement of red heating coils within the metal frames. The racks are supported by black metal stands. The background shows the corrugated metal walls of the facility.

INTRODUCTORY  
DESIGN CONCEPTS

# WHY THAWING?

A thick, solid red horizontal bar with a slight 3D effect, positioned below the main title.

COMMON FREEZING ISSUES

THAWING OBJECTIVES

# COMMON FREEZING ISSUES



## 1. UNACCEPTABLE UNLOADING RATES

- RAILCAR MECHANISMS ARE UNABLE TO OPERATE
  - COMMON IN HOPPER CARS
  - FROZEN CHUNKS WON'T GO THROUGH PIT GRATE

## 2. DEMURRAGE CHARGES

- BULK MATERIAL DOES NOT FLOW OR RELEASE FROM THE CAR
  - STUCK TO SIDE OF RAILCAR AFTER BEING ROTATED
  - WON'T COME OUT OF HOPPER CARS

## 3. INJURIES AND LABOR COSTS

- MANUAL THAWING CAN BE UNSAFE, INEFFECTIVE, AND INEFFICIENT
  - USING PROPANE TORCHES FOR LONG PERIODS OF TIME
  - HITTING SIDES WITH SLEDGEHAMMERS TO DISLODGE MATERIALS

## 4. RAILCAR DAMAGES

- ALTERNATIVE THAWING METHODS CAN DAMAGE RAILCARS
  - HEAT BEING APPLIED TO CRITICAL AREAS OF THE RAILCAR
  - EXCESSIVE HEAT CAN DAMAGE RAILCARS



# THAWING OBJECTIVES

1. REMOVE ALL MATERIAL FROM FROZEN RAILCAR AT DESIRED UNLOAD RATE
2. ELIMINATE HAZARDS AND INJURIES ASSOCIATED WITH MANUAL THAWING AND UNLOADING METHODS
3. ELIMINATE RAILCAR DAMAGE FROM MISAPPLIED AND EXCESSIVE HEAT
4. MINIMIZE LABOR AND UTILITY EXPENSES NEEDED DURING THE THAWING PROCESS
5. REDUCE FROZEN MATERIAL CHUNKS FOR DOWNSTREAM MATERIAL HANDLING



# RAILCAR THAWING

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UNLOADING

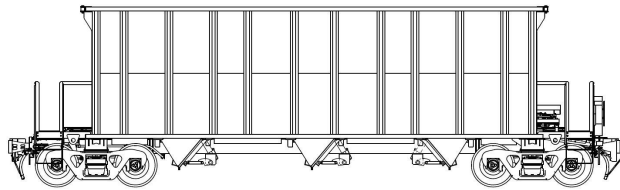
HEATING TYPES

APPLYING HEAT

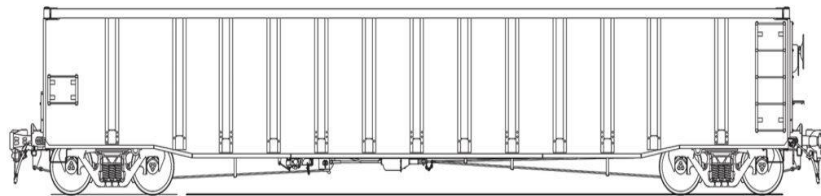
DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

# UNLOADING

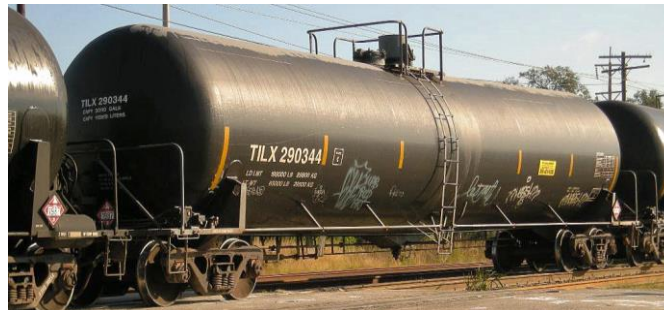
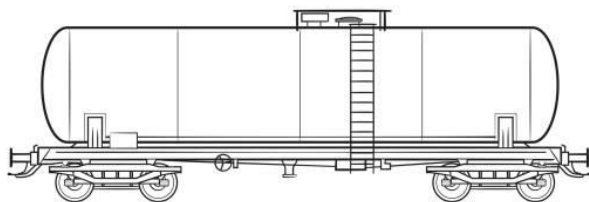
HOPPER CAR (BOTTOM UNLOADING)



GONDOLA CAR (ROTARY UNLOADING)



TANK CAR (PUMP UNLOADING)



