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Polyethylene pricing challenges loom



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Oil prices impact metal recyclers

by MIKE BRESLIN

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It's about time U.S. businesses and consumers are getting a price break on something... oil and its cornucopia of derivatives. Most visible are gasoline pump prices falling in many areas in the \$2 per gallon range (as of this writing). It's all because worldwide crude oil prices have fallen sharply over the past several months. From 2010 until 2014, global crude oil prices were fairly constant at about \$110 per barrel. Since June, however, prices have dropped below \$50 per barrel for the first time since 2009. How long it will last is the burning global economic question.

Now, many oil exporting countries are having large revenue shortfalls because many importing countries are having stagnant or weak economic growth and need less oil. Fortunately, over the past decade, the U.S. has experienced an explosion in energy production due to technology breakthroughs like fracking and horizontal drilling to extract oil and gas from shale formations, or extract oil from tar sand. Low crude oil prices, of course, are also harmful to U.S. energy producers, particularly deadly to newer projects trying to recover investments and marginally profitable ones.

Until global economic conditions improve and demand for oil returns, these lower prices also affect U.S. recyclers and environmentalists in many ways. Like at most businesses, the reduction in operating expenses contributes to a fatter bottom line. However, lower oil prices are not good for all concerns, particularly electric and hybrid vehicle makers, and clean air advocates. Going electric made more sense when gas was \$4 per gallon, but now half as much.

Long term, low oil prices may not be good for our economy as a whole. Short term, lower gasoline prices are already affecting car sales. The auto industry had its best November in a decade. This growing consumer demand was led by pickup trucks, SUVs and high performance gas guzzlers.



Receiving area and infeed conveyor for Newell's mega shredder, which is located in Gwinnett County (Metro Atlanta) Georgia.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NEWELL RECYCLING SOUTHEAST

The bottom line: all countries are being affected by the drop in oil prices and the repercussions are systematic.

For a global overview of the energy/scrap situation, we called upon Joe Pickard, chief economist and director of commodities for the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI). He reported, "For scrap metal processors, 2015 has gotten off to a difficult start and that follows pretty challenging conditions last year. Given the volatility in commodity prices, scrap metal dealers need to be especially careful with regard to controlling inventory, a lesson hopefully learned in the aftermath of the recession.

With an unstable world economy, the U.S. is still a safe haven to put your money.

—Frank Goulding
 Newell Recycling Southeast

"There are a couple of positive aspects of falling oil prices. First, cheaper energy prices mean cheaper processing costs for scrap metal processors. And secondly, when consumers, in the aggregate, have more money to spend they are going to buy more appliances, automobiles, and other goods because they have more discretionary income. In theory, that

should produce more demand for new stock, but also increase the supply of scrap. But overall, the rapid drop in oil prices is having a net negative impact.

"As oil prices drop other commodity prices also tend to drop. We're seeing that, especially on the nonferrous side with copper prices dropping sharply. As energy prices drop, that also has an impact on energy sector investor, demand for steel and ferrous scrap. The crash in oil prices also reflects a lack of confidence in global economic growth. In addition, there's concern about excess commodity supply, especially with iron ore, oil and other commodities. So we're seeing expectations for slower global growth and excess commodity supply across a range of commodities.

"The other thing we are combating is a much stronger U.S. dollar in recent weeks. That makes our scrap that much more competitively priced in overseas markets and makes imports cheaper as well. Also, when primary metal prices come off like we've seen with refined copper, iron ore or other primary metals, that makes scrap relatively less attractive as well. In overseas markets I think it's going to be an uphill climb in the near term at least," said Picard.

Bob Stein, senior vice president of nonferrous marketing at Alter Trading in St. Louis was also kind enough to share his thoughts on the global implications of cheap oil on the scrap metal business.

"There's been a negative impact on base metal prices as a result of a couple of things, but certainly because of the price of oil and related petroleum products. Oil is a major driver in the economy of most nations, whether you are an exporter and make a lot of money from exporting like the Saudis, Russians or Canadians, for example. Or, as a buyer, you would think lower prices would be beneficial. They aren't necessarily. If you have a freely traded, highly transparent, commodity that drives the economy such as oil, it drives down whole economic sectors. That's basically what's happened.

"The other thing that's happened is that the U.S. dollar is exceedingly strong. And the U.S. is now basically self-sufficient in petroleum products. The dollar is at a 9 or 10 year high against the Euro. It's also strong against the Canadian dollar and their economy is highly dependent on the export of petroleum and other raw materials. The Canadian dollar has suffered immensely because of that. So what you

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Rule promotes responsible hazardous materials recycling

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized new safeguards that promote responsible recycling of hazardous secondary materials and demonstrate a significant step forward in promoting recycling innovation, resulting in both resource conservation and economic benefits, while strengthening protections for environmental justice communities.

The Definition of Solid Waste (DSW) final rule modifies the EPA's 2008 DSW rule to protect human health and the environment from the mismanagement of hazardous secondary material, while promoting sustainability through the encouragement of safe and environmentally responsible recycling of such materials.

EPA conducted a rigorous environmental justice analysis of the DSW rule that examined the location of recycling facilities and their proximity and potential impact to adjacent residents. The methodology and scope was developed through a broad public engagement and expert peer review process. The analysis identified significant regulatory gaps in the 2008 rule, which could negatively impact communities adjacent to third party recyclers, including disproportionately impacting minority and low-income populations.

It includes several provisions that result in both resource conservation and economic benefits by encouraging certain types of in-process recycling and remanufacturing:

- The rule addresses significant regulatory gaps in the 2008 rule by requiring off-site recycling at a facility with a RCRA permit or verified recycler variance, which will allow EPA and the states to verify that a facility has the equipment and trained personnel to safely manage the material, adequate financial assurance, is prepared to respond in case of an emergency, and can demonstrate that the recycling is not disposal in the guise of recycling. The new verified recycler exclusion also

includes a public participation requirement for recyclers seeking variances, so that communities are notified prior to the start of recycling operations.

- The rule affirms the legitimacy of the pre-2008 DSW exclusions, such as the scrap metal exclusion, and does not change the regulatory status of material legitimately recycled under these long-standing exclusions.

- The final rule includes a revised definition of legitimate recycling that reaffirms the legitimacy of in-process recycling and of commodity-grade recycled products, such as metal commodities. The rule retains the exclusion for recycling under the control of the generator, including recycling on-site, within the same company and through certain types of toll manufacturing agreements, which recognizes those generators who follow good business practices by taking responsibility for their recycling and maintaining control of their hazardous secondary materials.

- Finally, the final rule includes a targeted remanufacturing exclusion for certain higher-value hazardous spent solvents, which are being remanufactured into commercial-grade products. This allows manufacturers to reduce the use of virgin solvents, resulting in both economic and environmental benefits, including energy conservation and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

For a direct link to more information, view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

Novelis invests \$48 million

Novelis completed a \$48 million investment in its automotive scrap aluminum recycling facility in Oswego, New York. It expands upon the company's recent growth in Oswego to meet the increased demand for aluminum automotive sheet in North America. Including this recycling center, over the past 5 years, Novelis has invested more than \$400 million in Oswego and hired more than 430 new employees, with around 250 additional jobs planned by the year 2020.

The recycling investment includes a new 81,000 sq.ft. building capable of processing, sorting and storing automotive scrap aluminum.

Additional investments were made in infrastructure improvements such as road and parking upgrades to handle increased truck traffic.

National waste, recycling industry saw nine monthly employment gains in 2014

Employment increased by 8,700 in the waste and recycling industry during 2014, bringing total sector employment to a new high of 383,300, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The industry added 800 jobs in December, making it the 9th month in 2014 in which employment increased from the previous month. Since a 5-year industry low in employment in January 2010, nearly 34,000 jobs – or nearly 10 percent – have been created in the waste and recycling sector.

"Industry employment tends to weather adverse economic conditions and flourishes during good times. Only once in the past 25 years has industry employment decreased on an annually adjusted basis: during the last recession in 2009. Population growth gives the industry stability, while general economic progress and consumer spending trends helps the industry grow," said Bret Biggers, the National Waste &

Recycling Association's director of statistics and standards.

Nationally, 252,000 employees were added to the nonfarm payroll employment in December, while the U.S. unemployment rate declined to 5.6 percent, down from 6.6 percent at the start of the year. The unemployment rate for the waste and recycling industry also decreased to 3.4 percent in December, down significantly from 8.5 percent at the beginning of 2014.

The waste management and remediation services category (NAICS 562) includes: solid waste collection; hazardous waste collection; other waste collection; hazardous waste treatment and disposal; solid waste landfill; solid waste combustors and incinerators; other non-hazardous waste treatment and disposal; remediation services; materials recovery facilities; and all other waste management services.

DuPont partners on fiber recycling

Establishes the first post-consumer program for Sorona fiber

DuPont Industrial Biosciences and EcoStrateSFS, Inc. signed an agreement establishing the first post-consumer recycling program for commercial and residential carpet made with DuPont Sorona® renewably sourced fiber.

The two companies will work together to develop and commercialize

products using recovered post-consumer carpet made with DuPont Sorona fiber. EcoStrate, currently a manufacturer of signage, promotional items and mud flaps, also is exploring other applications including ballistics testing, flooring, shipping crates, pallets and building materials.

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Football fans divert recyclables from landfill

This football season, college and university students and alumni taking part in the GameDay Recycling Challenge recycled or reused 1,098 tons of bottles, cans, paper, cardboard, food scraps and other recyclables.

The GameDay Recycling Challenge, a competition encouraging sustainability in collegiate athletics, promotes waste reduction and recycling practices in football stadiums and tailgating areas.

This season, 91 schools engaged their fans to accept the challenge. Campuses representing over 30 athletic conferences, including the ACC, PAC 12 and SEC,

competed within their conference in 5 categories. These included Waste Minimization and Greenhouse Gas Reduction.

Schools that tracked waste and recycling weights from tailgating areas in addition to their stadiums competed nationally to see who recycled the most and who achieved the highest diversion rate.

The national winners of the 2014 GameDay Recycling Challenge are:

- Diversion rate – Humboldt State University, 86.05 percent.

- Total recycling – Clemson University, 30.36 tons.

The complete list of winners is available on the GameDay Recycling Challenge website. Winners will be recognized at the 2015 Collegiate Sports Sustainability Summit at Purdue University in June.

The 2014 GameDay Recycling Challenge was produced through a partnership of the College and University Recycling Coalition (CURC), the Environmental Protection Agency's WasteWise Program, Keep America Beautiful and RecycleMania, Inc.

Schools committed to zero waste within their stadiums are recognized on the Zero Waste Wall of Fame.

Oil prices

■Continued from Page 1

get by disinflation is that prices come down and it discourages people from going out and buying commodities because they think they are going to be worth less in the future. And, prices are coming down on most everything in our economy.

Stein pointed out that base metals are traded in U.S. dollars and the dollar continues to strengthen. That's why U.S. metal exports are down lately. U.S. prices in terms of foreign currency are exceedingly high. For a scrap trading partner of the U.S. to buy American scrap, their currency is devalued and worth less than four or five months ago. Conversely, the value of North American commodities, as expressed in foreign currency, goes up tremendously. India is a good example. The Rupee kept going down and U.S. scrap metal became more and more expensive. For the most part, Indian scrap was being processed into Indian domestic goods and they had no chance to sell products at the value they paid for the scrap in U.S. dollars.

"As a buyer and seller of scrap metal with 54 processing facilities in the U.S., you would think it would be great that if the price of petroleum goes down, our costs go down," Stein continued. "We have fleets of trucks and processing equipment that run on gas and diesel, but the truth of the matter when prices go down it's an inherent disincentive for people to sell scrap and get it into the recycling sector.

People tend to hoard material waiting for higher markets. We've always been bailed out by the markets. The scrap metal industry usually thrives in inflation and gets hurt in deflation," says Stein.

Jim Woods, senior director of sustainability communications at the American Iron and Steel Institute commented on the situation. "The softening of the oil exploration market, combined with the continued high levels of dumped and subsidized pipe and tube imports, has impacted steel's energy market. While lower oil prices may result in lower energy costs for steel production, they also result in less investment in energy infrastructure and exploration for oil – which are steel-intensive processes. Demand for scrap follows demand for steel. When demand for steel is high, demand for scrap and other raw materials are similarly high. To the extent falling oil prices can impact demand for steel, such as with curtailed oil exploration, demand for scrap could also be impacted."

Newell Recycling Southeast is the largest metal recycler in Georgia and operates 22 facilities in Georgia and Alabama. The company operates three mega shredders and two high capacity shredders.

Frank Goulding, vice president of ferrous marketing at Newell, reported on how lower oil prices are affecting Newell. "Generally speaking, our business is suffering because with lower oil prices comes lower commodity prices. This is making it difficult to buy scrap, make margin and make our sales goals right now. It's a challenge. You have to pay competitive prices to acquire scrap.

"Directly, it's certainly helping with lower transportation costs with our own fleet of about 35 trucks," said Goulding. "We haven't seen any effect from the railroads; their rates have remained the same, fuel surcharges are still in place as they are on a 60 day rolling average for calculating their surcharges. I suspect they will drop off as will the fuel surcharges from common carriers.

"There's a lot of pressure on our domestic steel makers to drop their prices...so we've seen huge price drops. Currently, a very small amount of our ferrous scrap is exported because the prices are too low. With the dollar trading at record highs against the Euro, Turkish Lira, and Indian Rupee, it has made the U.S. a very expensive place for foreign steel producers to buy scrap. Regardless of the cost of energy, when you have an oversupply of domestic scrap, coupled with a slowdown in domestic steel production, you are going to see scrap prices fall. The composite

scrap index is down almost \$100 since last January. Of course, the base metals also followed... copper, aluminum, zinc and lead have also gone down."

Goulding pointed out that most scrap processors are in a market squeeze these days because it's hard to buy raw materials with a sufficient margin to operate. Also, raw material is not as available because a lot of the smaller dealers are sitting on scrap metal, or attending to other activities because they can't make money hauling scrap right now.

"We are also seeing a slowdown by the steel mills," Goulding continued. "But it's not due to a shortage of supply. Mills are getting all the scrap they need, as they've reduced their buy because they are not producing as much steel. I expect mill operating costs should go down, too. For example, they use gas in their reheat furnaces and when heat treating.

"I think it's going to be bad for the next six months before things start up-ticking. I don't see the dollar weakening any time soon. With an unstable world economy, the U.S. is still a safe haven to put your money," Goulding concluded.

Certainly there are winners and losers in this oil price development, but from a global perspective the U.S. is in a far better position than several oil exporting countries whose economies and political systems may be in jeopardy.

