



# DRY CARGO

*international*

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## Keeping stored product moving freely with help from AIRCHOC® air cannons

Since 1978, Standard Industrie International has specialized in the design and manufacture of equipment to facilitate the handling of powdery bulk products safely and with respect for the environment. Its equipment makes it possible to optimize operations while reducing operating and maintenance costs.

The company offers four main services:

- ❖ blockage & build-up removal
- ❖ industrial vacuum cleaning;
- ❖ conveyor belt optimization; and
- ❖ silo & hopper cleaning services.

This article will focus on the company's expertise in blockage and build-up removal, which it tackles with its Airchoc® wireless air cannon & MACSYS wireless multi-output air cannon.

In a recent installation, Standard Industrie has fitted its Airchoc products to a bauxite hopper in a plant based at the San Ciprian port in Spain. This hopper is used to receive only bauxite, which is then use to produce alumina at the factory outlet, either back to the port or to the aluminium plant.

The loading and recovery of the product from the storage area takes place via conveyors to warehouses or storage yards. Thereafter, the product is conveyed to different department within the plant, namely: trituration, digestion, filtration, precipitation and calcination.

In another project (see pictures, right), the Airchoc® has been installed on other bauxite-receiving hoppers in Limerick in Ireland. The customer's hoppers, being located by the sea, are subject to severe weather conditions, and kept getting blocked. This issue was exacerbated by the intrinsic nature of bauxite.

The customer asked that equipment be installed to remove the build-ups located on the inner walls and that can be remotely controlled.

The solution involved the installation of six AC515SJEVD5 Airchoc® cannons and, thanks to regular firings operated every 30 minutes, the customer is now free from dangerous cleaning constraints.

The results of this installation are that



*Bauxite hopper at the San Ciprian port, before installation. Below, left, schematic of the Airchoc installation.*

the customer:

- ❖ can ensure continuous management of its raw material;
- ❖ can control and optimize the management of its storage capacity;
- ❖ can eliminate the risk and danger associated with cleaning operations; and

- ❖ has reduced installation costs by opting for the wireless version.

*Installation of the Airchoc® air cannons in Limerick, Ireland.*