# HEATING TYPES

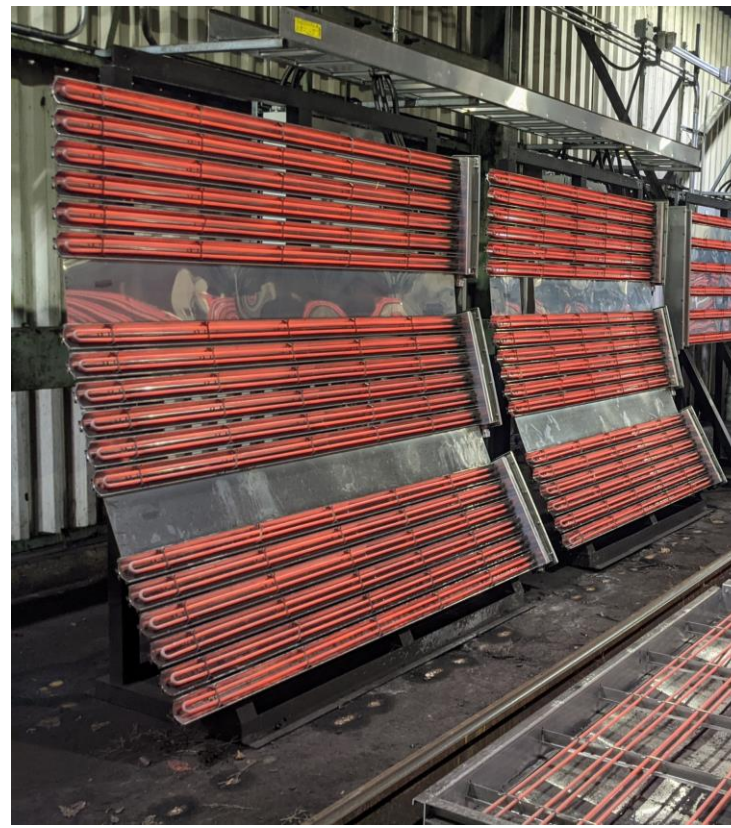
## GAS-FIRED RADIANT HEATERS

- TRANSFERRING HEAT VIA RADIATION
- VENTILATION REQUIRED
- HIGHER HEATER MAINTENANCE



## ELECTRICAL INFRARED HEATERS

- TRANSFERRING HEAT VIA RADIATION
- SAFE, RELIABLE, AND CONSISTENT
- HIGHER UTILITY COSTS

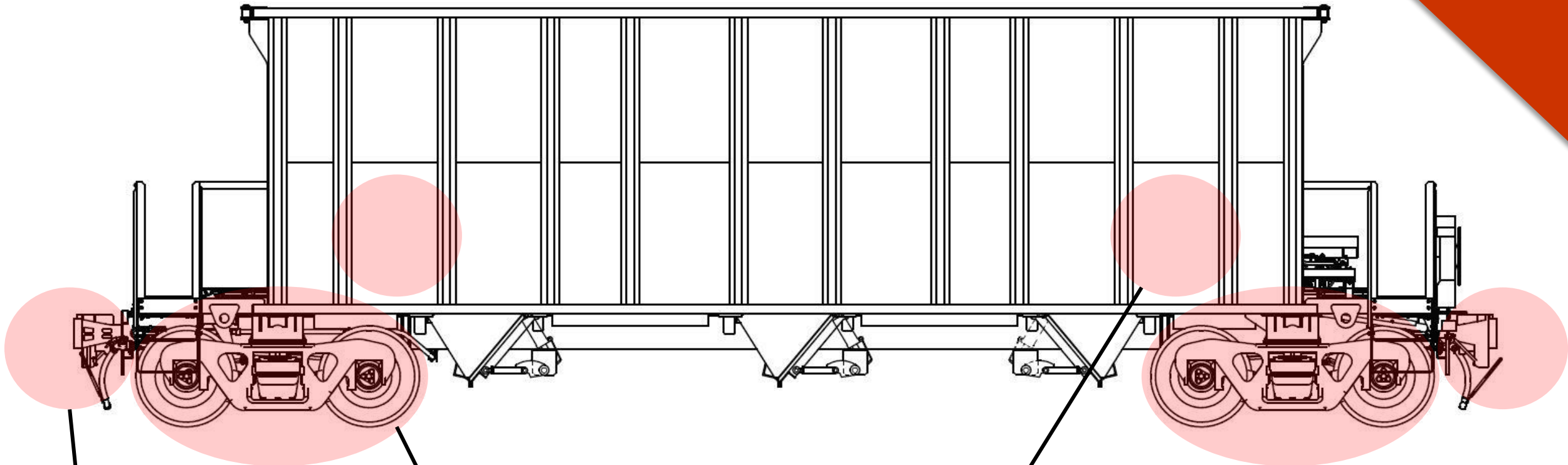


## STEAM GENERATORS

- TRANSFERING HEAT VIA CONVECTION
- PUSH STEAM THROUGH A HEATER COIL INSIDE RAILCAR



# HEAT SENSITIVE AREAS



AIR BRAKE HOSE

