



American Recycler

NewsVoice of Salvage, Waste and Recycling

AmericanRecycler.com

Waste conversion into fuel skyrockets

Waste conversion interest is fueled by the 36 billion gallon quota by 2022

by MIKE BRESLIN

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Last June it was announced that the City of Edmonton, the Alberta government and two technology companies would invest \$70 million dollars to build the world's first and largest chemical processing plant to convert municipal waste into methanol, ethanol and other biochemical derivatives.

In following up on the story, American Recycler learned that this project is actually happening. This project could become the prototype for handling municipal waste in the future.

According to the U.S. Departments of Agriculture and Energy, approximately two-thirds of everything that is dumped into landfills contains cellulose and is a potential source of fuel. More importantly, cellulosic ethanol yields approximately 80 percent more energy than is required to grow and convert it.

Ethanol, of course, is a renewable transportation fuel that today is largely made from grains such as corn and wheat, but cellulose ethanol can be made from agricultural byproducts, such as straw, corn cobs, and corn stalks, which are often discarded as waste, or made from new crops like switchgrass, the tall, native grass that once covered most of the North American prairie.

Test plots of switchgrass at Auburn University have produced up to 15 tons of dry biomass per acre, and five-year yields average 11.5 tons, enough to make 1,150 gallons of ethanol per acre each year. And, switchgrass thrives with little or no irrigation or fertilizer.

Many researchers, environmentalists and economists believe that making ethanol from cellulose fibers harvested from biomass and landfill waste is preferable to fuel made from what would otherwise be food.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CITY OF EDMONTON, ALBERTA, MUNICIPAL WASTE COMPLEX

The Edmonton Waste Management Centre is home to a collection of state-of-the-art, sustainable waste processing and research facilities including North America's largest co-composting facility.

Plans for the Edmonton waste-to-ethanol plant are complete and being reviewed by government regulators. Construction will begin by the end of this year and the plant could be operational by 2011. The estimated 40,000 square foot plant is projected to ingest 100,000 tons of processed municipal waste feedstock each year to yield 10 million gallons of

ethanol. Of the 100,000 tons processed, about 85 percent will be converted into useful chemicals, the balance being inert residue that may find recycling markets as aggregates for brick or concrete manufacturing. The feedstock for the waste-to-ethanol facility will consist largely of residuals from the City's Materials Recovery Facility and Compost-

ing Facility from materials that cannot be recycled or composted.

Most surprising, the project developers are convinced it will be a profitable enterprise for both the public and private partners. "It has to make money, that's the principle objective," said Marie-Hélène Labrie, vice president of communications at Enerkem, Inc., one of

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2.5 million wireless devices recycled for military use

AT&T and Cell Phones For Soldiers (CPFS) celebrated a new milestone. With the help of thousands of wireless customers across the country, AT&T and the charity have recycled more than 2.5 million wireless devices since Earth Day 2008, beating their Earth Day 2009 goal by more than 700,000 phones.

CPFS recycles used cell phones and uses the proceeds to buy free phone cards for United States troops overseas. Last Earth Day, AT&T and CPFS invited wireless customers to help the charity collect at

least 1.8 million phones by Earth Day 2009.

CPFS's recycling partner, ReCellular, estimates that recycling 2.5 million phones has prevented more than 153 tons of e-waste from entering landfills.

AT&T offers two ways for consumers to donate phones. Wireless customers of any carrier can drop off used cell phones and accessories at any of the 2,000-plus AT&T stores or download a free shipping label from www.att.com/recyclewireless.

■ More on this recycling alliance, Page A18



PHOTO COURTESY OF AT&T

Volunteers with sailors Ignacio Garciaromero, Phillip Hartman, Sean Hardcastle, Christopher Savory and Marcialced Arredondo (L-R).

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Biofuels

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the technology partners in the project. The other technology partner is GreenField Ethanol, Inc., Canada's leading ethanol producer. When methanol, ethanol, and other chemicals begin to flow to market the partners will share the profits to recover their respective investments.

In order to get this innovative waste-to-ethanol plant, the City of Edmonton signed a 25 year agreement with Enerkem and GreenField Ethanol to supply the 100,000 tons of processed municipal solid waste annually. This is believed to be the only long-term feedstock agreement of its kind. The feedstock will include contaminated paper and cardboard, textiles and plastics that are not recycled. Edmonton already has one of the most advanced recycling operations and the largest composting facility in North America. Enerkem and GreenField have formed a joint partnership in the project, the former providing the chemical processing technology and the latter to build and manage the plant and to market the products.

Enerkem and GreenField will pay approximately \$50 million of the construction costs. The City of Edmonton and the Government of Alberta through the Alberta Energy Research Institute (AERI) are contributing \$20 million to the facility. The City of Edmonton will also invest an additional \$50 million into an upgraded materials recovery facility and build a related research facility. AERI's total contribution to all the components is \$29 million. "Our investment



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE CITY OF EDMONTON, ALBERTA
Enerkem's first commercial plant in Westbury, Quebec transforms used utility poles into ethanol. The two conveyers connected to the roof take the shredded wood waste from a sawmill in front of the plant into the chemical process.

is not just for waste-to-fuel, but also a facility to do research and development and test and demonstrate all matters of technology with different waste feeds like agricultural and forest waste in addition to municipal waste," said Edy Isaacs, executive director of AERI. "There is already a research facility at the Edmonton site associated with the University of Alberta and the Alberta Research Council that both do research on waste treatment. This new facility will be designed to look at municipal waste from the point of view of converting waste into biofuels."

