# Bascule Bridge Provides Safe Passage

**Features and Benefits**
Permits safe crossing of railroad spurs

Provides convenient connection between buildings

Stores vertically to permit vehicle traffic flow when not in use

**Industry Group:** Loading Dock Equipment Manufacturers (LODEM)

A bascule bridge permits safe crossing of railroad spurs and serves as a convenient connection between buildings. This is exactly what a distributor of pet care products needed to bridge the gap between their main warehouse and the outdoor staging area, while still allowing the frequent railcar to travel between the two buildings. The bascule bridge was the answer to safe and productive material movement throughout the facility.

A bascule bridge smoothly travels from a securely stored vertical position to a solid horizontal position for safe, easy crosstraffic movement of material handling equipment and plant personnel. The bridge is equipped with a positive locking strut for use when the bridge is stored in the vertical position. The safety stop is released hydraulically to permit the bridge to be lowered to a horizontal position.

This particular application called for a bridge which spanned 31’ which was accomplished by fabricating two “leafs” that would meet in the middle to bridge

the gap between the two buildings. The deck of this bridge was constructed of bar grating to tolerate potentially high winds in this out-door application. The bar grate surface also provided excellent traction while preventing the build up of snow, water and other debris.

This bascule bridge features a compact, self-contained power unit and simple controls which can be mounted conveniently on either or both sides of the bridge. The pet care supply distributor chose to have a Master Control Panel mounted on one side of the bridge and an Auxiliary Control Panel mounted on the other end. With the two control box locations, the bridge can be opened and closed from either side. Each control panel features indicator lights to alert the operator when each of the leafs is safely in the “stored” or “lowered” position.

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