TRUCKS

MANUFACTURER EQUIPMENT

- SIGNS AND MARKERS
- ELECTRONIC TRACKING DEVICES
- CONTROL DEVICES

POSSIBLE OTHERS

- ELECTRONICS
- CYLINDERS
- MARKED NOT TO HEAT

# DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

## TIME

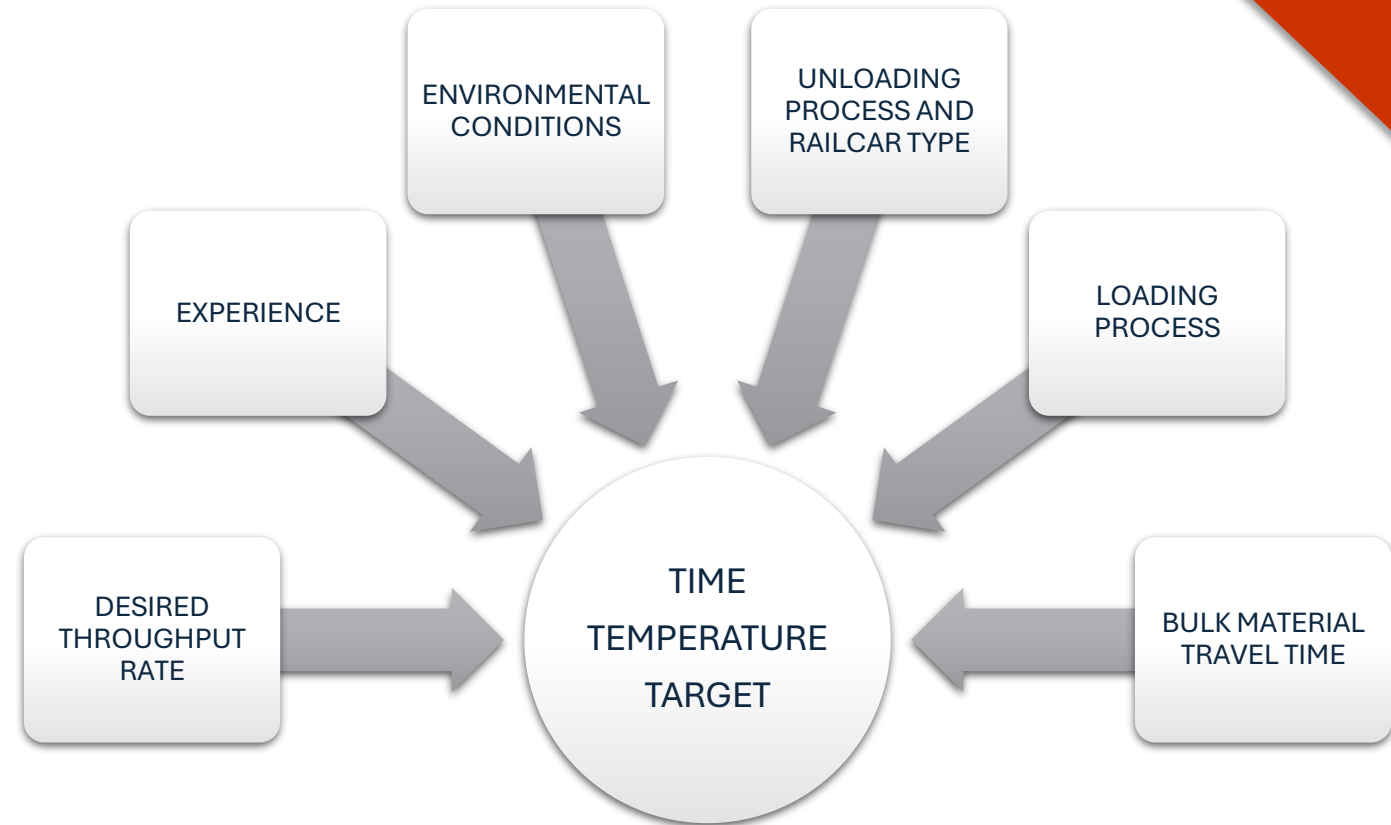
- AMOUNT OF TIME THE CAR IS BEING HEATED
- INCLUDES TRANSITIONAL PERIODS BETWEEN HEATING AND UNLOADING
- LONGER THE TIME, THE DEEPER THE HEAT WILL PENETRATE THE MATERIAL INSIDE THE RAILCAR