The chemical process to be used in Edmonton that takes garbage-to-fuel was developed and proven practical at Enerkem's pilot plant in Sherbrooke, Quebec, just across the border from Vermont. In operation since 2003, the pilot plant has allowed the company to test many types of feedstock including sorted municipal solid waste. The company is now entering the commercial phase with the start-up of its first commercial plant located in Westbury,

near the pilot plant. The plant's feedstock is old utility poles that have been treated with creosote and other chemical preservatives. First the poles are sawn to recover center cut 4" x 4" lumber that is recycled for construction. The outer, chemical soaked slabs are chipped and sent into the thermo-chemical process that combines gasification, conditioning and cleaning of the gas, and a three-step catalytic conversion that creates a synthetic gas called "syngas". Syngas is then cleaned to remove impurities such as particulates, tar, and ammonia. It is also conditioned through a reforming step to produce an H₂CO (Formaldehyde) tailored syngas. The tailored syngas is the production platform from which fuels and chemicals are produced. Catalysts are used to cause a reaction in the syngas that rearranges carbon atoms into methanol, ethanol and other products, such as acetic acid, acetates and olefins – polymers of high industrial value used to make plastics such as polyethylene and polypropylene.

This technology was further proven in 2008 at Enerkem's Westbury, Quebec commercial demonstration plant that yielded only 1.3 million gallons a year. Now the technology is ready to be scaled up to industrial-sized production. "We did an analysis of all the gasification technologies and found that Enerkem's was the best to produce clean gas. If you want to treat the syngas, you don't want a mixture of oils, charcoal and pollutants because it poisons the subsequent steps. It appeared to us that their technology was the cleanest," said Frank Dottori, managing director of GreenField.

The City of Edmonton considers itself a world leader in waste management practices. Its Edmonton Waste Management Centre (EWMC) is North America's largest collection of advanced, sustainable waste processing and research facilities. EWMC has a 575-acre site with facilities for materials recovery, composting, electric-electronic waste, construction and demolition, and research. Their landfill has a leachate treatment plant and a landfill-to-gas powered electric system. They have achieved a landfill diversion rate of 60 percent but hope to reach 80 to 90 percent diversion once the waste-to-ethanol plant becomes operational. "If you want to do a project like this and have any hope of getting financing these days you have to have a guaranteed feedstock, which we have for 25 years at a per ton fee that they will pay us to recycle the sorted waste," said GreenField's Dottori. "This will save the city money because it avoids capital investment for new landfills. In addition, the city is hoping to pay us less than it costs to create new landfill sites. And, it's good for us because it justifies the capital investment for the technology."

GreenField Ethanol built and operates four plants that produce over 500 million liters of ethanol annually markets and distributes products to various petroleum companies. GreenField ethanol is available at more than 1,300 gas stations. The company also has the largest industrial ethanol distribution system in North America that serves the chemical industry, hospitals and pharmaceutical companies. GreenField is actively involved in the development of biochemical process technology to produce cellulosic ethanol at its research facilities in Chatham, Ontario and is working with Enerkem to develop more thermo-chemical cellulosic ethanol plants.

"This unique partnership with private companies and the provincial government builds on our global leadership in municipal waste management," said Edmonton mayor, Stephen Mandel. "It will enable us to make a noted contribution to reducing greenhouse gases and become the first major city in North America to achieve 90 percent residential waste diversion from landfill."

The interest by cities and municipalities throughout North American to convert municipal waste into biofuels is growing, especially in the United States with the passage of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. It boosted the requirements for renewable fuel use to 36 billion gallons by 2022. The act requires advanced biofuels that are defined as fuels to cut greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50 percent to provide 21 billion gallons of fuel by 2022, or about 60 percent of the total requirement. Such advanced biofuels include ethanol derived from cellulosic biomass through processes similar to those being employed by Enerkem and GreenField at Edmonton.

In 2007, the United States Department of Energy pledged \$385 million to six domestic companies to encourage building cellulosic demonstration plants. The grants are designed to help with the upfront capital costs for plant construction.

With increasing emphasis on producing more renewable energy by governments in the United States and Canada backed by funding and coupled with the environmental and cost challenges associated with landfills, it looks as though landfill waste-to-biofuel is a viable option. Only the technology and time will tell.

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EPA revs up leased construction equipment retrofit program

Working to boost the economy while protecting human health and the environment, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has awarded the Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM) a \$400,000 grant to help retrofit construction equipment that is leased to construction projects throughout the Northeast. Placing emissions controls on this equipment slashes harmful pollutants from diesel engines, which can directly impact people's health. The check was presented to Paul J. Miller, NESCAUM deputy director by George Pavlou, EPA's top local official, at a ceremony at H.O. Penn Machinery in the Bronx, a Caterpillar Equipment dealer with locations through the Northeast.

"Construction equipment is often leased, and getting rental facilities to put pollution controls on their equipment means cleaner air for communities everywhere the leased equipment is used," said Pavlou, acting EPA regional administrator.

NESCAUM, a clean air association of the eight Northeast states, will use the EPA grant to retrofit diesel-powered rental con-

struction equipment operating in the six New England states, New York and New Jersey. According to equipment inventories, as much as 25 percent of construction equipment in these areas is owned by rental companies, which is often not equipped with available clean diesel technology. NESCAUM will also work with the construction industry associations in the region and with the manufacturers of emission control devices to aid vehicle retrofits and target rental companies, provide guidance in selecting vendors and technologies, and facilitate competitive bids for the control technology and its installation. The retrofit project runs from December 2008 through December 2010.

Throughout the nation, EPA is helping diesel grantees use the funds to implement clean diesel projects that will cut thousands of tons of diesel emissions, including particulate matter and nitrogen oxides.

To learn more about funding and grant opportunities currently available and to apply before deadlines, visit www.epa.gov/region02/eparecovery.

New Hampshire Earth Day compost bin sale a success

In celebration of Earth Day 2009, the Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRRA) sponsored their Annual Compost Bin Sale to support nature's way of recycling.

The organic portion of the waste stream contains yard waste and kitchen waste, each representing 25 percent of total waste generated. The average waste generated per household in North America is approximately 2,000 lbs per year and it is estimated that about 50 percent of the total waste stream could be composted.

Utilizing the principal of cooperative purchasing to leverage lower prices, the NRRRA was able to offer participating groups Earth Machine backyard compost

bins for half the retail price. These 80 gallon bins, which are made of 100 percent recycled plastic, enable residents to convert leaves, grass and table scraps into an abundant supply of rich garden soil.

