



PNWGFA 2-DAY MAINTENANCE/SAFETY WORKSHOP

OCTOBER 22 & 23, 2025

NORTHERN QUEST RESORT & CASINO, SPOKANE, WA

(1-day modules are available)

Grain Facilities Education and
Training

Robert (Bob) Marlow, Owner
Management Consultant on Grain Quality and
Facility Operations

Understanding facility and equipment inspection: Efforts that assist with prevention of accidents, reducing maintenance cost and downtime.

Common / Regular / Pre-Season Inspection Items for Bucket Elevators (lubrication/belt tension/alignment/drive maintenance); Screw Conveyors (inspection of bolts/bearings and flighting; proper bearing selection for flighting); Drag Conveyors (chain tension); Belt/Enclosed belt conveyors (belt tension, rollers, bearings, alignment); Baghouse dust systems (monitoring operation and performance) and more!



PNWGFA has teamed with Bob Marlow, ag industry professional and owner of Operations Professional Services (OPS) for a comprehensive review and discussions on key operating components within a grain and feed facility.

About Bob Marlow: The owner of Operations Professional Services (OPS), a consulting firm based in New Castle, Indiana, focuses on providing education and training in all phases of grain facility operations, including maintenance. After growing up on a farm in northwest Ohio and completing his education, he worked for The Andersons for 44 years in roles related to maintenance, engineering, construction, and facility operations. Before retiring in 2015, he was responsible for nine facilities located in Indiana, Illinois, Nebraska, Texas, and Saskatchewan.

Bob has been a member of GEAPS for 40 + years and serves as an instructor at both the Grain Elevator Managers course held at Kansas State University and the Advanced Grain Elevator Operations Managers school at Iowa State University and Grain and Feed of Illinois. He also collaborates with various grain companies to support their training programs. His previous projects include participation in a USAID initiative in Nigeria with Purdue University, serving as a subject matter expert for Safety Made Simple, for their online maintenance training programs, and contributing to the US Grains Council's "Grain Handling and Storage Manual" alongside Dr. Dirk Maier of Iowa State University and Dr. Klein Ileleji of Purdue University.

Bob lives in New Castle, Indiana with his wife Stephanie; they have three daughters and two grandchildren. His interests include traveling, gardening, cooking, and spending time with family and friends.

WORKING AGENDA (there may be slight revisions):

DAY 1

8:00–8:30 am	Introductions / Orientation / Expectations
8:30–9:15 am	Safety Training: HOT Work
9:15–10:00 am	Safety Training: Contractor Control
10:00–10:15 am	Break
10:15–10:45 am	Consequences of a Lapse in Safety (4 real life examples)
10:45–11:15 am	Grain Handling Equipment
11:15–12:00 pm	<u>Session 1:</u> General Plant Maintenance
12:00–1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00–2:00 pm	<u>Session 2:</u> Legs
2:00–3:00 pm	<u>Session 3:</u> Buckets / Belts / Splices
3:00–3:15 pm	Break
3:15–4:15 pm	<u>Session 4:</u> Belt Conveyors
4:15–5:00 pm	Wrap up Roundtable / Discussion

DAY 2

8:00–8:30 am	Review / Today's Expectations
8:30–9:00 am	<u>Session 5:</u> Screw Conveyors
9:00–9:30 am	<u>Session 6:</u> Chain Conveyors
9:30–9:45 am	Break
9:45–10:15 am	<u>Session 7:</u> Spouting / Distributors / Relining
10:15–12:00 pm	<u>Session 8:</u> Bearings
12:00–1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00–2:00 pm	<u>Session 9:</u> Motors / Drives / Gearboxes
2:00–2:30 pm	<u>Session 10:</u> Dust Systems
2:30–2:45 pm	Break
2:45–3:30 pm	<u>Session 11:</u> Grain Dryers
3:30–4:15 pm	Your PM Program must be more than grease & oil
4:15–5:00 pm	Roundtable / Open Discussion/ Wrap-up