Events Calendar

March 8th-12th

28th Annual Southeast Recycling Conference & Tradeshow. Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa, Destin, Florida. 800-441-7949 • www.southeastrecycling.com

March 16th-18th

Platts Scrap Seminar and Steel Markets North American Conference. The Ritz Carlton, Chicago, Illinois. 781-430-2100 • www.platts.com

March 23rd-27th

NPE 2015 International Plastics Exposition. Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, Florida. 202-974-5235 • www.npe.org

March 29th-31st

C&D World. New Music Center, Nashville, Tennessee. 630-585-7530 • www.cdrecycling.org

April 7th-8th

NERC Spring Workshop. Chase Center, Wilmington, Delaware. 802-254-3636 • www.nerc.org

April 20th-22nd

Aluminum Association Spring Meeting. The Ritz-Carlton Laguna Niguel, Dana Point, California. 703-358-2960 • www.aluminum.org

American Recycler

NewsVoice of Salvage, Waste and Recycling

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American Recycler is published 12 times per year, postage paid at Columbia, Missouri.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Call our offices at 877-777-0043 or visit www.AmericanRecycler.com. US 1 year \$48; 2 years \$72.

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CalRecycle to boost carpet recycling

In a move expected to bolster carpet recycling in California, the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) has agreed to changes to the state's carpet stewardship plan to boost funding for recycling efforts.

Carpet America Recovery Effort, or CARE, administers California's carpet stewardship program, which was established following enactment of legislation in 2010. The goal of the stewardship program is to divert carpet from landfills and recycle it into products such as new carpet, carpet cushion, plastic automotive parts, and building materials.

CARE's stewardship plan includes recycling rate goals of 16 percent by 2016 and 24 percent by 2020. To date, however, the rate has not exceeded 13 percent, and CalRecycle deemed CARE to be out of compliance with its stewardship plan, which requires demonstration of continuous and meaningful improvements.

While CalRecycle has the option to take compliance and enforcement actions to ensure the plan is being implemented in good faith, the department is allowing CARE to make amendments and will reevaluate program performance at the next scheduled review in July 2015.

In order to spur carpet recycling, CARE issues per pound incentive payments to processors and recyclers of used carpet. These payments are funded through an assessment added to the purchase price of new carpet.

CARE's addendum to the existing plan includes increasing the incentive payments for specific carpet material. It also includes new incentive payments for material that was not covered in the program before, such as calcium carbonate, which is part of carpet backing, and for carpet tiles.

To cover these additional payments, the carpet stewardship assessment that retail customers pay on new carpet purchases will increase from \$.05 per square yard to \$.10 per square yard. As stated in the plan, the new assessment will add about \$5 to the cost of carpeting an average home.

According to CalRecycle's 2008 waste characterization study, carpet represents 3.2 percent of the waste stream going into California landfills – an estimated 1,285,473 tons per year.

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Clear Bins at Super Bowl Central make recycling easy

The Department of Homeland Security mandated that all containers be clear in the 12 block downtown Super Bowl Central area to help secure public safety. Working with the NFL, the City of Phoenix partnered with Pepsi to purchase 450 ClearStream bins. These clear bins were set up in stations of three to collect trash, compostables and recyclables. Clear bins showed fans "what goes where" so they produced less trash. This is a cost-effective recycling strategy that benefits the environment.

Clear bins also gave fans the opportunity to help spot a suspicious object in a ClearStream bin even from a distance. Fan vigilance helps free up law enforcement officials to focus on other threats.

The City of Phoenix worked with Marsden, a facility service provider, to set up and service the bins. Marsden also



ClearStream bins create a more immediate grasp of the intended contents for consumers, making contamination less likely. PHOTO COURTESY OF CLEARSTREAM RECYCLING, INC.

conducted a post sort analysis of the materials collected. The goal was to make this the greenest Super Bowl celebration in history, increasing diversion rates to over 80 percent.

EPA recognizes Dallas Stars for reducing food waste

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently recognized the Dallas Stars of the National Hockey League for the team's achievements in reducing food waste. The Stars participated in EPA's Food Recovery Challenge.

During 2013, the Stars diverted over 2.9 tons of excess food to area food banks and shelters. In addition to providing food for people in need, the donations also meant the food was not sent to a landfill to decay and produce greenhouse gas emissions.

EPA Region 6 has recognized achievements in the Food Recovery Challenge by the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Texas at Arlington and the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville.

Nationwide, wasted food contributes a significant amount to landfills – more than 36 million tons in 2011 alone. By donating excess food instead, the environment benefits while providing safe and healthy meals to some of the 50 million Americans who do not have access to enough food.

County in Virginia to construct facility to process organics

Prince William County approves new facility

The Prince William Board of County Supervisors, Virginia, authorized an agreement with Freestate Farms LLC, a local agricultural services and production company, to construct and operate a new facility to process yard waste, food scraps and wood waste at the County's Balls Ford Road composting facility, and to provide organics waste management services at that site and at the county's landfill.

When fully developed, the Freestate facility will recycle over 80,000 tons per year of organic waste into high-value compost, soil products and non-synthetic fertilizers; it will also generate base load renewable energy and environmental attributes; and it will produce sustainable and locally-grown fresh fruits and vegetables for sale back into the community.

After completion of the new facility, scheduled for July 2017, Freestate, in conjunction with its technology partners, will perform several new operations and double the throughput capacity of the current Balls Ford Road facility. New processes/operations include:

- Advanced aerobic composting of yard waste – A reversing aerated static pile composting system will process leaves, grass, and agricultural waste to produce high quality nutrient-rich compost products. Process odors will be captured and scrubbed through biofilters.
- Anaerobic digestion of food waste – A fully enclosed and airtight tank reactor will process food waste and other organic material (e.g., fats, oil and grease) into both high quality nutrient

rich fertilizer products and biogas (methane) for use in renewable energy applications.

•Combined heat and power production – Raw biogas produced during the anaerobic digestion process will fuel a combined heat and power generator set to provide heat and power to the Balls Ford Road facility, with surplus renewable energy available for off-site uses, potentially including transportation fuel.

•Greenhouse operation – Freestate will construct and operate an integrated commercial scale controlled environment agriculture greenhouse at the Balls Ford Road site to sustainably grow fresh local produce using the renewable energy, compost and fertilizer products.

The state-of-the art Freestate facility will provide several benefits to the county:

- A long-term solution to yard and food waste management.
- Foundation for developing a comprehensive county organic waste management program.
- Increased organics processing.
- Waste diversion from landfill to extend landfill life.
- Increased county recycling rate.

There will be no interruption in current services because construction of the new facility will be phased in over a two year period, which will allow sufficient space for the existing operations to continue. The term of the agreement is 20 years with the option to extend for 2 five-year periods.

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EPA issues final rules on hazardous waste

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published its final rule revising the Definition of Solid Waste (DSW) under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

The rule overturns or significantly revises several hazardous waste recycling exclusions previously contained in a 2008 EPA final rule.

The biggest revision in the rule is EPA's withdrawal of the transfer-based exclusion codified in the 2008 rule. In its place, EPA created the "verified recycler exclusion." This new provision requires that all recyclers operating under this provision have RCRA permits or obtain variances prior to reclaiming hazardous secondary materials. The rule retains the exclusion for hazardous secondary materials that are legitimately reclaimed under the control of the generator, but adds several conditions to the exclusion, including notification and recordkeeping requirements and emergency preparedness and response conditions.

EPA also modified the transfer-based exclusion by adding several conditions, including one that recyclers have financial assurance in place to manage the materials left behind when the facility closes.

An addition to the rule is the remanufacturing exclusion, which exempts certain higher-value solvents transferred from one manufacturer to another for the purpose of extending the useful life of the solvent by remanufac-

turing the spent solvent back into commercial grade solvent.

Another major change in the rule is the codification of legitimacy criteria that all recyclers of hazardous secondary materials must meet. These criteria are:

- The hazardous secondary material must provide a useful contribution to the product or recycling process.
- The recycling process must produce a valuable product or intermediate.
- The hazardous secondary material must be managed as a valuable commodity.
- The recycled product must be comparable to a legitimate product or intermediate.

The rule will become effective on July 13, 2015. Because most states are authorized by EPA to administer the RCRA hazardous waste program, however, the changes in the rule will not become effective in RCRA-authorized states until states revise their programs to adopt the changes, and after the EPA approves the states' revised programs.

EPA held a webinar on the implementation of its electronic hazardous waste manifest under the RCRA program. During the webinar, EPA staff stated that the so-called "e-manifest" will be operational no later than the spring of 2018. EPA cautioned, however, that delays in contracting work or Congressional funding could delay its completion. The e-manifest is required under the Hazardous Waste Electronic Mani-

fest Establishment Act. Under that law, the e-manifest system was to have been fully operational by October 5, 2015, but it claims that insufficient Congressional funding will delay that deadline.

EPA has clarified that using cathode ray tube (CRT) glass as a substitute in ceramic tile manufacturing may be considered legitimate recycling, while using the leaded glass as alternative daily cover in landfills is considered disposal of the material, according to letters EPA issued to Sims Recycling Solutions and Sony Electronics, Inc. on September 10, 2014. EPA would exclude recycling CRT glass in ceramic tiles from solid and hazardous waste regulations under RCRA, while disposing of these materials would require compliance with certain RCRA requirements, according to EPA. Sims Recycling Solutions sought the clarification on how CRT glass used in ceramic tile production would be treated. Sony Electronics, Inc. sought the clarification for alternate daily cover in landfills.

EPA concluded the CRT glass provides a useful contribution, produces a valuable product or intermediate, is managed as a valuable commodity, and has concentrations of lead and cadmium that meet standards set by the European Union.

EPA also concluded that using CRT glass as alternate daily cover in landfills would not constitute recycling, meaning it would be regulated under certain RCRA regulations.

City Hall rally opposes transfer station proposal



—Ben Kallos, New York City Council

Two members of the New York City Council joined workers at a rally on the steps of City Hall in protest of Intro 495, a proposal to reduce waste transfer station capacity in certain city neighborhoods.

More than 100 private sector waste and recycling industry employees joined with members of the Laborers Local Union 108 in voicing opposition to Intro 495, which the National Waste & Recycling Association decries as a hidden tax that would increase costs to businesses, cause greater traffic concerns and result in job losses in three city boroughs.

City Councilmen Ben Kallos (District 5-Manhattan) and Mark Treyger (District 47-Brooklyn) addressed the crowd, along with Tom Toscano, chair of the National Waste & Recycling Association's New York Chapter and Mike Hellstrom, Greater New York Metropolitan Area business manager. Toscano is the chief financial officer of a transfer station affected by Intro 495.

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ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

Construction starts on gas-to-energy facility in Orange County

Board chairman and Orange County 3rd district supervisor Todd Spitzer joined with area government and business officials to present details on the environmental and economic benefits to be gained from a renewable green energy plant at a county landfill.

The planned landfill gas-to-electricity plant at the Frank R. Bowerman landfill northeast of Irvine, California will power local homes and businesses, create construction and operational jobs and generate millions in royalties for the county government system.

Spitzer made his remarks during the formal groundbreaking ceremony for the \$60 million plant, a state-of-the-art facility to be built on the 725 acre landfill that is one of the largest on the West Coast. The project to be built and operated by Bowerman Power, a subsidiary of Pennsylvania-based Montauk Energy, was championed by Spitzer. It won approval from the full board of supervisors in October after a previous agreement for the facility was revised and updated.

At the event, Spitzer, Bowerman/Montauk executives and other officials listed the many benefits to be gained by the plant, which will be completed and operational by early 2016.

The plant will be a processing and power unit that captures landfill gas created by the millions of tons of waste

buried at Bowerman. The gas, a natural byproduct of solid waste decomposition, contains high amounts of methane, which is a prevalent greenhouse gas.

The gas will be converted to an estimated 160,000 megawatt-hours of electricity, which is sufficient to serve about 18,500 homes. The electricity will be sold to Anaheim Public Utility to power residences, schools and businesses in that city.

The plant's Caterpillar reciprocating engines will feature gas clean-up and emissions reduction technologies that will meet all local-state-federal air quality requirements. Thus, the project overall will have very minimal environmental impacts or detriments.

The electricity will be sold under a long-term (20 year) agreement with the City of Anaheim through its contract provider, Anaheim Public Utilities.

The average annual royalty payment to Orange County is projected at \$1.62 million, which over the 20 year agreement will total an estimated \$32 million.

An estimated \$1 million in annual costs for plant operation and maintenance services will be paid for by Montauk.

Sixty construction jobs will be generated along with the local purchase of various building materials and services. In addition, a total of seven full time employees will be hired by Bowerman for plant operations.

North America's advanced biofuel industry produced 800 million gallons in 2014

North America's advanced biofuel industry reached a production capacity of more than 800 million gallons in 2014, up from the previous year and almost double the capacity in 2011, according to a new market report unveiled by the business group Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2).

This is the highest capacity since E2 released its first advanced biofuels market report in 2011 and it's more than the 787 million gallons produced in 2013. It's roughly enough to fill an entire lane of Interstate 5 from Seattle to San Diego with nothing but large, full tanker trucks.

The report, "E2 Advanced Biofuel Market Report 2014," projects that by 2017, as many as 180 companies are expected to produce 1.7 billion gallons of advanced biofuel, doubling current capacity. The report shows how advanced biofuels are on track to meet targeted emission reductions for clean fuels standards in both California and Oregon, according to E2. It also offers the latest evidence that Washington State should quickly move forward

with a clean fuels standard of its own, something Gov. Jay Inslee indicated he was prepared to do in his recently announced carbon plan, according to E2.

E2 defines advanced biofuel as liquid fuels made from non-petroleum sources that achieve a 50 percent reduction in carbon intensity compared to a petroleum-fuel baseline. Advanced biofuel companies included in the report range from small biodiesel businesses like Beaver Biodiesel in Oregon, which produces about 1 million gallons annually, to POET, which at facilities in South Dakota and Iowa produces more than 20 million gallons of cellulosic ethanol annually using corn stover, or waste from corn crops, as a primary feedstock.

The report comes at a time when various initiatives, especially in the Pacific Northwest and in California, are in the works or are under review.

For a direct link to the full report, view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

A guy was walking on a beach and saw a lamp. He picked it up, rubbed it and out popped a genie.

The genie said, "I will grant you three wishes, but since I know you hate your mother-in-law, I have to give her twice as much as you ask for."

The guy thought about it and said, "I

wish for \$10,000,000 and 50 pounds of the worlds finest gems," said the guy.

"I shall grant your wish but I must give your mother-in-law double." Poof, it was done. "And your final wish would be?" The guy thought about it and replied, "I wish for you to beat me half to death."