In total, participants in the sale sold 1,820 compost bins. Each bin diverts approximately 500 pounds of organic matter from household waste per year, diverting it from collection, the landfill or incinerator. This year's sale will help divert a total of over 910,000 pounds of waste; which is the equivalent of 38 garbage trucks full of waste.

Sixty organizations in four states participated in the sale.

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Illegal construction activities net EPA fines

Wetlands are valuable resources that can't be altered or filled for convenience sake, a lesson that two land owners in Dutchess County learned recently. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reached an agreement with Cogi, LLC and Quaker Hills, LLC to settle violations of wetlands rules under the federal Clean Water Act related to the illegal development of wetlands on their land in Pawling, New York. The companies filled and disrupted part of a large tract of wetlands, which help supply New York City's drinking water. In the settlement, the two companies will pay a \$50,000 fine, and create two acres of new wetlands and a new stream.

"Wetlands are particularly critical when it comes to filtering water that is used as drinking water and EPA remains vigilant in protecting New York City's drinking water supply," said acting regional administrator George Pavlou. "Wetlands help filter out contaminants, and even small sections are important, particularly in this case, where much of the water filtering through these wetlands ends

up at the taps of eight million people in New York City."

The companies filled in a 0.75-acre portion of wetlands and relocated a 630-foot segment of a stream without first getting proper authorization, which would have required them to assess alternatives to destroying the wetlands and also ways to make up for their loss, if deemed unavoidable.

The wetlands and stream are part of a 20-acre wetland near Brady Brook, a stream that flows to the east branch of the Croton River and the Great Swamp wetlands. The portion either filled or, in the case of the stream, moved is located at Cogi Farm, an equestrian center in Pawling, New York. Cogi, LLC and Quaker Hills, LLC, own the property on which Cogi Farm sits. The owners violated the Clean Water Act when building a level field for equestrian activities, including polo. The work took place during 2004 and 2005.

Additional information is available for this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

WM and Tropicana launch national recycling initiative

Tropicana and Waste Management announced the launch of a national initiative to increase the number of juice and milk cartons recycled.

Waste Management will be accepting juice and milk beverage cartons. The initiative will kick-off the long-term goal of increasing beverage carton recycling to every community across the nation.

In areas currently accepting cartons, residents can easily recycle juice, milk, soy, broth and other cartons through their curbside recycling program. For consumers who separate recyclables, cartons can be placed with bottles and cans.

Tropicana, Waste Management, Dean Foods and the Carton Council launched a successful pilot in Tampa, Florida to expand carton recycling and to educate consumers to recycle their cartons. Encouraged by the Florida pilot, the initiative is now expanding to include all areas that Waste Management has recycling processing facilities.

Waste Management separates the cartons from the other recyclables and sends them to secondary mills for recycling. Juice and milk cartons, like those used by Tropicana, are recycled through a process called hydropulping, which recovers the paper fibers. The fibers are then recycled into tissue, paper towels, and other paper products.

The Tropicana carton is largely made of a renewable resource (85 percent paper and 15 percent polymer). The paperboard in Tropicana's carton recently received certification from the Sustainable Forestry Initiative.

DEP fines Veolia for waste violations

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has fined Veolia ES Solid Waste of PA Inc. more than \$11,200 for residual and municipal waste violations last fall in Cameron and Centre counties.

DEP inspectors responded to a complaint at GKN Sinter Metals in Emporium, Pennsylvania in November 2008. A few days earlier, the driver of a Veolia truck with a roll-off dumpster was observed draining an estimated 100 gallons of dilute coolant and rust preventative into a storm drain at the garbage dock.

The drain led directly to a DEP-permitted outfall that empties into the Driftwood Branch of Sinnemahoning Creek.

GKN employees had placed absorbent pads and booms in the creek, but DEP inspectors were still able to see a sheen on the creek's surface.

The discharge violated the Pennsylvania Clean Streams Law and DEP's residual waste regulations.

In December 2008, DEP staff inspected a Veolia truck with a roll-off dumpster and observed that the load was leaking, which violated DEP's municipal waste regulations.

The \$11,247 fine was paid to the Solid Waste Abatement Fund, which is used to help pay for cleanups across the state.



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New California Product Stewardship Act approved

The Assembly Natural Resources Committee approved AB 283, "The California Product Stewardship Act," introduced by Assemblymember Wesley Chesbro (D-First District). The landmark bill would incentivize producers to design products and packaging that are less toxic, more durable, reusable, recyclable and/or biodegradable, which would in turn reduce waste, litter, and greenhouse gases and create thousands of green jobs.

"AB 283 takes on the big issue of reducing the cost of waste in our society by increasing the responsibility of those who produce the materials that end up in our landfills," Chesbro said.

AB 283 proposes a comprehensive Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Framework, which establishes one law to address a wide range of products that end up in California landfills and have a significant impact on the

environment and on local government budgets to manage waste. AB 283 provides a systematic approach to managing product waste but still allows flexibility for individual producers to develop stewardship plans based on the uniqueness of each product.

The Natural Resources Committee approved the bill with a 5-3 vote. AB 283 next goes to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Manufacturers and pharmaceutical companies are speaking out against "The California Product Stewardship Act." However, Sanborn points to successful EPR programs in Canada and Europe, where business and industry have embraced the financial and environmental benefits of product stewardship.

For more details about AB 283, "The California Product Stewardship Act," view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

WM acquires lamp recyclers

Waste Management, Inc. (WMI) announced that its WM LampTracker subsidiaries have acquired assets of H.T.R., Inc. and Earth Protection Services, Inc. which will bring additional scale and capabilities to its WM LampTracker compact fluorescent light bulb recycling business.

These acquisitions fit into Waste Management's strategy and primary financial goals of earnings growth, margin expansion, strong cash flow generation and increasing the Company's long-term return on invested capital.

