

Case History: Mansfield University, Mansfield, Pennsylvania Berlin(Four Horse System)



Original Berlin telescopic bleacher seating at Mansfield University consisted of four banks of bleachers (each bank has three sections), 14 rows high X 50 ft. in length. Approximately 40+ years old, these bleachers had the original motor system.

Owner wanted to compare new bleachers versus refurbished. Code updates such as safety rails, aisles with P-rails and intermediate steps, ADA wheelchair spaces were required. Refurbishing these bleachers would entail using the existing four-horse understructure (total 48 horses for vertical support). New bleachers provided 16 horses for vertical support.

Both bids included replacing wood with plastic seat mod-

ules, safety equipment and a fully motorized system. Design criteria for refurbishing included a no-sag system for the understructure. New bleachers did not provide this feature.

Formal bids revealed that the cost for new replacement bleachers exceeded the cost of refurbishing by \$60,000.

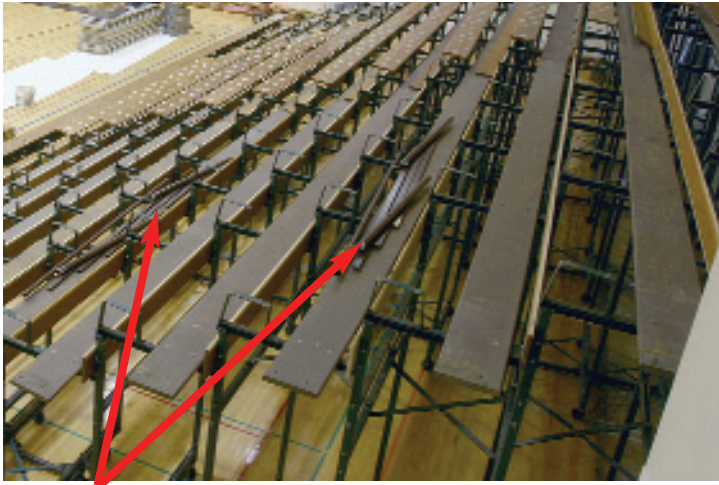
Warranty for refurbishing stated if bleachers sagged, they would be repaired free of charge. Climbing (in the closed or partially open position) was not a disclaimer and would not void the warranty.

New bleacher warranty covered the replacement bleachers for a period of five years for defects in material only, and climbing while the bleachers were unintended for occupancy was considered misuse and abuse of the equipment.



Photo taken after refurbishing was complete shows that wood seats were replaced by plastic seat modules in the school colors. Safety equipment such as end rails, P-rails, intermediate aisles, ADA wheelchair spaces is incorporated into the refurbished bleachers.

Owner appreciated the self-storing, self-locking feature of the P-rail and how quick and easy they were to set up, versus the P-rails offered with new bleachers.



Old safety rails were difficult to set up and take down. "Scissor" design could pinch fingers when being installed. Original Berlin bleachers were not a closed deck system.



"Homemade" seat-level aisles were added by the owner, in an attempt to improve ingress/egress.



Original understructure needed minor repair and service but was otherwise in good shape. Berlin understructures have a unique adjusting system, not available in new bleachers.



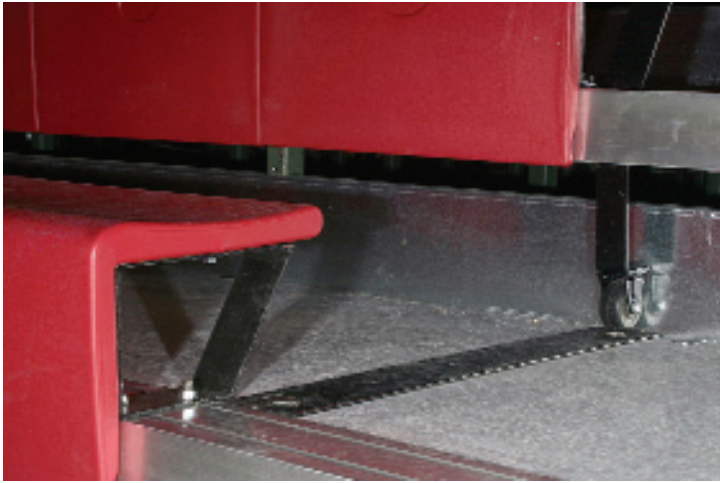
Original wood seats and risers were replaced by plastic seat modules.



Keeping the area beneath the understructure clean and free from debris is required. Obstructions can prevent the wheels from turning freely and cause damage to the floor.



Removal of the seatboards and risers in preparation for the installation of the plastic seat modules.



Foot level Century Design® system prevents sagging.



ADA wheelchair cut-out for handicapped seating.



Heelboard was recycled from original bleachers and painted to match new plywood deck system



All end rails, P-rails and ADA rails are self-storing and permanently attached. P-rails feature automatic locking system - just lift and twist, quick and easy.



Owner appreciated high-impact plastic seat modules that were included in the 20-year warranty against breakage.



It makes “cents” to recycle - saving money never goes out of style. This Evergreen™ Bleacher system looks better than new, and operates perfectly.