Sims adds wind turbine at MRF

Sims Metal Management (Sims) and its Sims Municipal Recycling (SMR) division unveiled New York City's first commercial scale wind turbine. It was erected on the Brooklyn waterfront at the Sunset Park Material Recovery Facility (MRF) on the 30th Street Pier. After several weeks of testing, the turbine is fully operational, harnessing wind energy to help power the recycling processes at the facility.

The largest of its kind in the nation, the SMR Sunset Park MRF serves as the principal sorting and separation center for New York City's residential curbside metal, glass and plastic recyclables. A central element of PlaNYC 2030 for a "greener, greater New York," the recycling facility is part of a long-term contract between SMR and the New York City Department of Sanitation. The contract, which includes additional SMR facilities in the area, ensures sustainable and cost effective recyclables management for New York City for up to 40 years.

The permitting process for the state-of-the-art wind turbine began four years ago. The 120 ft. tower (nearly 160 ft. including the blades) was installed last fall. The pier's naturally windy location is an ideal spot for the turbine, which overlooks the MRF and its Recycling Education Center. The capital cost was approximately \$750,000, and the turbine will pay for itself in about 5 years, depending on wind and electricity costs. The

turbine, made by Vermont-based Northern Power Systems, is expected to generate up to four percent of the energy required to run the MRF, or the equivalent of powering the site's Administrative Building and Education Center.

Combined with the photovoltaic installation on the roof where trucks and barges deliver material, up to 20 percent of the MRF's energy will be generated on-site from renewable sources.

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INDUSTRY PROFILE

A Closer Look

by Donna Currie

C&D Recycling

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"I actually had no background in the waste business," Nancy Hirsch, one of the co-owners of C&D Recycling in Northbrook, Illinois said. Her background was in finance, but her brother, Larry Hirsch, and their other partner, Sam Sciarretta, thought she would be a good third partner. So they asked her if she wanted to join them.

"It was a good business opportunity," she said. "Back in 2006 and 2007, there was a lot of construction going on. All the construction debris was going to the landfill."

At that time, C&D recycling was popular on the east and west coasts, but she said it was just starting in the Midwest, and there were no local companies doing C&D recycling.

Hirsch agreed to become the third founding partner of the new business. "We saw a need for it," she said. They started from the ground up – literally. "We built the facility," she said. "There was nothing here."

The business was founded in 2007, and Hirsch said that aside from a slowdown due to the economy in 2008, it has been growing steadily. Meanwhile, the markets for the materials have improved. When they first started, there was no market for asphalt shingles. Now, the state of Illinois uses it as part of their road base material which improved the market.

About 75 percent of what comes into the facility ends up being recycled, including wood, cardboard, metal, concrete, masonry, and carpet padding. Unfortunately, there's only a market for one specific type of carpet, and it also needs to clean and dry, which isn't always the case when coming from demolition sites, so most carpeting still ends up in landfills.

"Although you'd love to have markets for everything," Hirsch said, "that isn't always the case." They have yet to find a market for drywall, for example. Hirsch said that finding new markets for materials is one of the biggest challenges in the business, but it's also rewarding when they can take one more material out of the waste stream.

When materials come into their facility, they're sent through a conveyor system for sorting, with some laborers on the line doing hand sorting. The material is then sent to facilities that do the final processing, whether it's a concrete crusher for the concrete or an energy facility for the wood.

There are about 26 employees who work at the facility, but transportation is handled by outside truckers who pick up materials at job sites and bring the material in for sorting. The C&D Recycling facility is also open to anyone who wants to drop off materials, "everything from a small guy remodeling his kitchen who rented a truck from Home Depot, to large companies," Hirsch said.

Since the local area is pretty well built out, for every piece of new construction, it's likely that something else is being torn down, which is good for business. "I think there will be a lot of growth in the Chicago area," Hirsch said.

It also helps that Cook County laws require that at least 50 percent of construction debris needs to be recycled, and "some villages have more stringent requirements." But the desire to recycle isn't all about meeting regulations. "Municipalities want to do it; individuals want to do it," Hirsch said.

While people like the idea of recycling, she said that many are surprised to know that construction and demolition materials can be recycled.

While most people understand the small bins that they recycle with at home, the hundreds of thousands of tons of material processed at C&D Recycling can be an eye-opener, particularly when they realize that the alternative is to landfill all that material.

"People love it," she said. "They love to see it." What might be hard to explain is made much more understandable when people see it for themselves, so C&D Recycling often has school groups that tour the facility.

C&D Recycling also participates in community events, like the local Earth Day celebration in April, when they supply containers for collecting cardboard and e-scrap.

While owning a business in the recycling industry hadn't been Hirsch's goal in life, she said she's proud that "we built it, we have persevered through tough economic times, we're still here and we're making a difference."

GLASS

Safelite AutoGlass recycled more than 1.3 million windshields in 2014

Safelite AutoGlass, a provider of windshield replacements, recycled more than 1.3 million windshields in 2014, saving more than 23,000 tons of waste from the landfill.

Windshields are not commonly recycled because they are made from laminated glass, which is created using two sheets of glass with a clear resin interlay called Polyvinyl Butyral (PVB) between. It is the resin interlay that keeps the glass together when damaged, but it is also difficult to separate the glass and inner plastic layers and re-purpose the PVB. However, in 2012, Safelite AutoGlass implemented its windshield recycling program thanks to a partnership with Shark Glass Recycling North America.

With Shark's patented technology, the laminated glass from Safelite's cus-

tomers is processed through the crusher, which separates the glass from PVB. Approximately 90 percent becomes glass cullet, which can then be recycled into a number of new products including fiberglass insulation. Approximately seven percent becomes PVB scrap, which is reprocessed into pellets and recycled into a number of new plastic products.

The logistics of collecting the damaged windshields and shipping to the recycling plant were designed to be carbon neutral, using existing freight lanes within the supply chain returning to Safelite's east coast distribution center. For this reason, Safelite currently has 70 percent of its locations returning damaged windshields and hopes to reach 100 percent in the near future.

Ardagh Group manufacturing facility achieves certification

Ardagh Group, Glass – North America, a division of Ardagh Group and a producer of glass containers for the food and beverage industries in the U.S., said that its Burlington, Wisconsin, plant achieved ISO 14001:2004 Certification.

ISO 14001 is the recognized standard for the environmental management of businesses, providing the framework to help organizations minimize their impact on the environment, comply with applicable laws and regulations, and work toward continual environmental improvement.

"The ISO 14001:2004 Certification is a well-deserved accomplishment for our Burlington plant and is validation of Ardagh Group's commitment to improving the environment," said John Riordan, president and chief executive officer of Ardagh Group, Glass – North America.

With this recent accomplishment, there are now a total of 11 Ardagh Group glass manufacturing facilities in North America, as well as its Marion Glass Equipment & Technology Company facility in Indiana, that are ISO 14001 certified.

Ardagh Group spent nearly one year preparing its Burlington facility for the stringent third-party ISO audit. The continuous improvement initiative included employee training, operational process refinement and implementation of ISO-recognized procedural documentation.

Employing approximately 335 people, Ardagh Group's manufacturing facility in Burlington was built in 1965 and specializes in the manufacture of glass containers for the beer, beverage, food and spirits markets.

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INTERNATIONAL

New process will treat CFCs



In recycling of refrigerators, the main goal is to generate clean fractions of aluminum, copper, iron, and plastics so that these can be sold on the secondary raw materials market. One of the biggest challenges is to filter out the harmful CFCs, which adhere mainly to the polyurethane foam insulation.

Environmentally responsible recycling of refrigerators can only be guaranteed with the appropriate technology for CFC treatment. Andritz MeWa has been supplying refrigerator recycling plants according to the latest European environmental standards for many years. The CFCs are collected; removed by suction; and liquefied in a fully enclosed system. Finally, this material is filled into containers and brought to specialized disposal companies.

Now Andritz MeWa refrigerator recycling plants can be equipped with a new process for CFC treatment. The Diabon[®] porous reactor destroys the harmful, chlorine and fluorine containing components in the exhaust gas at the customer's site. This solution was developed by SGL

Group, an international manufacturer of carbon-based products. The chemical compounds undergo thermal cracking at temperatures in the region of 1200°C and are rendered harmless.

The products of the reaction can either be neutralized or converted into dilute acid depending on the customer's requirements. The big advantage of Diabon porous reactor from the SGL Group is the even temperature distribution in the reactor chamber and the fact that it is made of specialty graphite that is absolutely resistant against corrosion. As a result, the plant can be started up or shut down at any time within a few minutes.

As the CFCs are destroyed on the spot, the customer does not incur any costs for organization, forwarding and transporting the tanks with the harmful gases containing chlorine and fluorine. The economic efficiency of the recycling plant can be increased by installing the Diabon porous reactor.

Voluntary CO2 certificates can be traded after a comprehensive certification process by a suitable institution.

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The PET recycling facility has a capacity of 7,200,000 lbs. input per month. The sorting line consists of positive TiTech optical sorters and Bollegraaf conveyors. Grinding systems have Herbold granulators. The plant has clear and colored caustic wash lines with dry and wet cleaning stations.

The caustic/PET flake application line produces 3,500,000 lbs. per month of clear FDA approved flake for bottle to bottle material.



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METALS

Gershow Recycling donates scrap to Townsend Harris High robotics team



Pictured (left to right): Jonathan Abrams, manager, Gershow Recycling, and Joel Heitman, head coach, Townsend Harris High School FIRST Robotics Team.

For the sixth year in a row, Gershow Recycling opened its Medford facility to local high school robotics teams participating in School-Business Partnerships of Long Island's (SBPLI) upcoming Long Island Regional FIRST® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition to receive free aluminum scrap. Townsend Harris High School located in Flushing, Queens was one of 15 high school robotics teams that participated in the program.

Members of the Townsend Harris High School's robotics team will use 162 lbs. of aluminum scrap and their kit

of parts to help them build a robot. They will have six weeks to construct the robot and prepare for the upcoming competition. The Townsend Harris High School robotics team thanked Gershow for its support. This year, Gershow donated 1,435 lbs. of aluminum scrap.

In keeping with the theme of recycling, this year's FRC challenge will be RECYCLE RUSH™, in which robots score points by stacking totes on scoring platforms, capping those stacks with recycling containers and properly disposing of pool noodles, representing litter.

AWMI recognizes Chizmar as Member of the Year

The Association of Women in the Metal Industries (AWMI) formally recognized Carol Chizmar of Sapa Extrusions as its Member of the Year.

The Member of the Year award is the highest honor awarded by AWMI. Members are nominated and selected by their peers for exemplifying the association's goals of education, mentoring, networking and growth.

Chizmar graduated from Penn State University in 1988 with an Associate of Science, Business Administration degree with highest distinction. She began her career in the metals industry with Cressona Aluminum Company of Cressona, Pennsylvania in 1979. The company was later purchased by Alumax Inc. in 1996, Alcoa in 1998 and eventually became Sapa Extrusions North America following a joint venture between Alcoa and Sapa in 2007. She has held various positions including sales service representative, customer service manager, genesis manager and director of customer service. Chizmar is currently the fabrication new business coordinator working with Sapa's North American locations and also works on other various projects supporting the commercial organization and the customer service team.

Chizmar joined the new York Chapter of AWMI in 1984 and later transferred to the Philadelphia Chapter after it was opened in 1988. She joined the Philadelphia chapter board of directors in the mid-

1990s, serving as the programs chair and later moved to vice president and eventually served as president of the chapter for a



—Carol Chizmar

number of years. Following her term as president, she joined the Northeast regional board as vice chair and advanced to regional director of the Northeast region in 2007. In 2011, she was elected to the executive committee as international membership chair, the position she holds today. She will move into the role of international vice president in 2015–2016.

During her tenure as international membership chair, she has implemented a number of new initiatives, including the creation and issuance of AWMI membership cards and the establishment of the Chapter of the Year Membership Cup, awarded to the chapter that not only met its membership goal but also exceeded it by the greatest percentage. This award has helped create new excitement and activity among the chapters. Chizmar also formed a membership committee in 2013 in order to stay close to the issues within the chapters and regions as they work to grow the ranks of individual and corporate members of AWMI.

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METALS

Foundry sand recycling yields environmental benefits

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Ohio State University, released a risk assessment concluding that silica-based spent foundry sands from iron, steel and aluminum foundries, when used in certain soil-related applications, are protective of human health and the environment, and yield environmental benefits.

“There is potential for substantial growth in the recycling of silica-based spent foundry sands,” said Mathy Stanislaus, assistant administrator for EPA’s Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response. “Our risk assessment concludes that the evaluated reuses are environmentally appropriate. Advancing the environmentally sound, beneficial use of industrial materials, such as spent foundry sands, provides substantial opportunities for addressing climate change and air quality, enhancing state, tribal and local partnerships, reducing costs, and working toward a sustainable future.”

Based on the results of the assessment, the EPA and the USDA support the beneficial use of silica-based spent foundry sands in manufactured soils, soil-less potting media, and as a foundation layer in road construction. EPA’s risk assessment of the evaluated uses concluded that they are environmentally appropriate because the constituent concentrations in the sands are below the agency’s health and environmental benchmarks.

EPA estimates the environmental benefits from using silica-based spent

foundry sands in the specific applications studied, at the current use rate, results in the following savings in one year:

- The energy savings equivalent to the annual electricity consumption of 800 homes.

- CO2 emissions reductions equivalent to removing 840 cars from the road.

- Water savings of 7.8 million gallons.

Foundries purchase virgin sand to create metal casting molds and cores. The sand is reused numerous times within the foundry operation itself. However, over time the sands become unusable and are referred to as spent foundry sands. The spent foundry sands are then reused in a number of ways, including as an ingredient in potting soil and as a foundation layer in roadway construction.

The risk assessment results are specific to silica-based spent foundry sands from iron, steel and aluminum foundry operations. Spent foundry sands from leaded and non-leaded brass and bronze foundries, and spent foundry sands containing olivine sand, are not included in this assessment.

The EPA encourages foundries and foundry sand recyclers to consult state regulations to ensure planned uses are consistent with state beneficial use and waste management programs and that the chemical and physical properties of the sand meet applicable state environmental limits, engineering performance criteria and other state requirements.

