

featured project **BLOEMEN DAIRY FARMS INC.**

Along with his parents, Willem Bloemen immigrated from Holland in 2001 to start a 100 cow dairy farm in Canada. They started out with a new DLS/GEA D-10 parallel parlour. Willem married a chicken farmer, and together they run two organic layer barns, and they raise their own pullets.

Willem had two siblings that decided to stay behind in Holland to complete their university degrees. A sister, who works as a doctor has continued to stay in Holland. Otto, Willem's brother came over with his wife in 2010, and started OJB Industries which is located on the dairy farm. OJB started out making dump wagons. They grew over the years and in 2016 they built a new shop on the farm. Today they have eight employees and they build manure spreaders, sand slingers, dump wagons, truck boxes, and various custom pieces—sometimes for DLS! They have a full CNC plasma table, brake press, angle/pipe roller, and paint booth. Both Willem and Otto work together and have full schedules between the dairy farm and OJB.

The original D-10 parallel parlour served the farm well, but they knew a transition was on the horizon. Over the years they had grown from a 100 cow farm to over 400 cows. Two years ago they started the build of their new 60 stall rotary parlor. They designed their own building, and they had a lot of innovative and unique ideas that they wanted to incorporate on the rotary. OJB built the rotary platform for this project. There is no basement walk through, rather fixed stairs lead to the inside of the rotary. A crane is in place to bring tools or equipment into the center of the rotary. The 60 stall rotary is all stainless, uses GEA milking equipment and has a unique waste milk line. **Article continues on page 4**



We're Social Too



Tradeshow Season
dairylane.ca/tradeshows

DLS Is Hiring
dairylane.ca/careers



Trade Show Season Is Here!

EMPLOYEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

DLS is pleased to welcome the following people to the Dairy Lane team:



Everett Fleming
Robotic Systems
Technician



Shawn Jones
Milking Equipment
Installation Technician



Ross Mommersteeg
Equipment Repair Technician

Come out and visit our booths at the following upcoming trade shows! We would love to meet you!

London Farm Show in London, ON
March 4-6

Western Canada Dairy Seminar in Red Deer, AB
March 10-13

Ottawa Valley Farm Show in Ottawa, ON
March 17-19

Central Plains Dairy Expo in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, USA
March 24-26

WPS Farm Show in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, USA
March 31-April 2

CDX Show in Stratford, ON
April 1-2

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Helena Vermeulen
Administrative Assistant
Joined DLS October 2016

Helena lives close to one of the DLS owners, and she fondly remembers baby-sitting for them and mentioning that she was looking for part time work. Later that same day, Helena was interviewed and hired as a part time filing clerk at DLS!

Today, Helena works full time and is the friendly voice that you will be greeted by when you call DLS. She also performs invoicing and numerous administrative duties. Helena enjoys what she does and loves the variation of her workload. She has a heart for people and has played a positive role at DLS by going out of her way to take an interest in many of the employee's lives.

Outside of DLS, Helena has a full plate. She is happily married with three children. Janna (20) works as a PSW, Karla (18) is currently in school with aspirations to be a DSW, and their sister Esther (16) has Down Syndrome and has a full schedule of extra-curricular activities and doctor appointments. Helena is actively involved in her church, and she spends her spare time with family and friends.

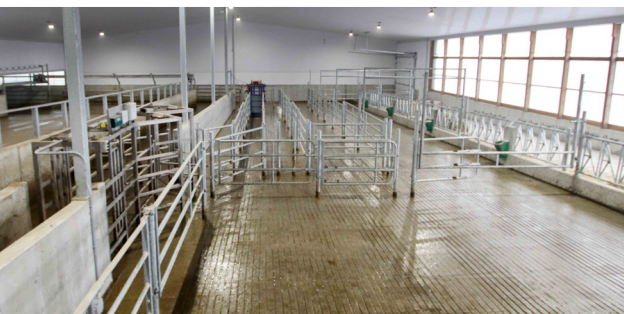


MARCH'S product of the month

DLS fabricates stainless steel sort gates with custom sizes and multiple sorting exits to best suit the needs of each farm. Sort gates can simplify the day to day management of cows by saving time searching for cows and manually getting them locked up.

By using sort gates the process is automated for you! The sort gates are placed in the return alleys and as the cows exit the parlour, special need or in heat cows can be sorted to the area you choose. Typically headlocks will be in these areas, and by the time you are done milking the cow will have locked herself up, making her readily available for the next course of action.

GEA electronics are installed on the sort gates. We use the GEA CowScout system which provides precise ID, real time activity monitoring, and rumination monitoring. You can read more about this system @ <http://go.dairylane.ca/cowscout>



JOB PROGRESSION HIGHLIGHTS



1

Dairi-Acres
Strathroy, ON

A DLS Structure heifer barn is in progress at Dairi-Acres! It will be a 3 row stall barn with Jourdain headlocks and Legend soft bed mats (no pack area). DLS curtains are currently being installed.

2

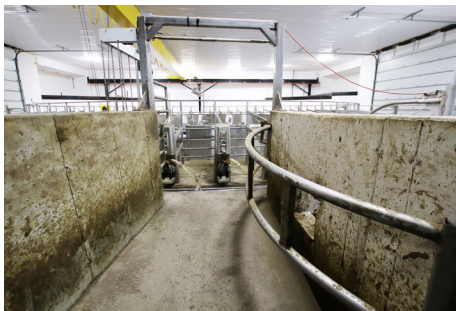
Avonview Farms
Saint Pauls Station, ON

Avonview Farms started up on Monday Feb 10 with their two new GEA R9500 robots! The robots are retrofitted in their existing barn between the old holding area and the free stalls. Checkout their start-up time lapse @ <http://go.dairylane.ca/avonview>

3

Orion Holsteins
Ayr, ON

The 60 stall GEA rotary at Orion Holsteins will be starting up soon! Temporary gating is going up in the return alley. The cows will enter the rotary and will return in this area while we remove the old parlour and tie in the holding area.



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Milking start-up was January 27, 2020. It previously took five hours per milking in the parlour, and now in just over a month they are milking in and out in two hours twenty minutes. The dairy farm has three full time employees and eight part time employees for milking. They operate three people in the parlour and one chasing cows. The treated and fresh cows are milked on the rotary in a separate waste milk line that gets dumped. They currently milk 470 cows two times per day with a production of 37 litres and 4.2% butter fat.

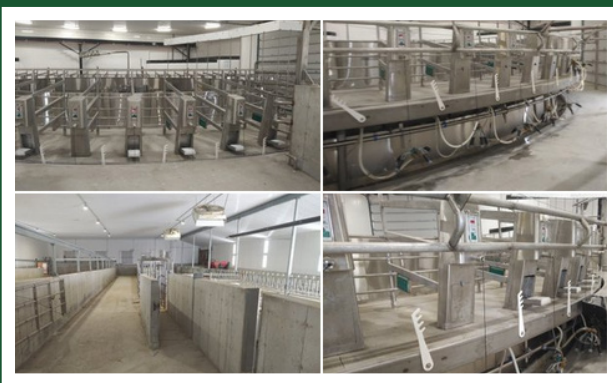


FEATURED TWEET



OJB Industries Inc.
@OJBIndustries

Very proud on @dairylanesystem guys my guys, and @jeffsteckle that we pulled this of, first milking without significant troubles except sore muscles from pushing cows. 60 stall #stainlesssteel #rotary some pictures when it was still clean



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