In addition to its existing Roseville, Minnesota lamp processing facility, Waste Management's WM LampTracker® subsidiaries now have processing facilities in Kaiser, Missouri, Glendale, Arizona and Williamston, South Carolina. The other operational locations are Phoenix, Arizona, Mira Loma, California, Tigard, Oregon, Round Rock, Texas and Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

WM LampTracker provides total-care solutions for the storage, handling, transport and recycling of fluorescent lamps for small, medium and large-scale businesses across the United States, as well as for residential consumers through Waste Management's Think Green From Home program. In addition to fluorescent bulb recycling, WM LampTracker also provides recycling services for other universal wastes such as batteries and small electronics.

For more information on CFL, battery and electronic waste recycling, view this article on www.Americanrecycler.com

Fred was telling his friend how his uncle tried to make a new car for himself. "So he took wheels from a Cadillac, a radiator from a Ford, some tires and fenders from a Plymouth..."

"Holy cow," interrupted his friend, "What did he end up with?"

Fred replied, "Two years."

Veolia honors WESCO

The Electronics Recycling Division (ERD) of Veolia ES Technical Solutions announced that WESCO International, Inc. is the winner of its Environmental Stewardship Award for 2008.

WESCO International, Inc. is a Fortune 500 company providing electrical maintenance, repair and operations (MRO) products, construction materials, and advanced integrated supply procurement outsourcing services.

Each year ERD nominates valued customers that have exhibited a dedication to environmental stewardship that goes above and beyond that of a simple recycling program and selects a national winner. WESCO's integration of environmental protection, continual improvement, and environmental awareness efforts exemplify what it means for a company to pursue environmentally sustainable business practices.



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2010 Mazda3 earns EPA smartway designation

The 2010 MAZDA3 has earned the coveted SmartWay designation from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), certifying it as one of the best environmental performers among light duty vehicles.

The EPA developed the SmartWay light duty program to give consumers the opportunity to identify and compare vehicles according to their environmental performance. Each vehicle receives two environmental scores, on a scale of 1-10: A Greenhouse Gas Score (reflects carbon dioxide (CO2) and other greenhouse gas emissions) and an Air Pollution Score (reflects vehicle tailpipe emissions that contribute to local and regional air pollution). The SmartWay certification mark is achieved if a vehi-

cle receives a minimum of a 6 on both the Greenhouse Gas Score and the Air Pollution Score AND receives a combined score of 13 or higher.

Despite an increase in power and displacement, fuel efficiency ratings show no loss over the 2009 2.3-liter models, with EPA figures of 21 city and 29 highway with a manual transmission, 22 city and 29 highway with the new automatic.

Mazda Motor Corporation announced in 2008 that it will reduce the fuel consumption of Mazda vehicles sold globally by an average 30 percent by 2015 through the introduction of a new family of four-cylinder engines, improved aerodynamics and reduced weight and rolling resistance.

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AUTO

Salvage companies must report to national database

Now, federal rules require all insurance carriers, auto recyclers, salvage yards, and junk yards to report total loss and salvage vehicle data to the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS).

The rules also apply to any entities that handle, control, own, or acquire salvage vehicles, such as salvage pools, salvage auctions, pull or pick-apart yards, scrap-vehicle shredders, scrap-metal processors, and crushers.

The rules require that salvage companies report, at minimum, every thirty days. However, the Department of Justice strongly recommends that insurance carriers report within 24 hours to help maintain the accuracy of NMVTIS.

NMVTIS contains title, odometer, and brand information (such as "flood" or "rebuilt") which is maintained even when a vehicle changes title from one

state to another. Without a nation-wide program of this kind, criminals can re-title a damaged vehicle in another state with no record of the damage or replace a clean-title junk vehicle with a stolen car of similar make and model. By making these fraudulent activities more difficult if not impossible, NMVTIS can help keep unsafe vehicles off the road and prevent criminal activity.

Currently, insurers and salvage companies must report their data through a third-party provider such as Auto Data Direct, Inc. (ADD), which allows electronic reporting via its website at www.add123.com. ADD has developed innovative "back-end" tools that allow batch reporting for high-volume companies but also accommodate smaller operations with fewer vehicles to report.

Tiedemann elected president of American Salvage Pool

Bill Tiedemann was elected president of the American Salvage Pool Association (ASPA). As ASPA president, Tiedemann will have responsibility for the general supervision, direction and control of the association's affairs. He will coordinate all executive functions with the executive director and the management company.

Jerry Sullivan, a partner at QCSA Auto Auctions, is ASPA's 2009-2010 president-elect, and Bo Wroten, owner/managing member of Insurance Salvage Solutions, will serve as ASPA's 2009-2010 immediate past president.

ASPA membership approved Tiedemann for the position in March 2008 at the annual meeting. Tiedemann, Sullivan and Wroten assumed their new positions at ASPA's annual Conference and Industry Symposium. Tiedemann is vice president and general manager of Total Resource Auctions.

Tiedemann has been associated with ASPA since 2005 and has served on the Connectivity and Legislative committees. He also served on the board of directors for the past three years and is the organization's 2008-2009 president-elect.

Tiedemann's career in the auction industry began in 1981 at the Airport Auto Auction in Oregon, where he served as general manager with multiple management positions following.

Tiedemann joined Manheim in 1989. In 1990, he took over the responsibility for Manheim reconditioning operations, and in 1991, he became director of special operations for best practices, reconditioning operations and capital projects. Tiedemann advanced to vice president of special operations a year later, overseeing reconditioning and the Ford Motor Company relationship. He was promoted to his current position in 2005.

URG creates Pinnacle upgrade to help recyclers with federal reports

The United Recyclers Group (URG) has announced a new benefit for members that will help them remain in compliance with upcoming Federal requirements for all automotive recyclers. At no cost to URG members, a server based program has been developed that will be able to extract the required data from the widely used Pinnacle Auto Recycling Trading System and automatically forward the data to the

National Motor Vehicle Titles Information System (NMVTIS).

"We are always looking for ways to help URG members prosper and maintain their leadership positions within the automotive recycling industry," says Michelle Alexander, URG executive director. "This new feature for Pinnacle, the professional salvage yard management system, does just that. Once a month the data required by the

Federal government will automatically be sent by a program on the user's Pinnacle server, to the URG server and then forwarded on to the Federal government, in a complete and timely fashion, in compliance with all federal requirements. For our members, that means little or no effort required."