2014 total steel imports up 38 percent from 2013

U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN (Thousands of Net Tons)					
	DEC 2014	NOV 2014	2014 Annual	2013 Annual	% Change 2014 Annual vs. 2013
SOUTH KOREA	418	467	5,448	3,718	46.5%
CHINA	217	259	3,187	1,898	67.9%
TURKEY	161	208	2,196	1,204	82.4%
JAPAN	185	153	2,106	1,898	11.0%
RUSSIA	181	35	1,418	241	489.1%
GERMANY	164	119	1,278	1,112	15.0%
TAIWAN	77	120	1,188	762	56.0%
All Others	1,539	1,575	16,911	13,997	20.8%
TOTAL	2,941	2,937	33,733	24,829	35.9%

Based on preliminary Census Bureau data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that the U.S. imported a total of 3,620,000 net tons (NT) of steel in December, including 2,941,000 NT of finished steel (down 2.0 percent and up 0.1 percent, respectively, vs. November final data). Full year 2014 total and finished steel imports are 44,320,000 and 33,733,000 NT, respectively, up 38 percent and 36 percent. Finished steel import market share was an estimated 28 percent for 2014.

Key finished steel products with a significant import increase in December compared to November are wire rods (up 36 percent), line pipe (up 18 percent), standard pipe (up 13 percent), hot rolled bars (up 11 percent) and plates in coils (up 10 percent). Major products with significant import increases in 2014 vs. the prior year include plates in coils (up 90 percent), cold rolled sheets (up 88 percent), wire

rods (up 85 percent), cut lengths plates (up 83 percent), heavy structural shapes (up 60 percent), sheets and strip hot dipped galvanized (up 60 percent), hot rolled sheets (up 46 percent), sheets and strip all other metallic coatings (up 42 percent), tin plate (up 30 percent) and mechanical tubing (up 28 percent).

In December, the largest volumes of finished steel imports from offshore were from South Korea (418,000 NT, down 11 percent vs. November final), China (217,000 NT, down 16 percent), Japan (185,000 NT, up 20 percent), Russia (181,000 NT, up 415 percent) and Germany (164,000 NT, up 38 percent). In 2014, some of the largest offshore suppliers were South Korea (5,448,000 NT, up 47 percent), China (3,187,000 NT, up 68 percent), Turkey (2,196,000 NT, up 82 percent) and Russia (1,418,000 NT, up 489 percent).



Commodity		Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5
#1 Bushelings	per gross ton	\$165.00	\$170.00	\$175.00	\$210.00	\$252.00
#1 Bundles	per gross ton	165.00	160.00	165.00	220.00	240.00
Plate and Structural	per gross ton	159.00	165.00	185.00	230.00	250.00
#1 & 2 Mixed Steel	per gross ton	160.00	165.00	185.00	230.00	235.00
Shredder Bundles (tin)	per gross ton	98.00	110.00	125.00	150.00	160.00
Crushed Auto Bodies	per gross ton	128.00	130.00	125.00	150.00	160.00
Steel Turnings	per gross ton	90.00	85.00	90.00	145.00	148.00
#1 Copper	per pound	1.90	2.10	2.22	2.26	2.40
#2 Copper	per pound	1.80	2.00	2.12	2.10	2.24
Aluminum Cans	per pound	.50	.58	.78	.70	.73
Auto Radiators	per pound	1.30	1.25	1.30	1.35	1.61
Aluminum Core Radiators	per pound	.55	.60	.70	.80	.58
Heater Cores	per pound	1.10	.98	1.05	1.30	1.35
Stainless Steel	per pound	.48	.50	.58	.57	.58

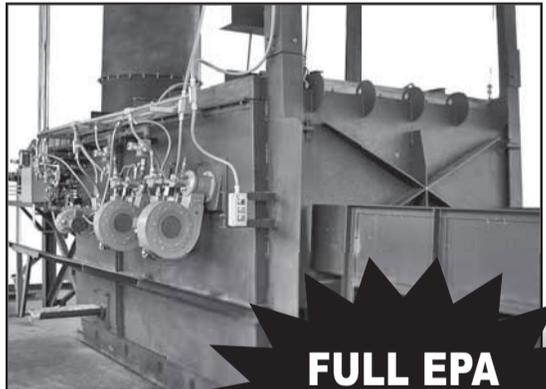
All prices are expressed in USD. Printed as a reader service only.

DISCLAIMER: American Recycler (AR) collects pricing and other information from experienced buyers, sellers and facilitators of scrap metal transactions throughout the industry. All figures are believed to be reliable and represent approximate pricing based on information obtained by AR (if applicable) prior to publication. Factors such as grades, quality, volumes and other considerations will invariably affect actual transaction prices. Figures shown may not be consistent with pricing for commodities associated with a futures market. While the objective is to provide credible information, there is always a chance for human error or unforeseen circumstances leading to error or omission. As such, AR is not responsible for the accuracy or completeness of the information provided, or for outcomes arising from use of this information. American Recycler disclaims any liability to any person or entity for loss or damage resulting from errors or omissions, including those resulting from negligence of AR, its employees, agents or other representatives.

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AUTOMOTIVE

Grand Cherokee EcoDiesel is 2015 Green SUV of the Year

Green Car Journal has named the Jeep Grand Cherokee EcoDiesel its 2015 Green SUV of the Year. The announcement was made at the Washington Auto Show in Washington, D.C.

Green SUV of the Year finalists include SUVs and crossovers that feature notable environmental achievement while also providing all the attributes expected of this versatile class of vehicle. The 2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee EcoDiesel was selected as a winner from five finalists by a jury made up of automotive experts and Green Car Journal staff members.

Producing 240 hp and a massive 420 lb./ft. of torque, Jeep Grand Cherokee's 24 valve dual-overhead cam 3.0-

liter EcoDiesel V-6 delivers clean-diesel technology with low CO2 emissions. The 2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee EcoDiesel delivers a best-in-class 30 miles per gallon courtesy of its 3.0 liter EcoDiesel V-6 engine and standard 8-speed transmission, with a driving range of more than 730 miles and towing capability of 7,400 pounds.

All of Jeep Grand Cherokee's engines (3.0-liter EcoDiesel V-6, Pentastar 3.6-liter V-6, and 5.7-liter V-8) are mated to FCA US LLC's 8-speed automatic transmission. In addition to enhancing fuel economy, the eight-speed transmission delivers quick acceleration and precise, smooth shifting, enhancing ride quality to luxury car levels.

SALVAGING Millions

by Ron Sturgeon
Autosalvageconsultant.com

Tools for success – an ongoing series

Be technologically savvy

The first article in this series listed several tactics that will make you more successful. The rest of the series will take a closer look at each of them.

In 1992, before smart phones existed, I carried a pocket Rolodex everywhere I went. I did it because I understood the value of networking and I put everyone's information in my rolodex. I never entered a person's information without including their full address and phone. We didn't have e-mail then.

Most of my friends made fun of me for being the nerd with the Rolodex. However, they all also relied on me for phone numbers. In 1999, when I did a private stock offering, I had over 3,000 contacts that I had gathered and put in my pocket Rolodex because I had networked or done business with them.

Using just that list, I was able to sell out my private stock offering in 21 days. In fact, I actually attracted more investors than I had stock to sell.

I'm sharing this story to remind you to network but that's not the only reason. I'm also sharing it to remind you to keep your tech skills up-to-date.

Can you build a simple spreadsheet? Use PowerPoint? Upload to SlideShare? Draft a letter in Word or edit a document using track changes? Convert a doc to a PDF? Manage your e-mail and docs so you work smart? As a leader, you should know all of these basic tech skills.

Stay current. Get ahead of the curve. Go to seminars. Learn about Search Engine Optimization (SEO). Understand how to use private groups on Facebook to sell more to current customers. You don't have to be a web genius to try new tools.

Abe Lincoln once said, "Give me six hours to chop down a tree, and I will spend the first four sharpening my axe." He knew how important tools are to doing the job right. Investing time to upgrade your skills is sharpening your axe. Work at mastering new tools and new skills.

If you drive a forklift or work with your hands, this week's article is for you, too. If you want to do better for yourself and make more money, you need to learn skills that will make you more valuable. You become promotable by looking for areas that the business needs help and learning the skills needed to give it.

Volunteer to learn new skills, whether it is learning to control inventory, make presentations, work on a budget, understand metrics, or review contracts. Add any of these marketable skills, and it won't be long until your paycheck reflects your higher value.

The pocket Rolodex is long gone. Today, I use an iPhone. I network on Facebook and LinkedIn. I study online marketing. I am nearly 60, but I'm still eager to find new tools to make me a better business person.

Remember, only you can make BUSINESS GREAT!

This article was provided by autosalvageconsultant.com, which was formed in 2001 by recyclers for recyclers, to help them improve their businesses.

CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION

LEED v4 specification services for manufacturers launched

GreenCE, Inc. has launched the industry's first comprehensive LEED v4 specification program for building product manufacturers. Recently, the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) released its new LEED v4 rating systems, the most widely used green building programs in the world. The certification program utilizes Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs), and Health Product Declarations (HPDs) to design more efficient buildings.

The HPD plays a significant role in the new LEED v4 green building rating system. The HPD provides information about a product's contents and related health issues and is having a critical effect on product specification. GreenCE is helping building product manufacturers meet these new specification requirements by

utilizing a multi-disciplinary team of biologists, architects, and LEED experts.

The launch of LEED v4 is also necessitating that building product manufacturers update their product documentation to reflect the significant changes in LEED v4. There are several new LEED credits that have been added to the new LEED certification rating system that will affect product specification. Design teams require the most up-to-date information and antiquated LEED documentation can definitely be detrimental to building product manufacturers.

One of the most serious challenges for building product manufacturers in 2015 will be educating their sales force and marketing team. The new LEED education program features video modules, animation and case studies.

Keating named Man of the Year

John J. Keating, president and chief operating officer, East, for Oldcastle Materials, was honored as the National Asphalt Pavement Association's Man of the Year during a ceremony at the association's 60th Annual Meeting in Marco Island, Florida.

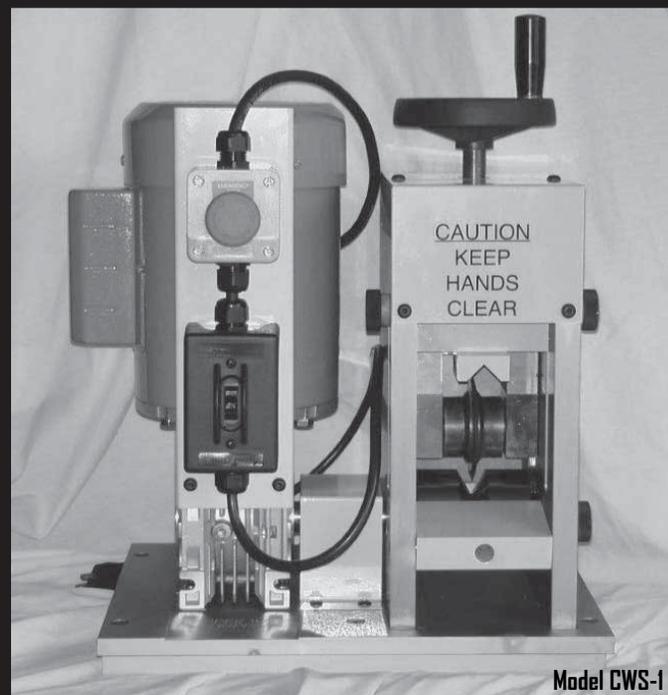
Last presented in 2009, the Man of the Year honor recognizes outstanding contributions by industry leaders for the betterment of the entire asphalt industry. Keating was honored for his leadership in developing the asphalt industry's marketing and communications platform and

strengthening and unifying the partnership between the Asphalt Institute, the State Asphalt Pavement Associations, and NAPA.

Keating currently heads the industry's Marketing Council, which brings together leadership from AI, NAPA, and the SAPAs to oversee research, marketing and deployment activities for the asphalt pavement industry. These activities are grounded in pavement science and engineering and are backed by extensive market research into the needs of road owners and drivers.

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CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION

Salvage operators given prison time for asbestos handling

U.S. District Judge Ronnie Greer sentenced five people to prison terms in federal court in Greeneville, Tennessee, for conspiring to commit Clean Air Act offenses in connection with the illegal removal and disposal of asbestos-containing materials at the former Liberty Fibers Plant in Hamblen County, Tennessee. A&E Salvage had purchased the plant out of bankruptcy in order to salvage metals which remained in the plant after it ceased operations.

U.S. District Judge Greer sentenced Mark Sawyer of Morristown, Tennessee, a former manager of A&E Salvage, to the statutory maximum of five years in prison, to be followed by two years of supervised release. A&E Salvage manager Newell Lynn Smith of Miami, Florida, was sentenced to 37 months and 2 years of supervised release. A&E Salvage manager Eric Gruenberg of Lebanon, Tennessee, received a 28 month sentence. Armida and Milto DiSanti of Miami, Florida, each received sentences of six months in prison, to be followed by six months of home confinement. The judge ordered all the defendants to pay restitution of more than \$10.3 million, which will be returned to Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Superfund, which was used to clean up the plant site contamination.

The sentencing took place over three days and included expert testimony that the exposures of the A&E Salvage workers to asbestos resulted in a substantial likelihood that the workers would suffer death or serious bodily injury as a result of their

exposure constituted a risk of death or serious bodily injury.

"These co-conspirators took unacceptable and illegal risks with workers lives and the community's health," said Assistant Attorney General John C. Cruden of the Justice Department's Environment and Natural Resources Division. "These significant sentences should send a message that illegal asbestos removal can have serious consequences, including a prison term for those responsible."

According to court documents, all the defendants pleaded guilty to one criminal felony count for conspiring to violate the Clean Air Act's work practice standards salient to the proper stripping, bagging, removal and disposal of asbestos. According to the charges, the conspirators, engaged in a multi-year scheme in which substantial amounts of regulated asbestos containing materials were removed the former Liberty Fibers plant without removing all asbestos prior to demolition and stripping, bagging, removing and disposing of such asbestos in illegal manners and without providing workers the necessary protective equipment. Asbestos has been determined to cause lung cancer, asbestosis and mesothelioma, an invariably fatal disease. The EPA has determined that there is no safe level of exposure to asbestos.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the EPA and individuals from the Tennessee Department of Environmental Conservation.

Freeman Chicago facility construction methods noted

The Freeman Company disclosed that the U.S. Green Building Council has awarded LEED® Silver Certification in the building design and construction rating system for new construction to the Freeman Chicago Facility. Freeman is the first general contractor in the event industry to achieve this status for new construction using sustainable design and construction methods.

In order to achieve LEED Silver, a building must go above and beyond. Freeman has been recognized for its innovation by using 20 percent less mercury in their lamps, having 33.99 percent of the building's material content manufactured using recycled materials, and ensuring 95 percent of the building's wood is Forest Stewardship Council certified. Additionally, the project aimed to utilize its' local resources. Freeman's building documented that 41.54 percent of its building materials originate from within a 500 mile radius of the project site.

