**Maintenance Tip: Silo Footings**

**Presented as a Public Service for the purposes of Farm Safety**

**LET’S TALK SILOS - SILO SENSE - COMMON SENSE**

**For many years, tower silos have stood – like soldiers standing at attention – protecting farmers valuable feed crop – protecting it from not only spoilage but against contamination and other negative outside sources. Tower Silos have performed so well and for so long that often little attention is given to their value and importance on the farm, or to their maintenance.**

Going back to school in the fall as a 5th grader, Nick was asked to write about something he did during the summer. I read this when it was posted in the hall outside his classroom. When installing footings, Nick got it right! This is what he wrote:

“Nick’s Story”

“Silos are helpful to farmers, level the footing bases, install stones in the center to control seepage, keep the walls vertical with forms and footings are an important part of the silo.”

For almost 20 years, his story has been hanging on the wall next to my desk. A reminder of a great day spent with Nick and that footings need to be put in right because “footings are an important part of the silo.”

**Your tower silo is protecting your valuable feed. It needs to be in top notch condition to do its job. You can’t expect it to do its job if it’s not maintained. Your tower silo is the “Cadillac” of the farm. When maintained and used properly, it will give you many, many years of quality feed and excellent service.**

Disclaimer

These articles are contributed by Bruce Johnson of Wisconsin Silos. They are meant to be informative and fun to read. They are not all inclusive. Your best source of information is the International Silo Association Operator’s manual or call the International Silo Association at 610-607-3622.