Established by federal law in 1992, NMVTIS is a United States Department of Justice (DOJ) system that is operated on behalf of DOJ by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators. NMVTIS is an electronic system that enables users to access automobile titling information, including brand history and certain historical theft data. A "brand" is a descriptive label assigned to a vehicle by a state that identifies the vehicle's current or prior condition, such as "junk," "salvage," or "flood."

By standardizing and centralizing information collection from various state motor vehicle titling agencies, automobile recyclers, junk and salvage yards, and insurance carriers, NMVTIS protects states and consumers from title fraud, keeps stolen vehicles from being re-titled, and makes it more difficult for criminals to con-

ceal stolen vehicles for criminal purposes. As of March 1, 2009, there are 37 states (representing 73% of the United States vehicle population) that are fully participating, providing data only, or are in the development process.

The National Salvage Vehicle Reporting Program (NSVRP) is a not-for-profit (501c3) organization created to work with third party organizations, such as URG, who will be reporting data to DOJ on behalf of automotive recyclers.

Howard Nusbaum, NSVRP administrator, said, "What URG is doing is benefiting Pinnacle users, because they don't have to make any extra effort to comply with the new federal reporting requirement. Even better, as the system continues to evolve and change, Pinnacle customers can feel comfortable that URG will be looking after them."

URG has created a training tool to promote understanding of the modern automotive recycling industry. The PowerPoint presentation, "Green, Lean, and Sustainable: The New Era of Automotive Recycling," is now available from URG.

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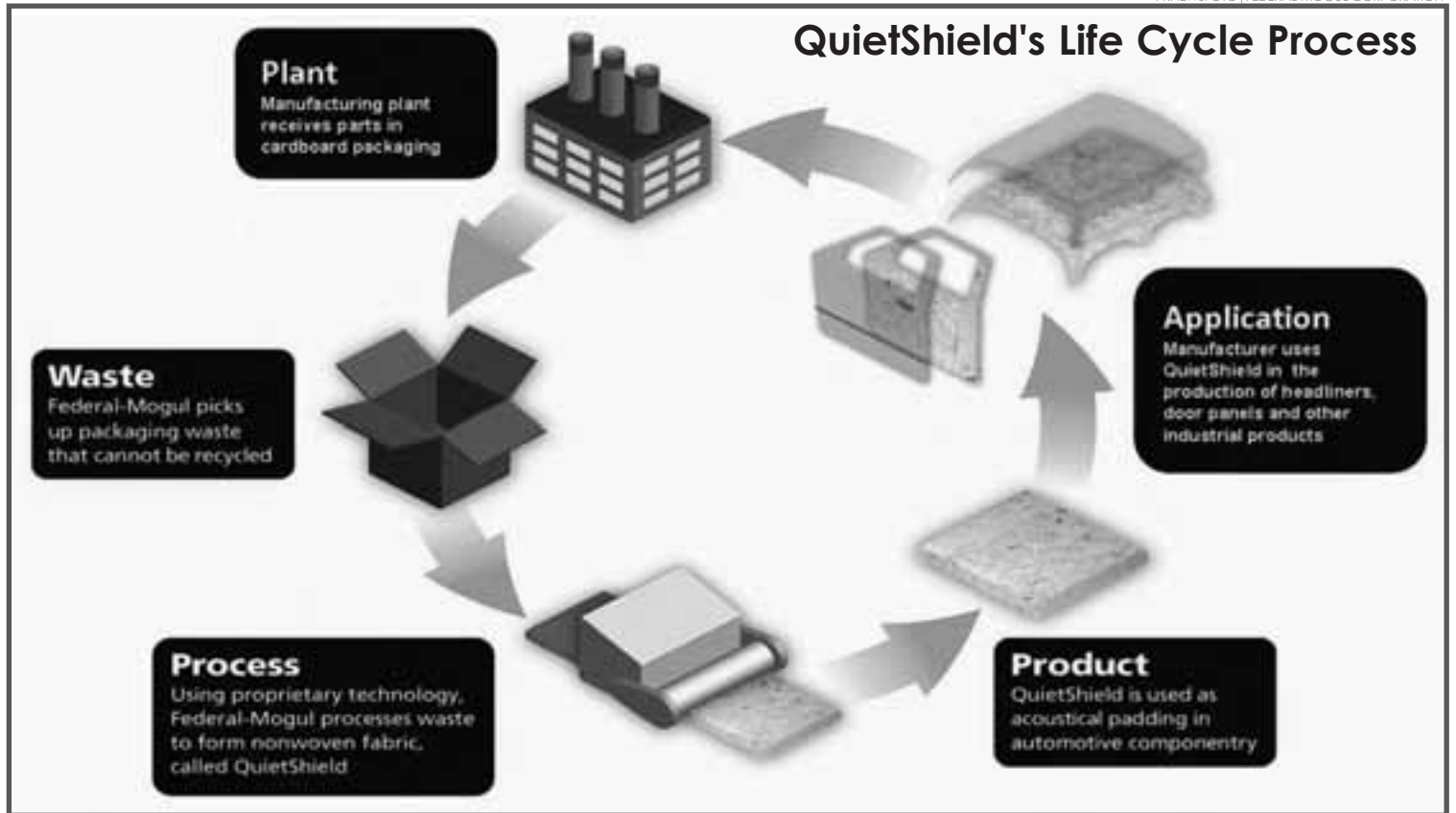
An innovative example of auto recycling presented

PRNEWSFOTO | FEDERAL-MOGUL CORPORATION

Federal-Mogul Corporation recently introduced an innovative, environmentally-friendly product that uses recycled material typically deposited in a landfill to eliminate noise in an automobile's cabin. QuietShield GRN (green non-woven), an acoustical padding for use in vehicle headliners, door panels and kick panels, is manufactured using recycled cardboard packaging and other byproducts normally discarded at a vehicle assembly plant. QuietShield debuted as part of a headliner assembly provided by Grupo Antolin on the 2010 Buick LaCrosse luxury sedan.

