

WILDING ENGINEERING

BROWN-STRAUSS STEEL

Project Location:

800 S. Chestnut Street, Salt Lake City, Utah

Project Description:

Brown-Strauss Steel operates from a 26 Acre site on the west side of Salt Lake City. A large portion of the site is used as a storage yard for different types and sizes of structural steel. Forklifts move the steel from rail cars to the storage and from storage to semi-trucks that deliver steel to on-site locations.

During the first winter of operation Brown-Strauss began having problems with drainage in the flat, unpaved steel storage yard. When temperatures were above freezing the accumulated snow and ice would melt and turn the access roads into muddy bogs and forklifts were getting stuck when weighted down with steel. The ruts left in the road also caused overhanging loads of heavy steel to dip dangerously low during transport. Wilding Engineering, Inc. was asked to provide a solution for the drainage problem. The original concept involved thousands of feet of pipe to drain every other row of stacked steel. Having to trench every other row would involve a serious disruption to the movement of steel through the site and would take a significant amount of time to construct. Wilding Engineering, Inc. devised a plan that required only piping under access roads between racks to connect the porous layer of cobble stone under each rack thus saving thousands of feet of pipe and causing much less disruption. A system of perforated pipes was installed near the low points of each rack to collect and direct the water to an off-site drainage.

After the system was installed, Brown Strauss reports: "through the second winter and spring your drainage design and system worked flawlessly. You would have been amazed at the flow going into the retention area to the East. Thanks for a great system."