

Number 1 Mezzanine Ford Motor Company Claycomo, Missouri

Approximately 24,000 square feet of United Interlock® Grating for walkways and platforms was installed in the E-Coat Building by the Baker Erection Company, Inc., Kansas City, Kansas.

United Interlock® Grating cuts field labor costs 60% with its easy handling and installation

Three ironworkers installed about 105 square feet of grating per hour, including welding and handling. ▼

"We calculated a savings of approximately 60% in field labor costs."

Carl Caldarella,
Vice President,
Baker Erection Co., Inc.,
Kansas City, Kansas

United Interlock® Grating saves you money. It installs easily and can be unloaded and handled by two laborers without cranes or forklifts. It requires less support structure than other types of grating because its superior strength-to-weight ratio provides greater load support over longer spans with less deflection. It also requires less finishing work, and United Interlock® Grating is virtually maintenance free.

United Interlock® Grating's interlocking legs assemble with positive friction locking that results in a structurally sound surface and provides the strength of bar grating weighing more than three times as much.

The benefits of using United Interlock® Grating were realized by the Baker Erection Company, Inc., Kansas City, Kansas, during a large project for the Ford Motor Company's Kansas City Assembly Plant's E-Coat Building in Claycomo, Missouri.

The project involved the installation of approximately 24,000 square feet of grating for walkways and platforms to service material handling conveyors located inside the E-Coat Building. The platforms consisted of two balconies 12½ feet wide by 405 feet long and one balcony 25 feet wide by 545 feet long.

"I originally estimated installing about 60 square feet of grating per hour, including welding and handling," said Carl J. Caldarella, Vice President, Baker Erection Company, Inc. "However, we found United Interlock® Grating easy to install."

When the project was finished, Caldarella calculated that the erection crew, consisting of three iron-

workers, installed about 105 square feet of grating per hour, including welding and handling.

United Interlock® Grating was specified for the project by Chuni Gala, Project Engineer, McClurg and Associates, the architectural and engineering firm that designed the project.

"We specified United Interlock® Grating because of its superior strength-to-weight ratio."

Chuni Gala, Project Engineer,
McClurg & Associates,
Pontiac Michigan

Unistrut manufactures a variety of interlock grating products for many types of industrial applications. Write today for your free 24-page catalog that details installations and applications, and includes load tables, load deflection curves, and sizing specifications.



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For more information contact:
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Number 3
Maintenance Walkway
NCR Corporation
Cambridge, Ohio

◀ The enclosed maintenance walkway is located above the ceiling of NCR's cleanroom and is constructed of United Interlock® Grating and Unistrut® Metal Framing.

United Interlock® Grating Cuts Walkway Costs in Half for NCR

NCR Corporation is a major manufacturer of scanners that are used to read bar codes. As this product line expanded, NCR outgrew the cleanroom facilities at its engineering and manufacturing plant in Cambridge, Ohio. NCR responded by constructing a new, larger cleanroom specifically for assembling the scanners.

Cleanrooms, which require special equipment for filtering and conditioning the air, needed to attach a maintenance walkway to the I-beams in order to service this equipment. The original design called for the walkway to be constructed of structural support steel and bar grating. When bids for material and installation were submitted, all were well above the budget planned for the walkway. Pressed for time and in search of a lower bid, the contractor looked for an alternative type of material to complete the project. At that time plank grating was given serious consideration.

"I prefer using this type of grating instead of bar grating, because it's lighter, it's easier to handle and you get longer lengths. You also save man-hours, which means you save money.

Kit Kintigh, Baker Construction

United Interlock® (also referred to as Interlock Grating) is a plank-type safety grating and platform material. Made of galvanized steel, or aluminum, the grating is light enough to be handled by two laborers without cranes or forklifts. Yet, because of its superior strength-to-weight ratio, Interlock Grating requires less support structure than other types of grating. The legs of adjoining planks lock together to form a structurally sound surface.