Automotive manufacturing plants today receive numerous parts for delivery to the assembly line in cardboard containers and other packaging. Some of these containers are made of recyclable materials, others are not. In both cases, when empty, the automaker pays to transport cardboard packaging and other refuse to a recycling center or landfill.

Federal-Mogul's QuietShield offers customers a new solution to these problems. The recyclable by-products collected at the manufacturing plant are shredded, combined with other recycled materials, formed into a web and bonded in a unique manufacturing process by Federal-Mogul. The manufacturing process was developed by Federal-



Mogul's engineering experts, drawing on their expertise in the development and manufacture of high performance textile-based protection products. The padding can be used by automotive manufacturers and other industries to

fabricate linings and sound deadening padding where noise isolation is required.

"Producing acoustical padding from materials that would otherwise be discarded represents an economically-

viable and environmentally-friendly solution, reducing landfill utilization and waste disposal costs," said Ramzi Hermitz, senior vice president, Vehicle Safety and Protection, Federal-Mogul.

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METALS

Steel imports decline in February

Based on preliminary Census Bureau data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that the United States imported a total of 1,553,000 net tons (NT) of steel in February 2009, including 1,443,000 NT of finished steel (down 34 percent and 33 percent, respectively, vs. January final data). Total and finished steel imports on an annualized basis are down 26 and 17 percent, respectively, vs. 2008. Annualized total imports of steel in 2009 would be 21.6 million MT. Finished steel import market share is an estimated 29 percent in February, just below the 32 percent average in the fourth quarter of 2008.

Key products with increases in February 2009 compared to January include Electrical Sheet and Strip (up 42 percent), Cold finished Bars (up 22 percent), Plates in Coils (up 14 percent) and Hot Rolled Sheets (up 9 percent).

U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN (Thousands of Net Tons)					
	FEB 2009	JAN 2009	FEB 2008	2008 Annual	% Change 2009 Annual vs. 2008
CHINA	268	436	236	4,821	-12.4%
SOUTH KOREA	139	260	151	2,305	3.8%
JAPAN	99	148	88	1,614	-8.1%
INDIA	75	81	83	1,102	-15.3%
TURKEY	67	112	72	827	30.1%
BRAZIL	58	42	49	436	38.3%
TAIWAN	35	77	56	662	1.3%
GERMANY	34	102	95	1,122	-27.2%
All Others	668	899	1,096	13,067	-28.1%
TOTAL	1,443	2,156	2,204	25,956	-16.8%

In February, the largest volume of finished imports from offshore was from China (268,000 NT, down 39 percent from January). The February tonnage from China was 19 percent of all finished imports and, based on the February data, finished steel imports from China in 2009 would annualize at 4.2 million NT.

Other major offshore suppliers in February were Korea (139,000 NT, down 47 percent from January), Japan (99,000, down 33 percent), India (75,000 NT, down 7 percent), Turkey (67,000 NT, down 40 percent) and Brazil (58,000 NT, up 39 percent).

FeMET initiative accepting grant proposals

The American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) and the Association for Iron & Steel Technology (AIST) Foundation's "Ferrous Metallurgy Education Today," or FeMET Initiative, which is aimed at attracting top scholastic talent to the North American steel industry, is now accepting design and curriculum development grant proposals for the 2009-2010 school year.

The FeMET Design Grant Program seeks innovative designs and solutions for industry-related issues. Student-professor teams are asked to address an important industry concern or "challenge" by working collaboratively. Proposals must include the team's approach/methodology, including a budget and schedule. Proposals will be judged based on: technical

approach and relation to the theme, probability of success and its potential benefits and team qualifications. The program may award up to \$50,000.

The theme for 2009 is two-part; first "The Description of the State of the Art Modeling Techniques," and second "The Detailing of how they can be Applied to Steel Processes and the Benefits that could be Derived." Teams must quantify the benefits arising out of the proposed technique and study. The work should cover both parts of the theme. Teams may propose to perform one or more comparative studies, as long as they remain within the budget parameters in the proposal instructions.

Completed proposals must be submitted electronically, via PDF, to manu-

facturingt@steel.org by May 31, 2009. Awardees will be announced July 31, 2009. Questions about the design grant program or the proposal process should be directed to BV Lakshminarayana at blakshmi@steel.org or 202-452-7143.

FeMET Curriculum Development Grant proposals are being solicited from Professors of ferrous metallurgy or materials science at North American Universities for funding of a curriculum development assistant to enhance or update industry curriculum in ferrous metallurgy programs. The program objective is to utilize students to assist in the editing and updating of course materials, with an underlying objective to increase industry awareness within the academic community. The proposals must indicate how the professor will approach the task, including budget and schedule requirements. Up to five university professors will be awarded \$5,000 each.

The maximum allowable time for a curriculum development grant is five years, beginning in the fall of 2009. The number of awards granted depends on fund availability; each grant will be \$5,000 maximum per year for five years, totaling \$25,000.

Proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria: direct benefits to the iron and steel industry and the ferrous metallurgy/materials science programs in North America, the plan's potential to increase the number of students studying metallurgy and materials science in North America, and the expertise and capabilities of the professor to fulfill the program objective.

Completed proposals must be submitted electronically, via PDF, to lwharrey@aist.org by June 30, 2009. Awardees will be announced July 31, 2009. Questions about the curriculum development program and/or proposal process should be directed to Lori Wharrey at lwharrey@aist.org or 724-814-3044.

