

## CASE STUDY

# Revolutionizing Kuehnert Milk House Operations with Norbec's Innovative Cold Room Solution

## INTRODUCTION

Kuehnert Dairy, a renowned farm near Ft. Wayne, Indiana, faced a distinctive challenge as they prepared to launch their state-of-the-art Milk House. The complexity arose from the need to seamlessly integrate 2 cold rooms into the design and construction of a pre-engineered building, ensuring the structural integrity of the facility. The cooler dimensions of 36 ft by 68 ft proved to be most challenging. This case study delves into how Norbec pioneered a groundbreaking solution tailored to their specific needs.

## CLIENT OVERVIEW

Established in 1897, Kuehnert Dairy Farm is a fifth-generation family business dedicated to producing quality dairy cattle and milk. With 300 milk cows and a commitment to technological advancements, the farm spans 1,200 acres, showcasing a range of innovative farming practices, including robotic milking machines and advanced cow monitoring systems. They had a vision of taking the farm-to-table experience to new heights with the launch of the Milk House.

## CHALLENGE

Kuehnert Dairy sought to incorporate cold rooms into their Milk House, encountering a challenge due to the desired walk-in cooler's length exceeding 12 feet. Given the building limitations, attaching the cold room ceiling to the pre-engineered structure was not feasible, as the building did not permit additional attachments. Previous consultations with other manufacturers indicated that a self-supported walk-in cooler of such size was not feasible. Notably, a 36-foot width is an unusual dimension for achieving a walkable self-supported ceiling. This dilemma prompted the exploration of efficient solutions, ultimately directing their attention to Norbec's custom walk-in cooler offerings.

## AT A GLANCE

### CHALLENGES

- Desired length of 36'
- The building did not permit additional attachments
- Needed a walkable self-supporting ceiling

### PRODUCTS

- 2 pre fabricated walk-ins (a cooler as well as a cooler and freezer combo)
- 4" panels
- 26 ga galvanized steel with the silkline profile



"The panels fit together well. I really like how the cam locks are still square and not covered in foam that you have to dig out. I think Norbec also has the best cam hole cover design. They fit very easily. Putting cam hole covers on is a tedious part of installation and can really wear out hands and fingers. Norbec cam covers eliminate most of the hand fatigue."

### Rob Niman

Branch Manager at C&T Design and Equipment Co., Inc

## PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Norbec's pre fabricated walk-in coolers are made of polyurethane core panels incorporated with highly resistant camlocks foamed into place, which stand the test of time in any situation. Kuehnert Dairy went with 2 walk-ins, (one walk-in with a cooler and freezer combo and another storage cooler), and necessary the refrigeration systems. The walk-ins are made of 4" panels in white 26 ga galvanized steel with the silkline profile.

## SOLUTION

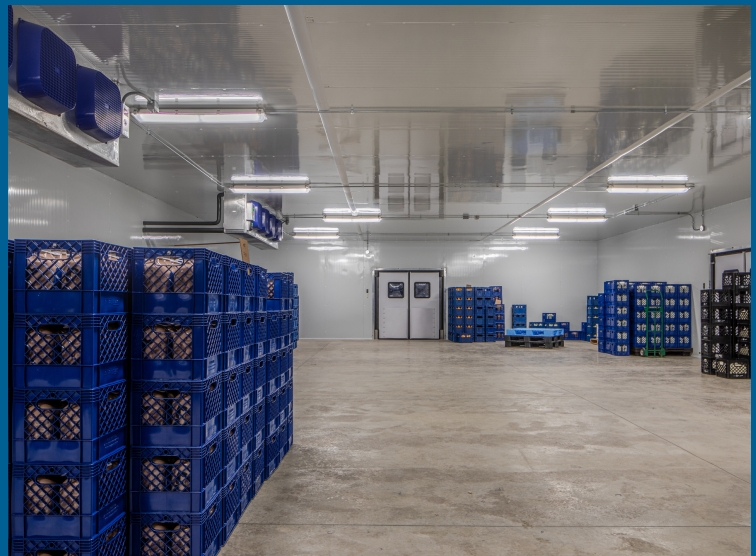
Design adjustments were implemented to enhance both the installation efficiency and the structural ceiling capacity, showcasing Norbec's commitment to innovative solutions. This involved strategically adding structural beams to the cold room's roof, allowing for walk-in cooler installation without incurring additional charges on the building. This ingenious approach effectively addressed the structural challenge, further highlighting Norbec's dedication to providing customized solutions. An alternative solution considered was the addition of columns in the room, which, however, proved to be a deal-breaker for the customer.



## RESULT

The implementation of Norbec's solution not only conquered the structural hurdle but also ensured optimal efficiency for Kuehnert Milk House's cold storage operations. The seamless integration of Norbec's cold rooms surpassed the client's expectations.

For more information on how Norbec can transform your cold storage solutions, request a consultation or explore our product offerings. Contact our team today to discuss your specific needs and witness the potential benefits firsthand.



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