



CASE STUDY



HULCHER SERVICES DEMOLISHES THREE SIGNALS STRUCTURES FOR PTC PROJECT

Scope

The railroad installed new signals along a two-mile stretch of track. The new signals will serve the same function as the existing ones for the time being, but ultimately will support Positive Train Control (PTC) when that program goes online. Before the railroad could activate the new signals, they needed to have an existing five-track signal bridge, cantilever and tower removed and the new signals rotated into place over the tracks. The railroad needed an experienced contractor who could complete this work in tight one-hour windows to avoid disruption to their schedule.

Solution

Hulcher deployed three cranes, a skid steer with various attachments, an all-terrain forklift and a haul truck to perform the work.

The railroad closed the track for one hour for each structure. In that hour Hulcher crews torch-cut the structure's legs, and the cranes lifted and swung it clear of the track to place it on the laydown pads. Once the old structure was removed, the crews rotated the new signal structure over the track. This process was repeated until all three old structures had been taken down. Hulcher then dismantled the old structures, loaded the steel to a flatbed truck with the forklift and hauled it off to the scrap yard. To complete the project, the skid steer broke up the concrete footers and loaded the refuse to dump truck, and crews back-dragged the sites.

Outcome

Hulcher's experience allow its crews to work closely with railroad personnel to bring down and move each of the three structures in a one-hour windows, avoiding any disruption to its busy schedule. With the structures removed, the railroad was able to activate its new signals infrastructure in support of the impending PTC program.



KEY FACTS

PROJECT SUMMARY: Demolish three structures to allow cutover to new signals infrastructure for PTC program.

TIGHT TIME WINDOW: Hulcher crews demolished and removed each structure in a one-hour window, avoiding disruption to the railroad's schedule.

SITE PREP AND RESTORATION: Hulcher prepared the site before taking down the structures, hauled off the scrap materials and back-dragged the site to a clean and usable condition.

