

“Smart” Way To Control Slides On Trucks, Wagons

Shur-Co's new electric gate and hoist system remotely controls the box hoist and rear slide gate on grain trucks or wagon bodies.

Dauna Ogden says Shur-Co designs its products in house so they're American-made and proud of it. Ogden says their new SMART mini-modules can control any 12-volt accessory with electronic actuation. A rear slide gate, for example, can be controlled by remote operation from the top of a grain bin. Using the remote, a farmer can open the gate to allow just the right amount of grain into an auger to top off the bin. No need to climb down off the bin, open the gate, then climb back up while it's dumping to see how much is needed.

A second mini-module with an electric-over-air solenoid valve gives an operator control of a grain truck hoist. In combination, the two devices allow controlled unloading with one remote. The actuating devices can be mounted on the side, the rear, or wherever is most convenient to control product flow.

Connections on the mini-modules use weather-pack insulation on the hoist controls and DOT-certified air fittings to protect against moisture, dust, extreme temperatures and corrosive road elements. Ogden says if the package is ordered with a Shur-Co elec-

You can remotely control the box hoist and rear slide gate on grain trucks with Shur-Co's new SMART mini-module.



tric tarp, a smart wire system allows plug-and-play operation. The tarp, gate and hoist can be controlled by the same mini-module, and other electronic accessories such as an electric hopper opener, an electric swingaway, and work light packages can also be added. Depending on the products used the installation will take anywhere from a few hours to a day.

The recommended retail price for the Gate and Hoist system with the SMART1+ remote is \$1,320. Other options and configurations are available.

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Handheld “Mini Combine” Field-Tests Grain

There's no need to drive out to the field with a combine only to find out a crop isn't ready to harvest, thanks to this new handheld mini combine that cuts and threshes a clean grain sample in minutes.

“I think of the GrainGoat as a full-size combine that has been shrunk down to the size that you can pick it up and carry it,” says inventor Martin Bremmer. “We're in an age of precision planting and harvesting, and it's about time we catch up to today's high technology with an accurate sample to know when the crop is just right for harvest. Farmers can't afford to waste time any more going from field to field because the grain wasn't ready for harvest.”

The battery-powered unit cuts and threshes the grain, depositing it in a sample cup for moisture testing. Moving paddles throw any unwanted plant material onto the ground. A durable nylon strap is used

to carry the unit high against the operator's hip for ease of carrying through the field.

To obtain a grain sample, the operator lowers the stripper mouth over the grain heads and then pulls a trigger while walking through the field. The grain is threshed with miniature concaves, and finally a blower separates the grain from the trash. Clean grain falls into an attached metal enclosure. The operator turns a compression knob to squeeze the grain sample, then pushes a button to display the moisture on a digital meter.

The unit can be used with wheat, barley, oats, milo, millet, amaranth, and even peas and soybeans. It comes with different screens for different crops.

The GrainGoat sells for \$1,999 plus S&H.

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Hand-held unit threshes grain and deposits it in a sample cup for moisture testing.