Commodity		Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5
#1 Bushelings	per gross ton	\$170.00	\$130.00	\$150.00	\$185.00	\$180.00
#1 Bundles	per gross ton	170.00	130.00	150.00	185.00	177.00
Plate and Structural	per gross ton	169.00	140.00	147.00	169.00	175.00
#1 & 2 Mixed Steel	per gross ton	160.00	130.00	135.00	157.00	158.00
Shredder Bundles (tin)	per gross ton	145.00	120.00	125.00	120.00	134.00
Crushed Auto Bodies	per gross ton	140.00	125.00	125.00	125.00	134.00
Steel Turnings	per pound	60.00	55.00	65.00	65.00	75.00
#1 Copper	per pound	1.65	1.94	1.95	1.85	1.96
#2 Copper	per pound	1.60	1.65	1.83	1.70	1.91
Aluminum Cans	per pound	.35	.35	.40	.40	.44
Auto Radiators	per pound	1.00	1.10	.97	.95	1.33
Aluminum Core Radiators	per pound	.35	.34	.30	.35	.62
Heater Cores	per pound	.50	.64	.75	.89	.94
Stainless Steel	per pound	.37	.35	.45	.45	.49

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

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METALS

Steel import permits drop

Based on the Commerce Department's most recent Steel Import Monitoring and Analysis (SIMA) data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that steel import permit applications for the month of March totaled 1,416,000 net tons (NT). This was a 15 percent decrease from the 1,661,000 permit tons recorded in February 2009, and a 9 percent decrease from the February preliminary imports total of 1,553,000 NT. Import permit tonnage for finished steel in March was 1,353,000 NT, a decrease of 6 percent from the preliminary imports total of 1,443,000 NT in February.

In March 2009, the largest finished steel import permit applications for offshore countries were for China (155,000 NT), South Korea (126,000 NT), Japan (113,000 NT), India (93,000 NT) and Turkey (77,000 NT). Cumulative tonnage from the top three offshore suppliers (China, South Korea and Japan) accounted for 31 percent of all finished imports in March, which was equal to the amount from NAFTA countries (32 percent). Finished steel import market share in March is estimated at close to 30 percent, remaining at an elevated level in comparison to recent annual import totals.

Major finished steel imports that registered large increases in March vs. the February preliminary include Reinforcing Bar (up 176 percent), Mechanical Tubing (up 32 percent), Line Pipe (up 32 percent) and Standard Rails (up 22 percent).

Universal Stainless raises base prices

Universal Stainless & Alloy Products, Inc. announced a base price increase of \$0.05 per pound on all air-melted stainless bar products manufactured at its Dunkirk facility.

The increase is effective immediately for all new orders. Published material and energy surcharges will remain in effect.

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

Stellarwind Bio Energy launches new algae-fuel facility in Indiana

Stellarwind Bio Energy, LLC, a producer of fuel oil from algae, announced the opening of its new small scale pilot production facility and corporate headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana. With a 1/10th acre greenhouse, expanded office space and an advanced R&D facility, the company is rapidly moving into the next phase of its business development plan.

Leveraging two years of research, design and development, the new headquarters will allow Stellarwind Bio Energy to build a scaled pilot production facility deploying its PhycoGenic Reactor™ and PhycoProcessor™. During this phase intensive effort will continue as the company refines its systems and manufacturing processes.

Unlike corn which produces between 150-330 gallons of ethanol per acre per year, or soy that produces between 70-100 gallons of bio-diesel per acre per year, algae can produce in excess of 10,000 gal-

lons of fuel oil per acre annually. In addition, the oil produced is far superior to ethanol or bio-diesel, in that it can be sent directly to a refinery for conversion into gasoline, kerosene or aviation fuel.

"Renewable, eco-friendly fuel sources are no longer an option; they are now a necessity. For years, science has known that algae are a far better producer of fuel oils than other biological sources. The problem has been to cost-effectively build a bioreactor that can inexpensively grow, harvest and process commercially viable quantities of fuel oil from algae. We are committed to deploying such a system," stated Kassebaum.

Stellarwind Bio Energy's PhycoGenic Reactor is based on a proprietary approach which will allow the company to grow algae at a very affordable cost per liter. The technology in our system is being designed for high scalability, simple construction and easy maintenance.

Keith Masavage, executive vice president of marketing and business development summarized the process. "Our holistic approach uses four basic components; our PhycoGenic Reactor, PhycoProcessor, RecyCO2Tron™, and Resource Recovery System™ (RRSTM). First, carbon-dioxide is acquired from any major greenhouse-gas producer such as power plants or manufacturing facilities using our RecyCO2Tron. This CO2 is fed into the PhycoGenic Reactor which continuously grows and harvests the algae.

"The harvested algae are fed into the PhycoProcessor which extracts the oils. Residual bio-mass is fed into our RSSTM process which can convert it into one of several valuable resources including methane, industrial grade charcoal, fertilizer and/or synthesis gas. Our goal is to produce a continuously renewable energy source that is ecologically friendly, uses everything, and wastes nothing."

Alliance Landfill turns methane into electricity

Rather than burning the methane produced at its operation in Lackawanna County and releasing it into the air, Alliance Landfill will turn that gas into electricity under plans approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Putting the gas, which is produced as garbage decomposes, to beneficial use offers environmental and economic benefits, according to DEP Northeast regional director Michael Bedrin.

DEP required Alliance to develop alternative plans to deal with its landfill gas when the department issued an operating permit renewal in July. The plans DEP approved were submitted by the company in November to transmit its gas to an off-site facility.

Methane gas generated at the landfill, which is located in Taylor Borough and Ransom Township, will be cleansed

and piped to the PEI Energy Co-generation facility in Archbald Borough where it will produce an estimated 15 megawatts of electricity. The co-gen plant generates about 106 megawatts of electricity using a combination of landfill and natural gas.

UGI Corp is now building a pipeline to transmit the gas from

Alliance to a compressor and filtering station at the landfill. From there, it will go on to the co-generation facility.

DEP is continuing its review of a permit application from Alliance seeking an 87.3 acre expansion and an increase in its average daily volumes from 2,000 tons per day to 4,000 tons per day.



TC-50 TIRE CUTTER

The TC-50 is designed to cut passenger and light truck tires, 17" and smaller, into 4 pieces at the rate of 60 per hour. Available with 9 HP Briggs & Stratton gas engine or 3 HP, 220 single phase, electric motor. The TC-50 is easy to operate, low maintenance, dependable and designed for years of service.