With state-of-the-art heating and air conditioning units and fans, all working in unison with the mechanical aspects of a warehouse and office environment, thinking green has driven the facility to reduce energy use overall. Through awareness and system sensors as well as the insulation properties of the facility as a part of the planned build, the Freeman Chicago facility allows for efficient use of energy. This is in effect in every aspect of the operation from motion-activated lighting throughout the facility conserving electric-

ity; natural gas heating; reduced fixture water use; to dust collection and filtering and reduced waste generated by those systems.

LEED certification of the building was based on a number of green design and construction features designed to save money and resources and have a positive impact on the health of the occupants and the surrounding community. In order to become a LEED certified building, the building's impact is measured using a criterion that includes: sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy & atmosphere, materials & resources, indoor environment quality, innovation, and regional priority credits.

The LEED certification requires buildings, and it's designers to become smarter and more innovative. In fact, LEED projects are responsible for diverting over 80 million tons of waste from landfills. In order to become a LEED Certified Building; the following minimum requirements must be met:

- Develop an erosion and sedimentation control plan.
- Consume 20 percent less water than the average building.
- Participate in a commissioning plan that projects the energy cost savings will be 29 percent.
- Do not use chlorofluorocarbon (CFCs) in the HVAC system.
- Create a thorough recycling program.

19,500 lbs./120 CA, exhaust brake, power windows/locks, power/heated mirrors, tilt/cruise, 40/20/40 split bench seat, keyless entry, touch-screen AM/FM/CD player w/steering wheel audio controls, 4-position OEM switch panel, 22 gal. mid-ship fuel tank, tubular cab steps, fog lamps, tow hooks, 4.88 limited slip rear axle, aluminum wheels, galvanized sub-frame, keyslot package, upper and lower work lights--call for details!

Hydraulic brake/spring ride, SLT - loaded GVWR - new - call for exact, tires new on 19.5" aluminum, Vulcan body/19.5" steel/steel tube Removable Rails Wheel lift/L-arms: 3,000 lbs./Vulcan scoops, PTO: hot shift, federal signal Legend LPX 14-head LED with S/T/T, work lights, pylon: standard steel, tool box: 48" all stainless steel w/galvanized mounting brackets, accessories: galvanized sub-frame.



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Exhaust brake, power windows/locks, power/heated mirrors, tilt/telescoping wheel, cruise control, CD player, air ride drivers seat, cold weather package includes block heater and air dryer, chrome package - includes chrome bumper, grille & mirrors, 50 gal. aluminum fuel tank, stainless steel simulators, key slot package, upper/lower LED work lights, chain package, call for details!



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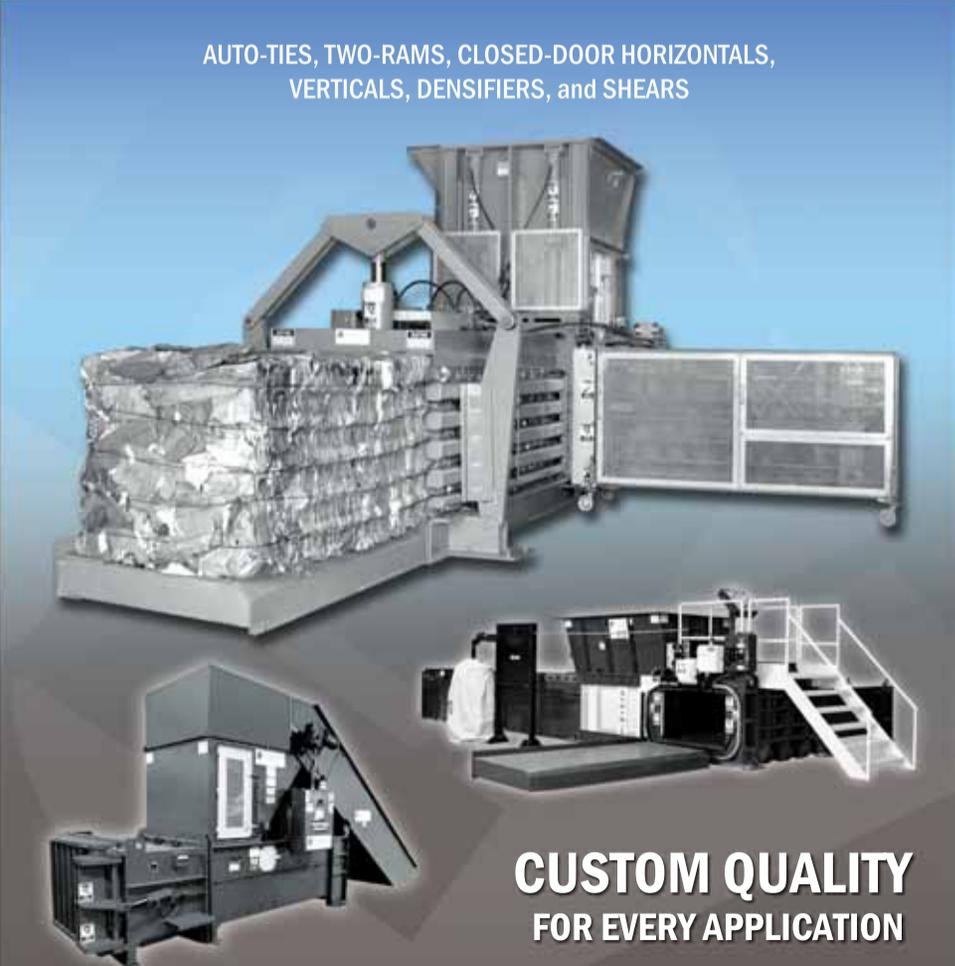
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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Advanced Disposal completes acquisitions

■ Advanced Disposal, an integrated environmental services company, has completed the acquisition of certain assets of Hornback Recycling & Disposal Inc. based in Ann Arbor, Michigan and certain assets of Pea Ridge Waste Management, LLC based in Henderson, Kentucky.

The Hornback acquisition includes residential and commercial customers throughout Washtenaw, Wayne, Livingston and Oakland Counties in Michigan. Eighteen Hornback employees including office staff and drivers will join the Advanced Disposal team.

The Pea Ridge acquisition includes residential and commercial customers throughout Henderson, Union and Webster Counties in Kentucky. Seven Pea Ridge employees including office staff, drivers and mechanics will join the Advanced Disposal team.

Former Pea Ridge customers will be serviced by Advanced Disposal's Evansville, Indiana hauling location.

Bigbelly to expand reach worldwide in 2015

■ Bigbelly, Inc., a provider of waste management solutions, disclosed accelerated worldwide growth in 2014, including an expanded customer base to 47 countries, and development of advanced technologies that support customers' Smart City and the Internet of Things initiatives.

The company also expanded its management team with seasoned industry executives who hail from leading industrial automation, technology, mobile and media companies.

Bigbelly, solar powered, connected and smart waste and recycling stations allows for waste disposal and recycling of paper, plastic, or glass at specified stations. More than 1,500 municipalities, colleges & universities, transit systems, parks & beaches, healthcare facilities, corporate campuses, retail & mixed use, ports and government facilities worldwide have invested in Bigbelly units.

Sims appoints Pospisil as president of NA Metals

■ Tobin Pospisil has joined Sims Metal Management as president of Sims Metal Management North American Metals – Central Region, covering the Midwestern, Southern and Southwestern U.S.

The move now completes the restructuring of the company's North American metals business into three separate regions reporting to group chief executive officer Galdino Claro. Pospisil joins Joe Payesko, president of the East Region and Steve Shinn, president of the West Region as part of the North America Metals leadership team.

Prior to joining Sims, Pospisil served as president of Gallatin Steel Company, a flat products mini-mill joint venture between ArcelorMittal and Gerdau. He joined Gallatin as general manager in October 2003 and was named president in March 2009. Prior to this, Pospisil progressed through various management roles with GS Industries, a global specialty steel manufacturer, from November 1990 through October 2003.

RRS appoints new affiliate vice president

■ Sustainability and recycling consultancy, RRS, disclosed that Michael Timpane has joined the firm as affiliate vice president, effectively immediately.

Timpane came to RRS from Waste Management, Inc. where he served as director of municipal recycling and diversion, providing technical recycling and diversion procurement, business development for greenfield expansion and plant infrastructure projects, as well as long term field strategy and implementation for single stream, construction and demolition and landfill diversion projects.

In his role at RRS, Timpane will bring his wide range of hands-on involvement with waste and recycling industry members, as well as his understanding of municipal programs, corporate recycling and landfill diversion to further develop market growth and to support client projects.

Timpane will operate out of the Jacksonville, Florida area.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Harris Waste develops new recycling systems division

■ Mark Haire has been named vice president of Integrated Recycling Systems for Harris Waste Management Group, Inc. Integrated Recycling Systems' main focus will be engineered projects not only for the Harris family of products, but also for ferrous and nonferrous processing systems design and supply. This specialized group is comprised of experienced material handling and processing, controls automation, project management, and service personnel to ensure that Harris supplies the best processing system solutions in the industry.

Haire has been with Harris since 2009 and was previously engineering manager for the shredder division.

Harris is also making two new appointments to shredder products and systems. Scott Holder, formerly a regional sales manager for Harris, is now director of shredder sales. Holder is well known in the industry and is looking forward to focusing more of his efforts on shredder systems.

In the service area, Jim Summers has joined the Harris team as a shredder specialist. As former operations manager at Midwest Scrap Management in Kansas City, Missouri, Summers has vast experience in shredder systems.

Vertex acquires Heartland Group Holdings

■ Vertex Energy, Inc., an environmental services company that recycles industrial waste streams and off-specification commercial chemical products, has completed the acquisition of all the assets of Heartland Group Holdings, LLC, a used-oil collection and re-refining company with its primary operations in Columbus, Ohio. The \$16.5 million price includes \$8 million in contingent earn-out payments that Heartland may receive if certain EBITDA targets are met in the second year following the closing of the acquisition. The consideration payable by Vertex in the acquisition consisted entirely of common stock.

Additionally, Benjamin P. Cowart, the chairman and chief executive officer of the company, purchased \$1.5 million of securities directly from the company, representing an aggregate of 488,598 shares of common stock and warrants to purchase 219,868 shares of common stock with a 5 year term and a \$3.01 exercise price (representing 45 percent warrant coverage on the shares purchased), for \$3.07 per share (and associated warrant rights), a premium over the \$3.00 per share closing price of the company's common stock on December 4, 2014.

Liberty Tire partners on rubber modified asphalt

■ Lehigh Technologies and Liberty Tire Recycling have partnered to offer the asphalt industry rubber modified asphalt (RMA). Under the terms of the agreement, Liberty Tire Recycling will provide sales, service and support for Rheopave RMA systems in selected regions in North America.

Rheopave additive technology is a patented blend of polymers and other components developed specifically to enhance the performance of rubber powders in RMA systems.

Liebherr Construction signs new dealer in Alaska

■ Liebherr Construction Equipment has added Delta Industrial Services as a new dealer.

Delta Industrial Services, Inc. was founded in 1997 by long time Alaskans that bring together 95 years of arctic experience to Liebherr contractors and customers involved in large scale earthworks, oil fields, mining, road construction and equipment logistics.

Delta Industrial Services, Inc. headquarters sits near the Delta River at the intersection of the Richardson Highway and the Alaska Highway in the city of Delta Junction. Its team consists of a group of 45 professionals. The company owns 53 acres of property and 50,000 sq.ft. of shop, warehouse and office space among the 3 dealership locations in Fairbanks and Delta Junction.

Liebherr's regional business manager, Doug Fletcher, will work closely with all three Delta's locations to help them successfully introduce the Liebherr line to their extensive customer base.

Scott McCandless named Dealer of the Year

■ Scott McCandless, president of Aurora, Colorado based McCandless Truck Center, LLC, was named the 2015 Truck Dealer of the Year. The national award focuses on excellence in dealership performance, as well as industry and community leadership.

McCandless started his career at his father's International Truck dealership in Las Vegas in 1972. By holding positions in almost every department of the dealership, McCandless had the opportunity to learn the business from the ground up.

As a member of the International Truck Product Advisory Board, McCandless played a role in the development and launch of the International ProStar®, and he previously served as the chairman of the International Truck Executive Dealer Council.

In the community, McCandless has served as president of the Fremont County Rotary Club and a member of the Denver Chamber of Commerce.

McCandless has been recognized with numerous corporate and industry awards, including the International Truck Circle of Excellence, Warranty Efficiency Award, Service Dwell Time Award, and Diamond Club Parts Sales Achievement Award.

UniCarriers makes management changes

■ UniCarriers Americas Corporation, a manufacturer of material handling equipment, made several management changes at its first factory-owned dealership, New England Industrial Truck, Inc. (NEIT), headquartered in Woburn, Massachusetts. Effective January 2015, Tim Haraden will be appointed to general manager.

Haraden has been general branch manager at NEIT's Woburn branch since October 2014. He supervised day-to-day branch operations, business activities and developed strategic positioning for the dealership's used and rental businesses. Haraden brings more than 25 years of experience, holding general manager positions at Cummins Northeast, Blue Rhino and Kinetic Concepts. He also served as a U.S. Naval officer and is a graduate of The Citadel, Charleston, South Carolina.

Bill Leavitt, sales manager at NEIT, Finley Gregory, NEIT Connecticut branch manager, and George Taylor, NEIT Maine branch manager, will report directly to Haraden in his new role.

Haraden will report to James J. Radous III, executive vice president, sales, UniCarriers Americas, who presides over UniCarriers Americas' retail operations.

Dick Rossi, who has been at NEIT since 1972 and has held various positions including president, and more recently general manager, will transition into a newly created role of sales consultant.

Every morning, I jog around the block 15 times. Then I pick up the block and put it back in the toy chest.

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As of April 1, 2012, retailers and wholesalers will only be able to sell from manufacturers who are in compliance with AB 2398.

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HITACHI INTRODUCES TWO NEW WHEELED EXCAVATORS

The next generation of wheeled excavator models from Hitachi Construction Machinery – Americas, the ZX190W-5 and ZX230W-5, are rolling out with a certified EPA Interim Tier 4 (IT4)/EU Stage IIIB Isuzu engine, power mode buttons for three work modes, automatic exhaust filter cleaning, auto shutdown, an enhanced monitor, centralized remote oil/fuel filter location and more.

Mobile and maneuverable, Hitachi's wheeled excavators sit on a short wheelbase that makes it easy to move in tight spaces – unlike unwieldy truck-mounted excavators.

