

Consultancy Case Study – Loading Bay Modifications for Double Deck Trailers (Food Production Sites)

Independent engineering advice for safe, compliant, future-proof loading bay operations



PROJECT OVERVIEW

An existing client recommended the consultancy to a national food producer operating multiple sites. The client had received proposals from several loading bay suppliers and needed a consultant-led assessment to validate feasibility and long-term implications.



INITIAL SUPPLIER PROPOSALS

Suppliers proposed the following solutions:

- Welding shut the existing dock levellers
- Install standard full-depth dock pods externally
- Retain one bay as a standard configuration due to overhead ducting



WHY WE ADVISED AGAINST THE PROPOSITION

Dock levellers have a finite structural lifespan. Welding them shut creates a future failure point and complicates maintenance or replacement. The smaller site had very limited yard depth – full dock houses would obstruct vehicle movements. The larger site had a severe yard gradient a few metres from the building. A full-size dock house would leave trailers at a steep angle, increasing loading difficulty and manual handling risk.



enquiries@ameyddds.com

+44 (0) 7801 990072

www.ameyddds.com

Pontefract Before



Pontefract After



CONSULTANT LED RECOMMENDATION

We designed a bespoke, site-specific solution that avoided unnecessary civil works and improved long-term reliability.

- Carefully remove existing dock levellers while retaining original curb angles
- Install shallow insulated mini pods approx. 1500mm deep
- Specify 3500mm swing lip dock levellers suitable for double deck trailers and the existing mixed fleet
- Modify roof on the affected bay for ductwork clearance
- Fit collapsible dock shelters with internal pads for better sealing and hygiene control
- Add nylon sliding bumpers for shunter movements and impact resistance



PROCUREMENT & PROJECT MANAGEMENT

We managed the project from concept through to completion.

- Detailed quotations from vetted loading bay equipment suppliers and specialist contractors
- Complete scope of works covering equipment, installation and civils
- Co-ordination with client and contractors during a high-pressure pre-Christmas period
- Management of additional works and variations
- Oversight through to successful completion



OUTCOME



The client received a safe, compliant, future-proof loading bay solution tailored to double deck trailer operations – without the structural risks, yard constraints, or operational issues of the original supplier proposals.



SAFE & COMPLIANT
MEETS BEST PRACTICE
AND REGULATORY
REQUIREMENTS



FUTURE PROOF
DESIGNED FOR
LONGEVITY AND
EVOLVING FLEET
NEEDS



OPERATIONALLY
EFFICIENT
IMPROVED ACCESS,
SEALING AND HYGIENE



RISK MITIGATED
NO RELIANCE ON
WELDED COMPONENTS
OR INAPPROPRIATE
PODS

Normanton Before



Normanton After