## TEMPERATURE

- THE OUTSIDE OF THE RAILCAR
- TYPICALLY HELD BETWEEN 150 -250 F
- RAILCARS OFTEN HAVE TEMPERATURE RATINGS
- HEATERS NEED TO BE CONTROLLED TO KEEP THE RAILCAR AT THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE TEMPERATURE

## TARGET

- OPTIMIZING HEAT PLACEMENT ON RAILCAR
- CONTROLLED THROUGH HEATER DESIGN AND LAYOUT
- NUMBER OF HEATERS PER STATION
- MINIMIZING HEAT LOSS DURING PROCESS



# APEC THERMAL

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BACKGROUND

APEC PROCESS

EXPERIENCE

PROJECT OVERVIEW

RAILCAR THAWING STUDY

# BACKGROUND



## CORE FOCUS

KEEP MOTION RELIABLE THROUGH HEAT

## VALUES

WE ARE CUSTOMER CENTRIC

WE ARE RELIABLE

WE ARE INNOVATIVE

## WHAT WE DO

DESIGN AND BUILD RAILCAR THAWING SYSTEMS

MANUFACTURE RAIL HEATING PRODUCTS FOR CLASS 1 RAILROADS



## PARTNERS



# APEC PROCESS



- ENGINEERING FOCUSED COMPANY
- FOLLOW A STANDARDIZED APPROACH FOR ALL PROJECT
- DESIGN THE RIGHT SYSTEM FOR YOUR NEEDS

DEFINE

MEASURE

DESIGN

MANUFACTURE

IMPLEMENT



# EXPERIENCE



## MAJOR PROJECTS

- Sierra Pacific Power Company, North Valmy Generating Station, Valmy NV, USA
- PPL Brunner Island S.E. Generating Station, Danville PA, USA
- PPL Montour, Generating Station, York PA, USA
- NewPage, Biron Mill, Biron WI, USA
- Alliant Energy - Williams Bulk Transfer, Williams IA, USA
- Kinder Morgan Bulk Transfer, Newport News VA, USA
- PacificCorp Dave Johnston Generating Plant, Glenrock WY, USA
- ADM Corn Processing Facility, Columbus NE, USA
- Alcoa Warrick Generating Station, Newburgh IN, USA
- UC Rusal Anode Plant, LLC, Saint-Petersburg/Taishet Carbon Plant, Russia
- ADM Corn Processing Facility, Columbus NE, USA
- POSCO Engineering & Construction Co., Ulaanbaatar Thermal Power Plant, Mongolia
- Dominion, Mount Storm WV, USA
- Nova Scotia Power, Nova Scotia, Canada
- NIPSCO, Michigan City, IN, USA
- Industrial Mineral Product Supplier, Canton, OH, USA
- Industrial Mineral Product Supplier, Martins Ferry, OH, USA

# PROJECT OVERVIEW



## SMALL SYSTEM

- 20-60 MINUTE UNLOADING RATE
- BUDGETARY COST: \$250K – \$500K
  - DOES NOT INCLUDE INSTALLATION MATERIALS AND LABOR

## MID-SIZE SYSTEM

- 15-30 MINUTE UNLOADING RATE
- BUDGETARY COST: \$400K – \$800K
  - DOES NOT INCLUDE INSTALLATION MATERIALS AND LABOR

## LARGE SYSTEM

- <10 MINUTE UNLOADING RATE
- BUDGETARY COST: \$500K – \$1.5M
  - DOES NOT INCLUDE INSTALLATION MATERIALS AND LABOR



# RAILCAR THAW STUDY



## DEEPER ANALYSIS TO MAKE A SMART DECISION

1. VOICE OF CUSTOMER AND SITE VISIT
2. THAW STUDY REPORT
3. CONCEPTUAL DRAWING
4. APEC THAW SYSTEM QUOTATION
5. SYSTEM INSTALLATION BUDGET



### QUOTATION

#### RAILCAR THAWING ENGINEERING STUDY

##### INTRODUCTION

###### *Submitted By:*

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APEC Engineering, Inc. is pleased to present the following quotation based on the defined project charter and approach. The project charter defines APEC's understanding of issues needing resolved, measurable objectives, and key milestones expected by your company. The project approach defines APEC's proposed solution and defined work.

Thank you for this opportunity; feel free to contact us with any questions concerning the project charter or project approach.

# CONTACT



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