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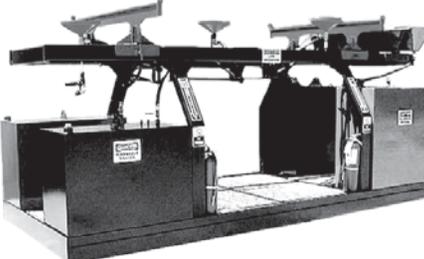
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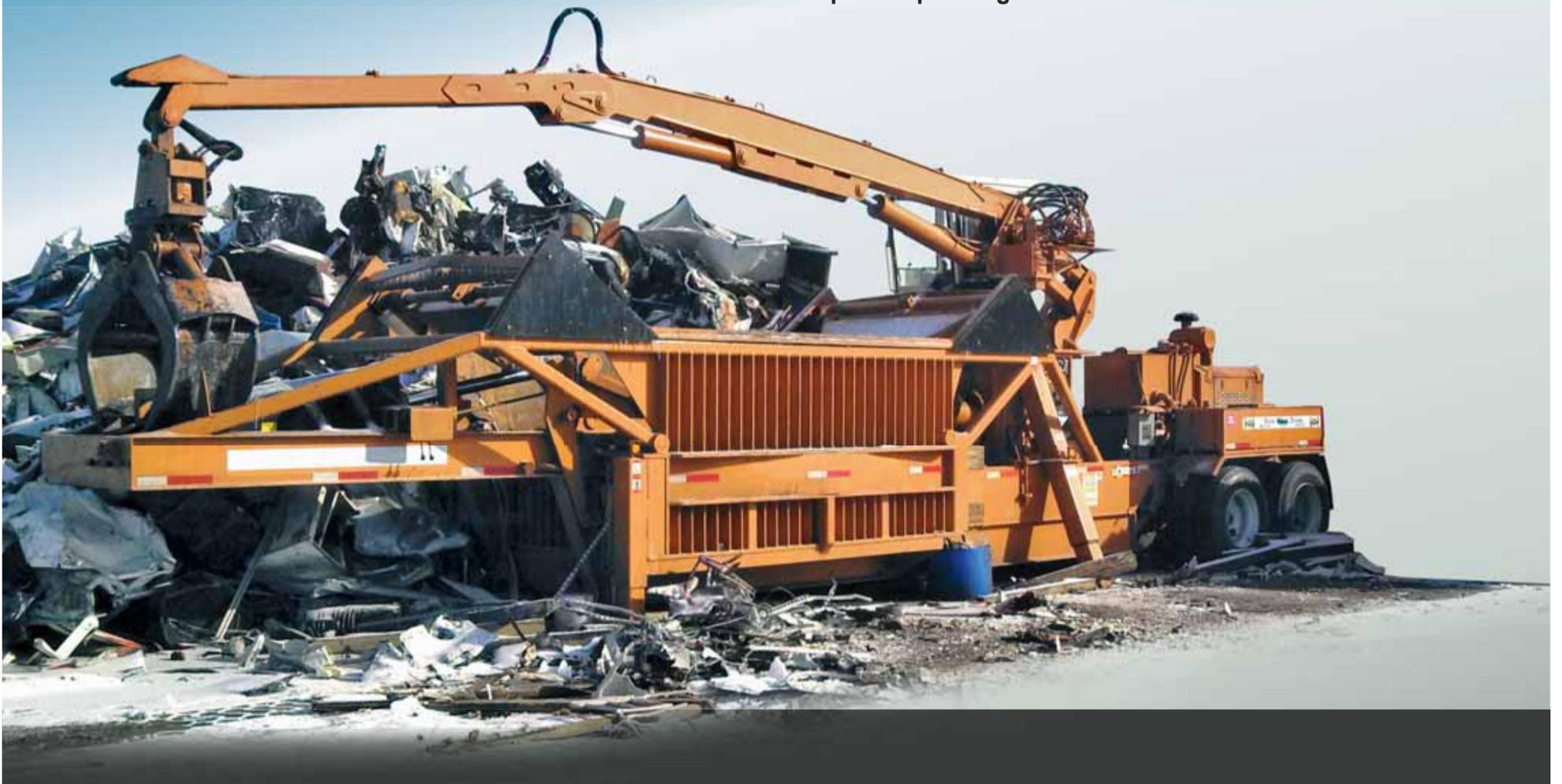
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What is the setup time?	NONE	_____	_____
Do you use weather-tight electrical connections for automation controls and trailer lights?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
Does the crusher have fenders on the front of the machine?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
Are the guide frames tied at the top?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
How big is your fuel tank?	400 GALLONS	___ Gallons	___ Gallons
Do you have wear guides on the main cylinder pistons and glands?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No

REMOTE CONTROL

How quickly can you get me a replacement automation system?	NEXT DAY	_____	_____
How long does it take to replace the receiver on the machine?	10 Minutes	___ Minutes	___ Minutes
Can I start and stop the engine with the remote?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
Does the remote have individual up and down cylinder control buttons?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
Do you use rocker switches to limit the up stroke of the cylinders?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No

OPTIONS

High Speed	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
Maximum oil flow from your cylinders?	250 gpm	___ gpm	___ gpm
What is the maximum port size of the cylinders?	2.5"	___"	___"
Can I get an auxiliary fuel pump to fill my loader?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No

SAFETY & HAZARDS

Do the safety locks engage from the ground, without climbing on the machine or into the chamber?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
If one side of the lid is raised and the other side is down, will it damage the crusher?	NO	Yes / No	Yes / No
Does your waste oil recovery tank have sludge traps and large clean-out access panels?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
Do you have lockable cabinets for the:			
Engine controls	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
Remote control	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
Valves	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
Auxiliary fuel port	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No

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Polyethylene pricing challenges loom

by MARK HENRICKS

mhenricks@americanrecycler.com

Coca-Cola's decision late last year to close down its recycling division comes amid increasing price pressures on polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bottle recyclers that promise to challenge profitability in the business for the next couple of years. However, it doesn't appear that Coke is backing off of plans to increase recycled content of its packaging, and the domestic supply and demand aren't likely to be strongly affected solely because of the Atlanta-based beverage giant's move to shutter the recycling unit.

Coca-Cola Co. set up Coca-Cola Recycling in 2007 and supplied its own operations with recycled PET as well as used aluminum beverage containers for making new beverage containers. The company said in a statement that it plans to work with outside suppliers of PET and other recyclable material for new cans and bottles.

"The Coca-Cola Company's current goal is to lead the industry in packaging sustainability including PlantBottle, reducing our packaging footprint and increasing recovery, and using recyclable materials," the statement said. PlantBottle is a recyclable PET plastic bottle, made partially from plants that Coca-Cola developed. Since 2009, more than 20 billion PlantBottle packages have been distributed, and the company said its goal is to have all new PET plastic it uses contain PlantBottle technology by 2020.

According to Coca-Cola, "In the U.S., we will continue to work more directly with our value chain to increase the use of recycled materials. As the industry is evolving, we no longer need to directly engage in the buying and selling of recyclable materials."

There is more PET reclamation capacity in the U.S. than bottles collected for recycling, according to Patty Moore of Moore Recycling Associates, Inc. in Sonoma, California. Other buyers or sellers should have no problem picking up the slack now that Coke is closing

down its recycling unit, she said. Coca-Cola Recycling was also active in the used aluminum beverage can market. But that business is regarded as healthy as well, and the unit's shutdown is also unlikely to have a major effect there.

A bigger factor in PET recycling right now is lower pricing for virgin PET. That's causing price pressure on PET recyclers, Moore said. Recycled bottle-grade PET historically commands a higher price than virgin PET, due in part to consumer products companies' desire to include more recycled content in their product. But there is obviously a limit to how much more companies like Coke will pay to get recycled bottle-suitable PET rather than virgin PET. As virgin PET gets cheaper, it may be harder for consumer products companies to justify paying more for recycled PET.

The oversupply of virgin PET is caused by normal business cycles, Moore said. These typically see companies in the business over-build new plants over a period of a few years in response to forecasts of shortages, then spend a few years reducing capacity. It will be a couple of years before the current over-capacity situation resolves itself, during which time PET recyclers will find it harder to command premium prices. "It's going to make it a lot harder to make a profit," Moore said.

Coke's experience in recycling PET was marred by an investment in a Spartanburg, South Carolina, plant that experienced technical difficulties after its opening in 2009. That plant, billed as world's biggest for recycling PET bottles into new bottles, closed for a period in 2011. Among the problems that caused the closing, according to the reports, was Coca-Cola's insistence that the plant use only feedstock consisting of post-consumer curbside-collected containers. Coke later sold its stake in the plant.

However, Coke's investments in plastics recycling elsewhere have been more successful and are continuing or expanding. The company recently



announced plans to invest \$8.2 billion over 6 years in Mexico as part of the opening of what it called the world's largest food-grade (PET) bottle-to-bottle recycling plant in that country.

Domestically Coca-Cola remains active in recycling, including participating in programs to place recycling bins in communities across the U.S. It also recently joined the Closed Loop Fund with a number of other large consumer products and retailing companies. The fund, for which Walmart was lead organizer, is intended to help finance technologies, facilities and similar initiatives that aim to improve domestic recycling infrastructure. The goal of the Closed Loop Fund is to provide a more reliable stream of recycled materials for consumer goods companies to use in products and packaging.

Long term, Moore sees little reason for Coke or other companies in the consumer goods field to back off involvement in recycling efforts. "They want to make sure that recycling is successful," she said. "One thing that all consumer products companies realize is that consumers feel better about products they

can recycle. They want to be able to put them in their bins."

The bottom line on the shuttering of Coca-Cola Recycling is that it appears to be largely an internal corporate decision to focus on its core business and rely on outside vendors for recycled materials, as opposed to a move dictated by outside market conditions. On other words, Coke isn't giving up on recycling, just being in the recycling business. The fact the company sees other recyclers as able to continue to supply it with the recycled content that it needs to meet its recycling goals suggests the industry is healthy enough to do without Coca-Cola Recycling.

Moore said, however, that Coke's timing of the exit is possibly significant, coming as it does just as virgin PET price drops are pressuring recycled PET suppliers. "That's going to make it very difficult for the reclaimers in this country for the next couple of years," she said of PET oversupplies. Coke closing its recycling business may actually help those recyclers by removing some competition for tight bale supply.

GreenBox pizza box introduced on Shark Tank

Dubbed the pizza box of the 21st Century, the GreenBox, a multifunctional, eco-friendly pizza box that breaks down into four plates and a storage container for leftovers, appeared on ABC's show, Shark Tank.

Made from 100 percent recycled and recyclable cardboard, the GreenBox completely eliminates the need for wasteful materials like plastic wrap, aluminum foil, disposable plates and more. GreenBox co-founders are Jennifer Wright-Laracy and Ned Kensing.



Shark Tank, a nationally broadcast reality series on ABC, offers entrepreneurs the chance to pitch their

business ventures to investors like Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban, real estate magnate Barbara Corcoran and venture capitalist Kevin O'Leary.

President and co-founder Jennifer Wright-Laracy describes their Shark Tank experience as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. "With our GreenBox design, our goal is to make the world a greener place – one pizza box at a time. National exposure on a hit show like ABC's Shark Tank will help us make this dream a reality – and

to share our vision for a greener tomorrow."

GreenBox, headquartered in New York, New York, is an innovator in the environmentally friendly food packaging industry. Their patented, multi-functional GreenBox breaks into plates & a storage unit for leftovers, while their DoggieBox, SliceBox and HoagieBox offer eco-conscious alternatives to traditional food packaging. Final deal: Kevin O'Leary invested \$300,000 in Green Box for a 10 percent stake.

A Letter from the Editor

Readers,

Last month – six months after he unilaterally launched an offensive involving over 2,000 airstrikes and the deployment of 3,000 “military advisors” – President Obama finally sent Congress a draft Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF) against Islamic State (more popularly known as ISIS or ISIL).

Now, there is no doubt that the group responsible for a large number of horrific and gruesome murders deserves everything that they have coming to them from the various nations that they’ve managed to offend thus far. In fact, we’d love to see every last ISIS radical eradicated.

But just how much authority are we as a nation willing to give our executive branch in order to achieve this righteous goal?

President Obama already has a reputation for acting without Congressional approval. He’s made it clear that he’s willing to use executive orders to achieve what Congress will or cannot. And the AUMF that his administration has submitted is so broad as to grant him nearly unfettered authority to conduct the offensive against ISIS in any manner he sees fit.

President Obama has continued to take the stance that his actions to date have been and are authorized under a previous AUMF passed in 2001 after the attacks of 9/11. The language of that particular authorization has been stretched to the breaking point to enable a globe-spanning war with virtually non-existent limits. If President Obama has such authority already, why does he need Congress to bless the new AUMF?

The new order does nothing to rescind or restrict the authority purportedly granted by the previous AUMF that Obama claims to be acting under. Furthermore, the newly proposed AUMF is overly broad in its terms as well. It’s not a stretch to imagine that as it stands currently, the AUMF proposed by the President is just the next step in a never ending war that has no clearly defined goals or end in sight.

We acknowledge the need to take action against ISIS, and hope that whatever course our government takes swiftly and surely eradicates the disgusting radicalism that group represents. We just hope that our nation emerges from the conflict with our freedoms and ideals intact.

Until next month,



Esther Fournier
Editor & Publisher

New York City bans single-use polystyrene

Department of Sanitation rules expanded polystyrene foam not recyclable

The de Blasio Administration, New York, said that as of July 1, 2015, food service establishments, stores and manufacturers may not possess, sell or offer for use single service expanded polystyrene (EPS) foam articles or polystyrene loose fill packaging, such as “packing peanuts” in New York City.

After consultation with corporations, including Dart Container Corporation, non-profits, vendors and other stakeholders, the Department of Sanitation (DSNY), has determined that EPS cannot be recycled, which led to the ban. DSNY also determined that there currently is no market for post-consumer EPS collected in a curbside metal, glass, and plastic recycling program. As a result of the ban, manufacturers and stores may not sell or offer single-use foam items such as cups, plates, trays, or clamshell containers in the City. The sale of polystyrene loose fill packaging, such as “packing peanuts” is also banned.

The determination was made after considering environmental effectiveness, feasibility and safety for employees of DSNY and Sims Municipal Recycling, the city’s recycling processor. The analysis was based on a recycling strategy that would have incorporated EPS into the current metal, glass, plastic and carton commingled collection program and that would not create a separate collection or sorting program.

Local Law 142, passed by the city council in December 2013, required the sanitation commissioner to determine “whether EPS single service articles can be recycled at the designated recycling processing facility at the South Brooklyn Marine Terminal in a manner that is environmentally effective, economically feasible and safe for employees.” Under the law, if EPS is not found to be recyclable, it must be banned.