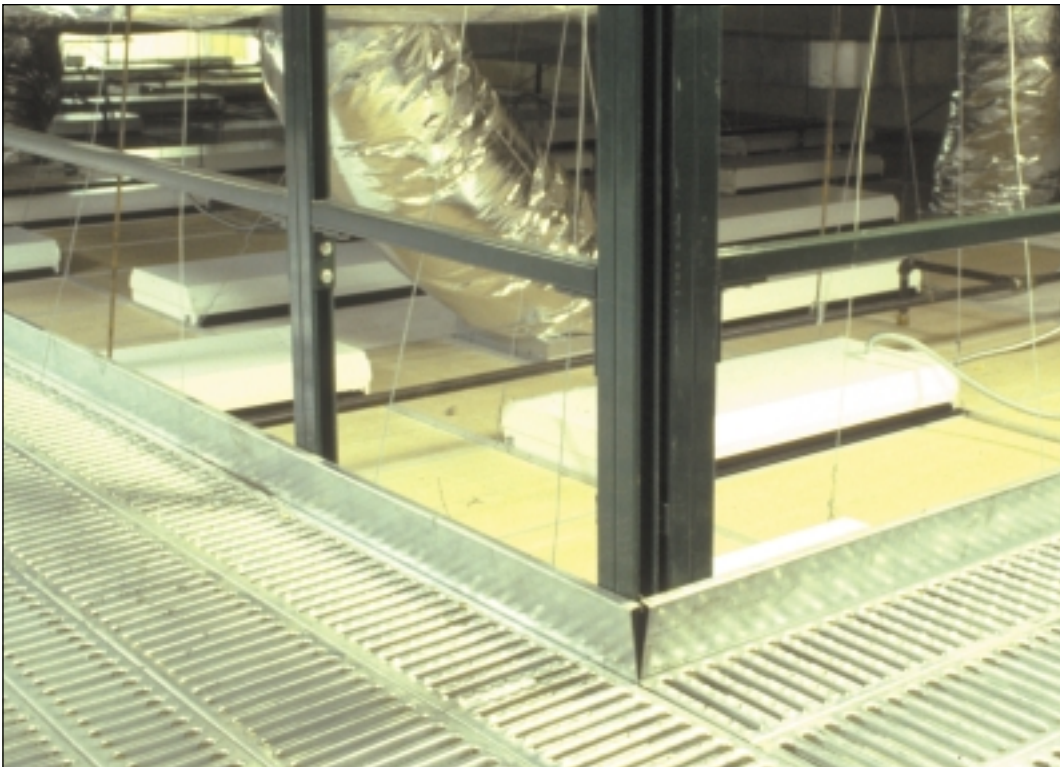
▲ The framing for the walkway is suspended from I-beams.

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◀ Saving 45 to 50 percent by using the new design, the original layout seemed oversized. Interlock Grating also makes it easier to work around obstacles and adapt to major design changes.

Combining the Interlock Grating with Unistrut® Metal Framing, Kit Kintigh of Baker Construction Company in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, was able to develop a workable design at an economical price. Working under a strict time limit, Unistrut Pittsburgh and Kintigh put together a new design in less than a day. By using United Interlock® Grating and Unistrut® framing systems, they were able to reduce labor time and costs enough to do the job for half of what originally was designed.

Following the original design would have meant ordering bar grating in special sizes or cutting it on the job. Either way, the bar grating system would have taken too long to install. Ordering bar grating in special sizes would have made it impossible to get delivery within the six days allotted for installing the system. The United Interlock® Grating was supplied from stock material warehoused at the Unistrut Pittsburgh Service Center.

“I prefer using this type of grating instead of bar grating, because it’s lighter, it’s easier to handle and you get longer lengths. You also save man-hours, which means you save money.”

Kit Kintigh, Baker Construction

Ordering bar grating in standard sizes would have reduced delivery time, but the difficulty of cutting it to fit would have increased installation time. The bar grating would have had to be cut with a torch — a time-consuming process compared to cutting Interlock Grating with a saw. In fact, with Interlock Grating the overall installation job went more smoothly. Saving 45

to 50 percent by using the new design, Interlock Grating was lighter, faster and it was easier to work around obstacles and adapt to major design changes.

“I prefer using this type of grating instead of bar grating because it’s lighter, it’s easier to handle, and you get longer lengths,” Kintigh stated.

“You also save man-hours, which means you save money.”

This was the first project that NCR Corporation used United Interlock® Plank Grating on, but they were impressed with it.



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