

# AIR-POWERED OVER MECHANICAL LEVELERS AT NEW DISTRIBUTION CENTER



**Company:** Large Tire Distributor

**Location:** Shafter, CA

**Industry:** Tire Distribution

**Challenge Overview:** Install more efficient levelers than mechanical at a large distribution center while keeping costs down.

**Equipment Solution:**  
Poweramp CentraAir® Levelers

## Challenge

With many distribution centers throughout the US and more than 1,000 delivery vehicles, this premier tire distributor planned to build a new one million square foot distribution center in Shafter, CA.

At previous locations the distributor always resorted to mechanical levelers due to their lower startup costs and perceived lower maintenance. However, with the volume planned for the 174 dock positions at this new center they needed more efficient levelers, but didn't want to pay the high costs for hydraulic levelers.

## Solution

Analyzing the needs of the client, Poweramp worked with the developer of the new distribution center to recommend the Poweramp CentraAir (CA) Levelers.

Rather than going with expensive hydraulic levelers, the push button controls with the CA units would be much easier to use than traditional mechanical levelers and wouldn't cost much more. Plus the CA has much fewer moving parts needing service and maintenance over the years.

Utilizing pneumatic controls, the CA levelers would not require electricity at each pit, thus keeping electrical installation costs down. Instead the only electricity required was to six dedicated air compressors, which then ran airlines to the 174 levelers.

## Results

The CA levelers, dock seals, air compressors and associated airline infrastructure was built, shipped, installed and fully functional in a short six-week period. The low amount of electrical installation needed produced a six-figure savings over conventional push button levelers.

The tire distribution center is now operating efficiently with the convenience of the CA's push button controls. The company plans to look at CentraAir levelers over mechanical at all future locations.

*"The push-button setup with the CentraAir levelers are operating efficiently. Our company is now considering adding more of these levelers at other locations."*

*– General Manager*