The law allows businesses a six month grace period from when the law goes into effect – January 1, 2016 – before fines can be imposed. DSNY, the

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and the Department of Consumer Affairs will conduct outreach and education in multiple languages to businesses throughout all five boroughs during this period. For the first year of the ban, businesses will be given a warning in lieu of a fine.

Non-profits and small businesses with less than \$500,000 in revenue per year may apply for hardship exemptions from the Department of Small Business Services (SBS) if they can prove that the purchase of alternative products not composed of EPS would create undue financial hardship. SBS will begin accepting applications for hardship waivers in March 2015.

In accordance with the city’s new policy, DOE will begin replacing foam trays with compostable plates on May 1st. All school meals will be served on these compostable plates starting in September. All summer meals will also be served on compostable plates.

Most innovative uses of recycled plastics by manufacturers sought by EPRO

The European Association of Plastics Recycling and Recovery Organizations (EPRO), is inviting manufacturers of products made from recycled plastics to enter a competition. The deadline for applications is March 11, 2015.

The product needs to:

- Contain post-consumer/post-industrial recycled plastics.
- Be available to the market from 2011 or later.
- Either be a business to business product, or a product for the consumer market.
- Have been manufactured in Europe, Canada or South Africa (countries of EPRO members).
- Finalists will be announced at IdentiPlast 2015.

A panel consisting of representatives from across Europe will produce a short list of finalists.

The winner will be presented with the award at the IdentiPlast 2015 congress in Rome, April 29. Winners will also benefit from publicity via the EPRO website.

EPRO’s Co-Chairman Massimo Paravidino explains the idea behind the Best Recycled Product contest: “Plastic packaging design, improved collection schemes, advances in sorting technology together with a greater range of reprocessing opportunities and applications means that the need to send plastics to landfill is disappearing. Therefore it’s key that we ensure that the consumers and industry recognize this progression and continue to sort and collect this material for recycling. One of the most important ways of doing this is to raise the awareness of the products made from recycled plastics, in turn showcasing a wide range of recycled products, thus creating a demand and maybe an appetite for new companies to start to design and manufacture more products made from recycled plastic – promoting the cycle of plastics.”

In 2009 EPRO started to invite manufacturers of products containing recycled plastics to participate in this annual

competition. Meanwhile, the competition has seen nearly 150 entries from 25 countries and witnessed an increased range of applications for recycled plastic.

The award recognizes excellence and innovation in recycled plastic products from across Europe. The aim is to raise awareness and demonstrate the potential for recycled plastics whether it is post-consumer or post-industrial to be used in different applications. The key objective for the competition is to recognize used plastics as a valuable resource, not waste.

For the first time, the award winner will receive a prize in the form of product promotion support within Europe via relevant magazines. This competition enables the industry to further demonstrate their commitment and work in the area of Corporate Social Responsibility and for the consumer to more fully understand the scope of their environmentally friendly actions.

Aurelius acquires Eco Plastics

Aurelius, a European investment company, has acquired ECO Plastics, a reprocessor of recyclable materials.

In line with its standard investment approach, Aurelius will supply both its specialized operational improvement capabilities and financial support to the company’s current operations, with a core focus on the long-term strategic development of the business.

The financial terms of the deal are not disclosed.



EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

To be included in the spotlight, you must **manufacture** the equipment featured. We require a company name, contact person, telephone number and, if applicable, a website address.

To be listed in the appropriate spotlight, please call 877-777-0043.

UPCOMING TOPICS

- APR Magnets
- MAY Fluid Recovery
- JUN Tarping Systems
- JUL Conveyor Systems
- AUG Scales

American Recycler is not responsible for non-inclusion of manufacturers and their equipment. Manufacturers are to contact American Recycler to ensure their company is listed in the Equipment Spotlight.

AF&PA releases paper reports

The American Forest & Paper Association released its December U.S. paper reports.

Containerboard

Containerboard production was 5.3 percent higher compared to November 2014, 6.9 percent higher than December of last year, and 1.8 percent higher year-to-date. The month-over-month average daily production was 1.9 percent higher. The containerboard operating rate for December increased slightly to 94.7 percent from November's 94.3 percent.

Kraft Paper

Total Kraft paper shipments were 128.4 thousand short tons, 11.9 percent higher than November. Bleached Kraft paper shipments increased to 9.7 thousand tons compared to November's 8.6, while unbleached Kraft paper shipments increased from 106.1 thousand tons to 118.7. Overall, shipments in 2014 were 2.3 percent lower than in 2013. Total month-end inventories increased to 79.3 thousand tons in December.

Printing-Writing Paper Report

According to the report, total printing-writing paper shipments decreased 4 percent in December compared to December 2013, with total paper inventories flat compared to November.

•Uncoated free sheet (UFS) paper shipments in December decreased 8 percent compared to December 2013. Shipments for the year were down 9 percent relative to 2013. Imports of UFS increased 4 percent in November and were up 21 percent year-to-date.

•December coated free sheet (CFS) paper shipments increased 1 percent compared to 2013. Annual shipments of coated freesheet grades in 2014 decreased 2 percent compared to the previous year. Exports of CFS papers were down 6 percent for the year compared to the first eleven months of 2013, with imports increasing 1 percent in November and 4 percent for the year.

•Uncoated mechanical (UM) paper shipments decreased 2 percent in December but were up 4 percent for the year. Imports of UM papers through November were down 6 percent, with exports 18 percent below the 2013 level.

•Coated mechanical (CM) shipments in December increased 4 percent relative to December 2013 and were down 4 percent for the year. Exports of CM grades were essentially flat in November but were up 6 percent compared to the first 11 months of 2013. Imports were down 16 percent through November.

Paperboard Report

Total boxboard production decreased 2.6 percent when compared to December 2013 and decreased 3.2 percent from November. Unbleached Kraft boxboard production increased over the same month last year but decreased compared to last month. Total solid bleached boxboard and liner production decreased when compared to December 2013 and decreased compared to last month. The production of recycled boxboard decreased compared to December 2013 and decreased when compared to last month.

AF&PA board elects new officers

The American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) has elected Sappi North America president and chief executive officer Mark Gardner as the new AF&PA board chairman.

Gardner joined Sappi in 1981 and has served in a variety of roles from the mill level to the corporate office, becoming president and chief executive officer for North America in 2007.

Also elected as officers are Packaging Corporation of America chief executive officer Mark Kowlzan (first vice chairman) and Clearwater Paper Corporation

president and chief executive officer Linda Massman (second vice chairwoman). Domtar president and chief executive officer John Williams will serve as the immediate past chairman.

Beginning new terms as AF&PA board members in 2015 are Aubra Anthony, Anthony Forest Products Company; James Hannan, Georgia-Pacific LLC; Donald Lewis, SCA Americas; Brian McPheely, Pratt Industries, Inc.; Jack Sanders, Sonoco Products Company; and Mark Sutton, International Paper Company.

The North Face makes use of recycled plastic and fabrics

The North Face has incorporated Unifi, Inc.'s Repreve in its Denali line of fleece jackets. The North Face has integrated three environmentally friendly materials into the Denali jackets, including Repreve recycled yarn, Repreve WaterWise™ yarn with color technology, and Repreve Textile Takeback yarn made from fabric scraps and recycled bottles. By using fleece produced from Repreve, a high performance yarn made from recycled plastic bottles, more than 30 million bottles are saved from landfills and turned into Denali jackets each year.



The North Face is also utilizing Repreve's WaterWise yarn with color technology to reduce the amount of water and chemicals used in the fabric dyeing process. Black and heather grey Denali jackets made with Repreve WaterWise yarn use 50 percent less water, 50 percent less chemicals and 25 percent less energy in the fabric dyeing and finishing process.

In addition, The North Face worked with Unifi to further reduce waste in the Denali production process. Cut fabric waste from Denali jacket production is collected and sent to Unifi's Repreve

Recycling Center in North Carolina where it is recycled into Repreve Takeback yarn. This yarn, along with yarn made from recycled plastic bottles, is then knit into new fabric for Denali jackets. Typically, about 15 percent of fabric used in garment production is cut out and discarded in the process. This program creates a loop of material reprocessing and gives new purpose to a major waste stream. For every 10 Denali jackets produced, enough fabric scrap is created to produce another four jackets.

According to the EPA, an estimated 12 million tons of textile waste ends up in U.S. landfills each year. The Repreve Textile Takeback program recycles fabrics into Takeback fibers. Like all Repreve fibers, Repreve Takeback fiber is traceable, transparent, and certified through the use of FiberPrint™ technology. With the help of The North Face and other environmentally responsible brands, the Repreve Textile Takeback program recently surpassed three million pounds in takeback fabric. In addition to apparel, the program has expanded into other categories including apparel, contract furnishings, automotive, healthcare and hospitality.

MTM Plastics expands facilities

MTM plastics will continue its growth strategy in 2015. By the end of 2016, Europe's leading producer of recycled polyolefins from mixed plastic waste plans will invest approximately 8 million euros in the expansion of its production facilities in Niedergebra, Germany. Two more halls, which will extend the granulate warehouse, are under construction.

MTM currently produces some 30,000 metric tons of granulate in

Niedergebra with a workforce of 88. From 2016, approximately 110 employees will provide an output of nearly 40,000 tons. For the planned growth in sales, however, MTM will focus not only higher volumes but also on improved quality in order to gain a higher price for the granules.

On completion of the new warehouses, MTM will shift its attention to enlarging the production area by some 20,000 square meters.

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EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

Balers

by MARY M. COX

maryc@americanrecycler.com

Any material needing transport, such as paper and plastic, should be condensed as early as possible when it needs to be moved during the recycling process. High-density bales that can be handled efficiently and safely during loading are preferred because of factors such as lower cost per ton and fewer bales to handle, thus reducing labor cost.

According to Bob Pfeffer, sales director at Harris, "Our firm is the largest and leading manufacturer of horizontal and two-ram balers in North America and this includes the Harris/IPS line of balers for paper and plastic recycling. Our popular Harris/IPS Conquest open-end auto-tie horizontal balers incorporate a large, oversize charge box with patented hinged side compression that provides for higher material throughputs than standard balers. The larger feed opening allows for larger charges of bulky plastics and fiber without the requirement of a perforator or a material conditioner." He stated that the Conquest series balers can handle large old corrugated container (OCC) material without the bridging issues seen in other balers on the market.

Harris/IPS two-ram series balers offer a patented pre-compression lid that increases the baler's production by eliminating material "boilback" during the baling process. "We provide our clients with years of engineering and manufacturing experience and the most proven technology without adding optional trendy devices that are needed to make a baler perform, regardless of the material involved – whether fiber, plastics, MSW, refuse derived fuel, electronics, or nonferrous and ferrous metals," stated Pfeffer.

"With our strong product line mix, we can offer several choices rather than just offering one model for all applications involved. We also like to remind clients of the importance of equipment maintenance. Between the demands of production and the general economy, maintenance may be delayed or ignored to the detriment of the equipment. One very important maintenance check is a simple oil

analysis. Keeping up with the normal recommended maintenance will minimize potential downtime and in the long run save the operation financial heartaches," Pfeffer said.

Randy Gibson, sales and marketing director, believes the International Baler Corporation (IBC) offers the most complete line of balers in the industry, from verticals and closed-door horizontals, to high-production auto-ties and rugged two rams. "Our machines handle a wide variety of applications including paper, plastic, OCC, scrap metal, textiles, mote, turnings, MSW and more. We even offer shears and baler loggers for ferrous markets. We also provide more options and customization than any other baler manufacturer, ensuring that our customers get the baler that they need," added Gibson.

He noted that baling has many benefits, particularly cost benefits. "Using a baler, your waste could make money for you, instead of cost you money. If you're already baling, a more efficient baler may reduce your shipping costs by reducing manpower, and a heavier duty model can increase bale weights, which may result in fewer truckloads," Gibson said.



Harris/IPS

Above all, Gibson said the staff at IBC values their customers and the feedback they receive from them. He concluded, "Our clients are located all over the world. We pride ourselves in the knowledge we provide them, along with courteous sales and service assistance. Our regional dealer network ensures that our customers enjoy local sales and service, while large corporate accounts are handled in-house."

"We've packed over 50 years of experience into the Maren Propak 60 and Propak 2R line of two ram and full eject manual tie balers," explained Todd Wondrow, president of Maren Balers & Shredders. "These balers

were developed specifically with post-consumer recycling in mind. They provide the highest material throughput, and are the most durable yet easiest machines in their class to operate. An operator touch screen displays feedback about factors such as amount of bale left before tie off, and also instructs the user in the steps to tie off the bale, eject and ready the machine for the next bale or material. A Category 4 safety relay monitors all emergency stop circuits and double redundant motor contactors. When baling paper and fibers, paper dust is always a fire concern because it can be ignited by an overheated oil reservoir. For that reason, we include standard monitoring for hot oil and low oil level. A standard air-to-oil cooler also removes heat from the unit. With one touch, a user can change from English to French, Spanish or other languages. The Propak balers are nimble and set the bar for ease of material changeover," said Wondrow.

He noted that when choosing a baler, a buyer should consider that paper and plastic, while recovered from the same waste stream, are very different from a processing standpoint, especially but not limited to density, compaction ratio, resiliency, and resistance to shear and trailer/container loading scheme. Because of differences between these materials, a baler set up to process plastics may fail miserably when baling paper and vice versa. For optimum efficiency, a baler must adapt itself to material requirements with a minimum of operator time or effort in the changeover, according to Wondrow.

He explained that while the industry seems to be doing well in general, transportation costs may become more challenging. "So, recyclers may choose to compact recyclable materials closer to the source, pulling the same amount of material in fewer loads. This may require placing balers at transfer stations or local facilities that may have shipped loose recyclables in the past. Baling of single stream items prior to transport to a MRF is already a popular trend. Simi-

See SPOTLIGHT, Page B5



International Baler Corporation

Manufacturer List

American Baler
Shelley Fannin
800-843-7512
www.americanbaler.com

BACE, Inc.
Greg Leon
877-506-2223
www.bacecorp.com

Balemaster USA
Michael Connell
219-663-4525
www.balemaster.com

Cram-A-Lot/JV Manufacturing, Inc.
Stan Acuff
800-678-7320
www.cram-a-lot.com

Excel Manufacturing, Inc.
Jacqueline Archer
800-475-8812
www.excelmfg.com

Harris/IPS
Bob Pfeffer
800-468-5657
www.harrisequip.com

International Baler Corporation
Randy Gibson
800-231-9286
www.intl-baler.com

Maren Balers & Shredders
Todd Wondrow
708-333-6250
www.marenengineering.com

PTR Baler
Eric Riethmiller
800-523-3654
www.ptrco.com

Sierra International Machinery, LLC
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Spotlight

Continued from Page B4



Maren Balers & Shredders

early, OCC pulled in compactors from industrial generators like manufacturing and distribution centers will likely be baled at the source and shipped in trailer loads. Even a small horizontal baler can deliver a density of 32-34 lbs./cu.ft, which is typically 300 percent that of compacted OCC," Wondrow stated.

