



Number 3  
**Maintenance Walkway**  
NCR Corporation  
Cambridge, Ohio

◀ The enclosed maintenance walkway is located above the ceiling of NCR's cleanroom and is constructed of United Interlock® Grating and Unistrut® Metal Framing.

## United Interlock® Grating Cuts Walkway Costs in Half for NCR

NCR Corporation is a major manufacturer of scanners that are used to read bar codes. As this product line expanded, NCR outgrew the cleanroom facilities at its engineering and manufacturing plant in Cambridge, Ohio. NCR responded by constructing a new, larger cleanroom specifically for assembling the scanners.

Cleanrooms, which require special equipment for filtering and conditioning the air, needed to attach a maintenance walkway to the I-beams in order to service this equipment. The original design called for the walkway to be constructed of structural support steel and bar grating. When bids for material and installation were submitted, all were well above the budget planned for the walkway. Pressed for time and in search of a lower bid, the contractor looked for an alternative type of material to complete the project. At that time plank grating was given serious consideration.

**"I prefer using this type of grating instead of bar grating, because it's lighter, it's easier to handle and you get longer lengths. You also save man-hours, which means you save money.**

Kit Kintigh, Baker Construction

United Interlock® (also referred to as Interlock Grating) is a plank-type safety grating and platform material. Made of galvanized steel, or aluminum, the grating is light enough to be handled by two laborers without cranes or forklifts. Yet, because of its superior strength-to-weight ratio, Interlock Grating requires less support structure than other types of grating. The legs of adjoining planks lock together to form a structurally sound surface.



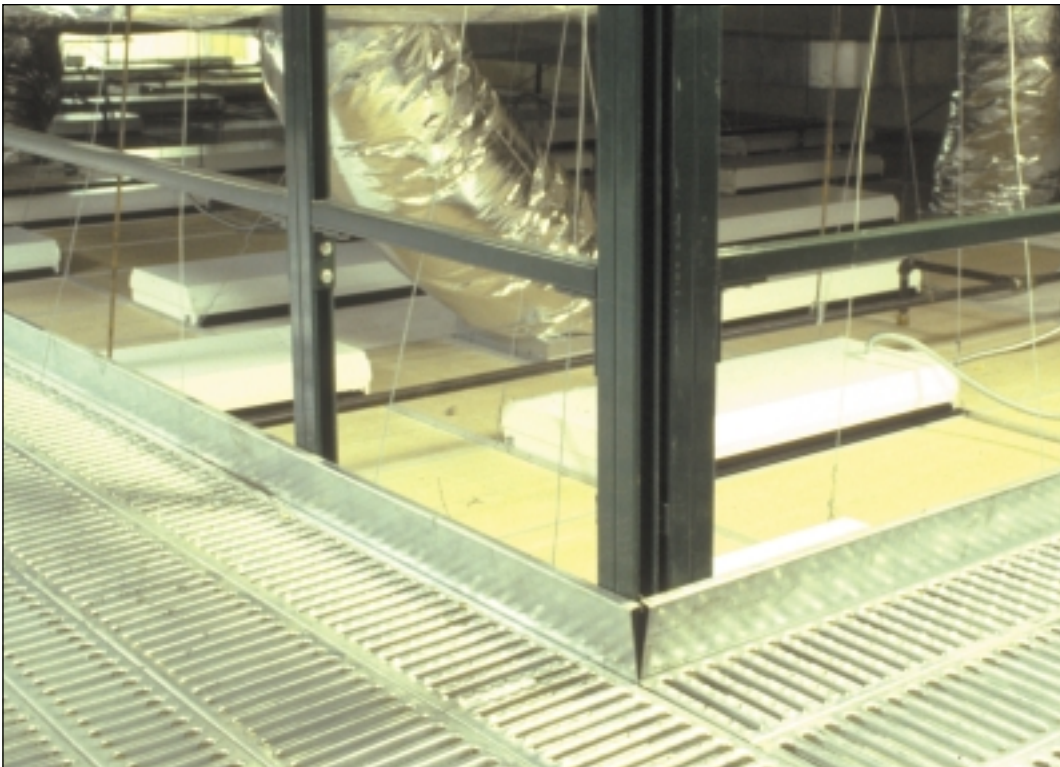
▲ The framing for the walkway is suspended from I-beams.

**tyco**

*Flow Control*

**Unistrut**

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◀ Saving 45 to 50 percent by using the new design, the original layout seemed oversized. Interlock Grating also makes it easier to work around obstacles and adapt to major design changes.

Combining the Interlock Grating with Unistrut® Metal Framing, Kit Kintigh of Baker Construction Company in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, was able to develop a workable design at an economical price. Working under a strict time limit, Unistrut Pittsburgh and Kintigh put together a new design in less than a day. By using United Interlock® Grating and Unistrut® framing systems, they were able to reduce labor time and costs enough to do the job for half of what originally was designed.

Following the original design would have meant ordering bar grating in special sizes or cutting it on the job. Either way, the bar grating system would have taken too long to install. Ordering bar grating in special sizes would have made it impossible to get delivery within the six days allotted for installing the system. The United Interlock® Grating was supplied from stock material warehoused at the Unistrut Pittsburgh Service Center.

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Kit Kintigh, Baker Construction

Ordering bar grating in standard sizes would have reduced delivery time, but the difficulty of cutting it to fit would have increased installation time. The bar grating would have had to be cut with a torch — a time-consuming process compared to cutting Interlock Grating with a saw. In fact, with Interlock Grating the overall installation job went more smoothly. Saving 45

to 50 percent by using the new design, Interlock Grating was lighter, faster and it was easier to work around obstacles and adapt to major design changes.

"I prefer using this type of grating instead of bar grating because it's lighter, it's easier to handle, and you get longer lengths," Kintigh stated.

"You also save man-hours, which means you save money."

This was the first project that NCR Corporation used United Interlock® Plank Grating on, but they were impressed with it.



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