

## STRENGTHENING FACTORY SAFETY AT SOUTHERN GLAZER'S

### **BACKGROUND & CHALLENGE**

Southern Glazer's, the largest distributor of liquor in the United States, operates more than 50 distribution centers nationwide. Order pickers at these centers work on pallet rack systems to retrieve and pack customer orders. Unfortunately, a significant safety concern emerged: fall hazard risks at pallet loading zones. Recognizing the need for a robust safety solution, Southern Glazer's turned to Fastenal for help... and Fastenal, in turn, looked to Safety Rail Company.

At first glance, the solution seemed straightforward: Identify a standardized swing gate and install it. It quickly became evident, though, that Southern Glazer's 50 distribution centers utilized a variety of pallet racking systems, each with different configurations. A one-size-fits-all approach was unlikely to work. Installation issues would be widespread, resulting in product returns, ill-advised field modifications and non-compliance, and possibly even avoidable injuries. In fact, a stock product would create an added layer of risk. Addressing this challenge required a tailored swing gate system that met safety standards across all locations.

# **OVERVIEW**

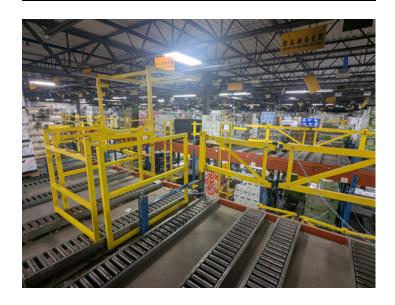
## **PRODUCTS USED**

**Custom Mezzanine Gate** 

**Self-Closing Pallet Gate** 

## **LOCATION**

**50 Southern Glazer's Facilities United States** 





"Given the complexity of the project, a comprehensive strategy was essential."

#### THE SOLUTION

Fastenal leaned on Safety Rail Company to develop a solution that ensured compliance with OSHA regulations while accommodating the varying rack designs.

This involved:

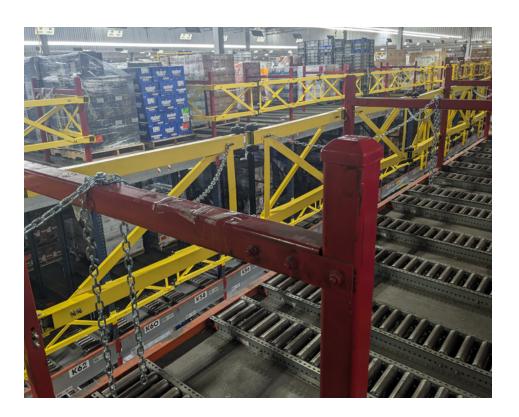
- Conducting an extensive site assessment across all 50 locations.
- Engineering a custom-designed swing gate system adaptable to different racking brands.
- Gates are OSHA certified by third party professional engineers.
- Assembling a dedicated project management and installation team to oversee implementation.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION**

Safety Rail Company deployed field service personnel alongside Fastenal representatives to assess each facility's unique requirements. Safety Rail's engineering team then translated

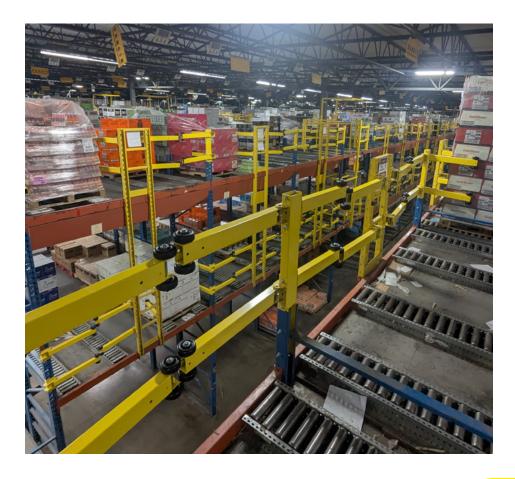
the data into standardized solutions, ensuring cost-effectiveness and long-term serviceability. Manufactured in the USA at Safety Rail's Minnesota facility, these custom swing gates were rigorously tested and designed for seamless integration.

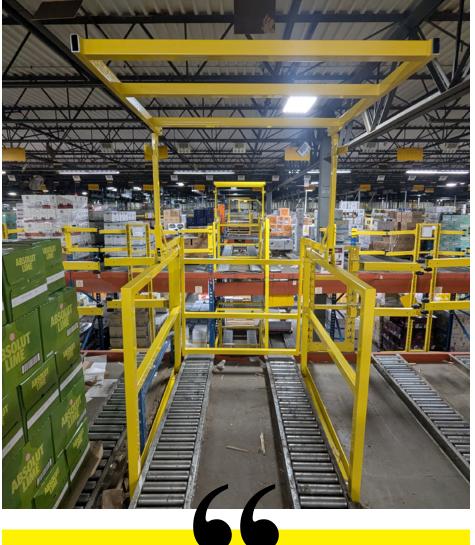
As the industry's leading manufacturer and installer of passive fall protection, Safety Rail Company executed a structured, location-by-location rollout. Their project management team coordinated the installations efficiently, ensuring on-time and on-budget completion. Importantly, all installations were carried out by employed SRC safety-trained professionals following best-in-class construction safety protocols.



### **OUTCOME**

The collaboration between Southern Glazer's, Fastenal and Safety Rail Company successfully mitigated fall hazards across all 50 distribution centers. The implementation of customengineered pallet rack swing gates not only enhanced worker safety and maintained worker efficiency, but it also reinforced Southern Glazer's commitment to maintaining the highest safety standards.





"[We] translated the data into standardized solutions, ensuring cost-effectiveness and long-term serviceability."