Finally, Wondrow claimed that when baling non-standard materials, a machine must have the shearing force to avoid the labor expense of pre-conditioning and the compaction force to make saleable bales. "Flexibility to bale other non-standard materials can make the difference between owning a baler that gets the job done vs. owning a baler that expands your business and makes extra money for the user. The chosen baler should have a clear opening to accept materials without bridging when handling items such as 55 gallon plastic drums, 5 gallon plastic pails, printer/monitor plastic casings, steel computer cases and aluminum extrusions."

UK household plastics collection reported for 2014 released by ReCoup

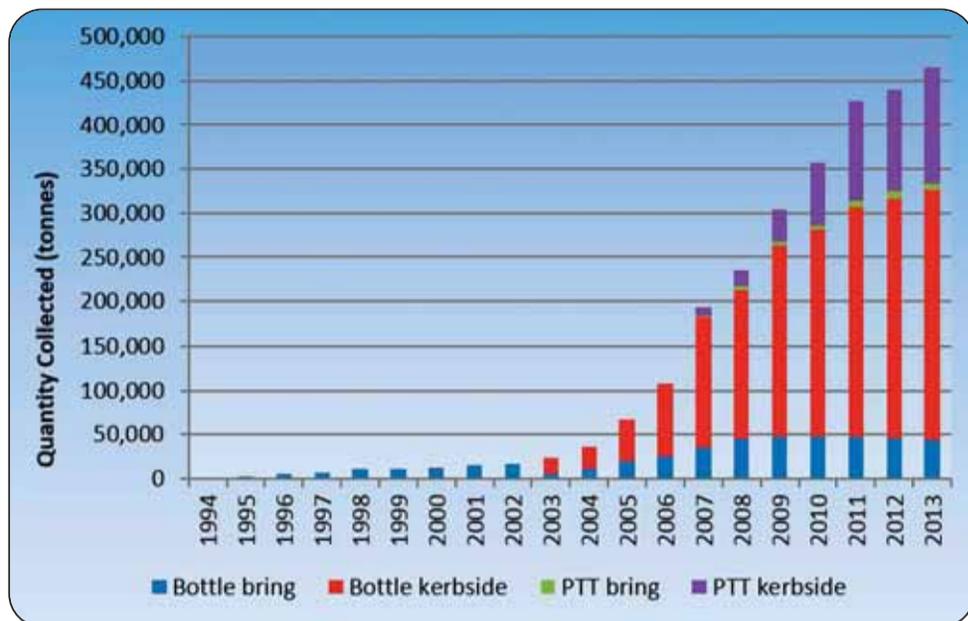
The Recoup UK Household Collection Survey is a research-based report that provides a review of the services in place to collect household plastics for recycling in the United Kingdom (UK).

The scale and progress for recycling from 1994 has been significant. The survey reports two milestones being reached. Since reporting began, the UK has now collected over two million tons of plastic bottles and half a million tons of pots, tubs and trays for recycling. Recoup estimates that's nearly 50 billion bottles and trays saved from landfill in the last 20 years.

It is reported that 464,433 tons of plastics packaging was collected from UK households in 2013 (this refers to the 2013 calendar and 2013/2014 financial year), an increase of 24,000 tons, or a 5.5 percent increase on the previous year.

At the end of March 2013, 400 of the 406 collection authorities in the UK provided a curbside recycling collection that included plastic bottles. Recycling of plastic bottles continues to plateau, with a modest increase of approximately 10,000 tons, or 3 percent, increase from the previous year.

Consumer communications have become increasingly important, with the launch of Pledge 4 Plastics in September and its first campaigns now taking place,



future central support and financial investment from existing and new partners is a priority.

There has been a steady increase in collection levels for plastic pots, tubs and trays, with 14,000 more tons collected, an 11 percent increase over the previous year.

With 271 local authorities offering a curbside collection that includes pots, tubs and trays this means only another 34 local authorities need to collect this plastic format before it has implications for On Pack Recycling Label

(OPRL). The OPRL scheme aims to deliver a simple and consistent recycling message on both retailer and brand packaging to help consumers recycle more.

Once 75 percent (305) of local authorities collect plastic pots, tubs and trays the message can change from "check local recycling" to "widely recycled". If new programs continue to be rolled out at the current rate, widely recycled could be seen on pots, tubs and trays in early 2016.

A farmer sent his son to the market to buy a crate of chickens. The boy was returning home when he dropped the crate and all the chickens escaped. The boy was upset, knowing his father would be angry. He searched until he found them all.

When he returned home, he told his father that the chickens had gotten loose, but he managed to find all eight of them.

"Well, you did a really great job," said his father. "The receipt says you only paid for six."

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Maine Pulp Mill and Connecticut Cardboard settle water violations

Two companies operating under the control of Cascades USA, Inc. have agreed to settle U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) allegations that they violated the federal Clean Water Act. The companies are Cascades Auburn Fiber, operating in Auburn, Maine; and Norampac New England, Inc., operating in Thompson, Connecticut.

Cascades Auburn Fiber has agreed to pay a fine of \$65,000 for alleged clean water violations at its Auburn, Maine pulp mill. Norampac New England has agreed to pay a fine of \$100,000 for alleged clean water violations at its Thompson, Connecticut corrugated cardboard manufacturing facility.

According to a complaint filed by the EPA this past summer, Cascades violated the conditions of its stormwater permit and violated the federal Oil Pollution Prevention Regulations by failing

to prepare and implement a Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Plan.

According to the complaint, stormwater control measures that Cascades had in place were inadequate to prevent on-site pollutants from combining with stormwater and discharging to nearby surface waters. The company also failed to conduct certain monitoring and stormwater sampling as required by its stormwater permit.

EPA also filed a complaint against Norampac this past summer, alleging that the company violated the conditions of its stormwater permit, and violated the federal Oil Pollution Prevention Regulations by failing to fully implement its Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Plan. According to the complaint, the facility failed to implement best management practices described in its Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan related to site maintenance, failed

to conduct certain inspections, and failed to take certain corrective measures after learning of benchmark sampling exceedences.

The Clean Water Act requires that certain industrial facilities, such as pulp manufacturers and corrugated cardboard manufacturers, have controls in place to minimize pollutants from being discharged with stormwater into nearby waterways. Each site must have a stormwater pollution prevention plan that describes the best practices that the company will follow to prevent runoff from being contaminated by pollutants.

Without adequate on-site controls, stormwater runoff can flow directly to the nearest waterway and can cause water quality impairments such as siltation of rivers, beach closings, fishing restrictions, and habitat degradation. As stormwater flows over these sites, it can pick up pollutants, including sediment, biological and chemical oxygen demand, and chlorine. The law also prohibits the discharge of process waste waters without a permit. Untreated wastewater discharges and stormwater runoff can harm or kill fish and wildlife and can affect drinking water quality.

Shanghai Pret Composites acquires Wellman Plastics

Shanghai Pret Composites Co. Ltd., a Chinese company, is acquiring Wellman Plastics Recycling LLC (WRC) of Johnsonville, South Carolina, in an all cash deal.

The \$70.451 million acquisition includes all shares of WPR Holdings LLC and its subsidiaries.

According to Pret, WPR's total assets were valued at \$73.6 million, with \$14.8 million in net assets. WPR's sales reached \$162 million in 2012, climbed to \$164 million in 2013, and was \$124 million for the first three quarters of 2014. Net profit was \$7.6 million in 2013 and \$6.1 million for the first three quarters of 2014.

Pret is a manufacturer of composite materials for the automotive industry. Pret said it hopes to secure a presence in the auto compounding market in the U.S. through the acquisition.

Wellman's Engineering Resins division produces nylon, polyester and polypropylene resin products for the automotive industry made from 100 percent post-consumer recycled materials.

Cope Plastics acquires JB Jensen

Cope Plastics, Inc., a distributor and fabricator of plastic sheet, rod and tube in the Midwest, headquartered in Alton, Illinois has acquired the assets of J.B. Jensen & Son, Inc., located in Genoa City, Wisconsin. As a part of this acquisition, Cope Plastics, Inc. will continue to do business under the name of J.B. Jensen & Son, Inc. at its Genoa City, Wisconsin facility.

J.B. Jensen & Son, Inc. is a manufacturer of specialty plastic components for industry. Since 1950, J.B. Jensen & Son has maintained its rep-

utation as a fabricator of high-quality plastic components for the industry.

Utilizing screw machines and CNC equipment, they machine plastic materials of all types, shapes and sizes to create custom parts for thousands of companies from small businesses to Fortune 500 corporations. Their parts are used in the automotive, electronics, food hauling, farm equipment, and aerospace industries among others.

The acquisition allows Cope to offer a high level of custom fabrication and application solution services to its customers throughout the U.S.

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Tetra Pak obtains worldwide FSC Chain of Custody certification

Tetra Pak can now supply Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) labelled packages from anywhere in the world, having received FSC Chain of Custody (CoC) certification for all of its converting plants and market companies. It represents one of FSC's largest multi-site certifications, covering a total of 92 facilities worldwide.

FSC is an international, non-governmental organization that promotes responsible management of the world's forests. Its CoC certification allows wood fibers to be traced at every step through the supply chain; providing assurance that any products bearing the FSC logo support forest management that adopts environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable management practices.

"Consumers are increasingly aware of the environmental impact of the products they buy, expecting businesses to

help them make better choices. The FSC logo is an easily recognizable hallmark for forest management, and our customers now have an opportunity to demonstrate their support for responsible forestry anywhere in the world," said Mario Abreu, global vice president environment at Tetra Pak.

"As a major user of paperboard, we feel it's our responsibility to do what we can to help improve the management of the world's forests, which is why we are working to ensure 100 percent of the paperboard we use is certified," said Abreu.

Tetra Pak introduced the FSC certification system to the liquid food carton industry, launching the world's first FSC labelled carton in 2007. Since then, Tetra Pak has delivered more than 130 billion packages to customers carrying the FSC logo, with 43.7 billion in 2014 alone.

Sonoco reports record base Q4

Sonoco, a diversified global packaging company, reported record base financial results for its fourth quarter and full year 2014.

Fourth quarter 2014 GAAP earnings per diluted share were \$.53, compared with \$.53 in 2013.

Fourth quarter 2014 GAAP results include \$.13 per diluted share, after tax, in asset impairments and restructuring charges, along with acquisition expenses and acquisition inventory step up costs. Fourth quarter 2013 GAAP results included after tax charges of \$.05 per

diluted share related to restructuring costs from international plant closures.

Base net income attributable to Sonoco (base earnings) for fourth quarter 2014 was a record \$.66 per diluted share, up 14 percent, compared with \$.58 in 2013. Sonoco's most recently provided fourth quarter base earnings guidance was to be at or above \$.59 to \$.64 per diluted share.

Fourth quarter 2014 net sales were a record \$1.32 billion, up 8 percent from \$1.22 billion in 2013.

Biodegradable additive lawsuit finding questioned

The Association of Postconsumer Plastic Recyclers, a trade organization representing the plastics recycling industry in North America, urged caution in response to a recent decision by an Administrative Law Judge regarding claims by a manufacturer of biodegradable additives and their use in the marketplace.

(Note: On January 28, 2015, D. Michael Chappell, chief administrative law judge, issued a 323 page initial decision on the suit brought against ECM Biofilms, a degradable additives provider, by the US Federal Trade Commission, FTC. The judge ordered ECM Biofilms to not deceptively state any plastic product or package will completely degrade within any time period and to not deceptively state tests prove such claims.)

"This is a decision of reason," said Steve Alexander, APR executive director. "The judge found that the company had violated the law by deceptively claiming plastics with its additive would degrade completely within nine months to five years."

The FTC Green Guides for environmental claims define biodegradable as "complete decomposition [in] no more than one year after customary disposal." Following FTC workshops on environmental claims, the definition reflects the public's understanding of what biodegradable means. To now contravene that understanding is misleading to the consuming public. The initial decision is subject to appeal to the full Com-

mission, but becomes final in 30 days unless the parties appeal or the Commission places the matter on its docket for review.

The judge did confuse the matter by finding the FTC lawyers had not proven the ECM Biofilms advertising implied complete degradation. The judge found the FTC's expert had not documented his definition of time to complete degradation.

"There is a definition for aerobic biodegradation of plastics," said Alexander. "The specification in ASTM D6400 requires 90 percent of the carbon in the plastics to be converted to gas within 180 days. This is a firm definition of time and extent of decomposition." ASTM D6400 is the only specification on plastics biodegradation issued by the standards organization. All other ASTM standards on the subject are test methods.

Alexander continued, "APR is interested in this matter as degradable additives create a risk of diminished performance properties over the service life for recycled plastics products until proven not to. We have a test protocol to show no harm done and have not seen any data from ECM Biofilms or others showing the protocol limits are met. We encourage the full Commission to confirm the initial restrictive finding and delve deeper into the questions raised by the law judge and confirm the Green Guide biodegradation definition so to bring clarity for the public."

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Inventory	\$836,000
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Conveyor #3 Hustler (Steel Belt to Ring Mill)

Conveyor #4 Hustler 35" W x 33'3" L

Conveyor #5 Hustler 41" W x 51'6"

Conveyor #6 Hustler (Steel Belt to Hopper)

Conveyor #7 Hustler 30" W x 42'2" L

Conveyor #8 Hustler (Eddy 1 to 2)

Conveyor #9 Hustler 35" W x 43'6" L

Cross Belt Magnet, Eriez Magnetics, Model: SC-2/8E-7620

Drum Magnet, Eriez Magnetics, Type: K77AM184-VM3615T 38 x 48 Drum

Dryer Van Air Systems, Inc., Model: HLS 150

Eddy Current #1, SGM Mfg., Cat: CM3558

Eddy Current #2, Huron Valley Mfg., Model: M3714T

Hydraulic Pump #1 Volts: 480, HZ: 60, Amps: 145 Ph3

Hydraulic Pump #2 Volts: 480, HZ: 60, Amps: 145 Ph3

Optic Sorter, Pellenc, Model: BRGH002, Type: M1600BBHR

American Pulverizer Ring Mill 48 x 50 Amps: 504, HP: 450, RPM: 705

Hustler Shaker Table (Before the Pellenc) Model: 2R4624

American Pulverizer Shear Shredder, TRS-72x52 DH, Height: 14'5", Width: 117" x 76.5"

**All stands,
platforms and
spare parts
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