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Price: \$90,000



2001 Sierra 500SL Shear/Baler/Logger
Price: \$375,000



2003 John Deere Excavator with 2006 LaBounty Shear 1500
Price: \$139,000



380 Sierra Shear/Baler/Logger
Price: \$250,000

All Offers Will Be Considered

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ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

AT&T to deploy more than 15,000 alternative fuel vehicles

Through an initiative that highlights the growing demand for cleaner domestic vehicles, AT&T has announced plans to invest up to \$565 million as part of a long-term strategy to deploy more than 15,000 alternative-fuel vehicles over the next 10 years. AT&T expects to spend an estimated \$350 million to purchase about 8,000 compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicles and approximately \$215 million to begin replacing its passenger cars with alternative-fuel models.

AT&T's investment represents the largest United States corporate commitment to CNG vehicles to date. The new deployments will bring AT&T's alternative-fuel fleet to more than 15,000 vehicles by 2019.

"AT&T and other United States corporations have a unique opportunity to partner with the new administration as it works to lead the country out of this economic downturn," said Randall Stephenson, chairman and chief executive officer of AT&T Inc. "While there are no easy solutions to the challenges facing our nation, this investment is a first step on our part to help boost other industries while at the same time encouraging wider use and production of efficient vehicles and domestic fuel alternatives."

The Center for Automotive Research (CAR) in Ann Arbor, Michi-

gan, estimates that the new vehicles will save 49 million gallons of gasoline and reduce carbon emissions by 211,000 metric tons over the 10-year deployment period. That is equivalent to removing the emissions from more than 38,600 traditional passenger vehicles for a year.

Over the next five years, AT&T will replace about 8,000 gasoline-powered service vehicles with vehicles powered by domestically available CNG. CNG vehicles are expected to emit approximately 25 percent less greenhouse gas emissions than those traditionally powered by gasoline.

The vehicle chassis will be built domestically by a domestic automotive manufacturer. AT&T will then work with domestic suppliers to convert the chassis to run on CNG. AT&T will also work with natural gas service providers to build up to 40 new CNG fueling stations across its operating region to provide the fueling infrastructure needed for the new vehicles. This investment will have a positive impact on job creation and preservation. CAR estimates that nearly 1,000 jobs will be created or saved each year for five years.

As it begins to retire gasoline-powered passenger vehicles in its fleet, AT&T has committed to replacing them with alternative-fuel models. AT&T expects to replace 7,100 passenger cars

over the next 10 years. The alternative-fuel vehicles, which will be used by employees in a variety of diverse work functions across AT&T's operations, are expected to offer up to a 39 percent improvement in fuel economy and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 29 percent.

During the initial phase of the deployment, gasoline-powered passenger vehicles will be replaced with hybrid models. As technologies evolve, additional alternative-fuel vehicle types will be considered for inclusion.

"Economic times are tough, but tough times make it even more important to look for efficient solutions," said Stephenson. "This is part of a long-term strategy that will help us continue to cut operating costs, reduce emissions in the communities we serve and make our business even more sustainable."

In 2009, AT&T will deploy nearly 800 of the CNG and hybrid electric vehicles. A Green Technology insignia will make the vehicles easy to identify on the road.

The new CNG/passenger vehicle commitment follows AT&T's deployment of 105 alternative-fuel vehicles in more than 30 cities in June 2008. In addition, AT&T piloted four Ford Escape hybrids, which were deployed in late 2007 in California.

Coal plant converted to biomass Project will result in one of the largest biomass facilities

FirstEnergy Corp. announced that it plans to repower units 4 and 5 at its R.E. Burger Plant in Shadyside, Ohio, to generate electricity principally with biomass. When the retrofit is complete, the Burger Plant is expected to be one of the largest biomass facilities in the United States. The announcement was made by FirstEnergy president and chief executive officer Anthony J. Alexander and Ohio Governor Ted Strickland at the plant.

The company was facing a March 31, 2009, deadline to determine the future of the plant under the terms of a Consent Decree related to the company's 2005 New Source Review settlement.

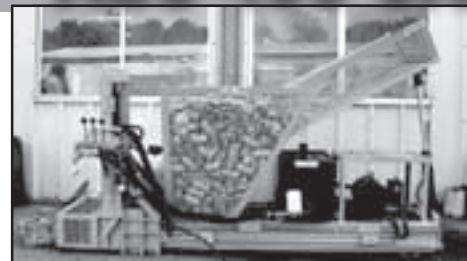
The company expects the project to feature a closed-loop system, meaning it would use biomass derived from an energy crop grown specifically for use as a fuel source. This energy crop would act as a carbon sink, removing as much carbon dioxide from the environment when it is growing as it releases when it is burned. In addition, burning principally with biomass at the plant would produce lower emissions overall than if it was retrofitted with a scrubber.

The capital cost for retrofitting the Burger Plant to burn biomass is estimated to be approximately \$200 million. Once the project is completed, units 4 and 5 of the Burger Plant could be capable of producing up to 312 megawatts (MW) of electricity - its current capacity. This is enough electricity to power approximately 190,000 homes, making it one of the largest biomass facilities in the United States based on generating capacity.

Dual-array solar panels installed

GreenWaste Recovery and SolarCity announced the completion of a dual-array, 1,502-panel solar power system that will provide renewable power to GreenWaste's Material Recovery Facility (MRF) in San Jose. SolarCity designed and installed the 50,000 square feet arrays on GreenWaste's material recovery facility and transfer station, located near downtown San Jose.

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ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

Valero Energy to accelerate production of green gasoline

Terrabon, L.L.C., a technology developer of green gasoline from landfill waste, announced that the leading petroleum refiner in the United States, San Antonio-based Valero Energy Corporation, has funded the first installment, as lead investor, in Terrabon's current round of equity financing.

Terrabon will use the financing to accelerate the commercial deployment of its unique acid fermentation technology that converts readily available, low-cost biomass (including municipal solid waste from landfills) into chemicals that can be processed into renewable green gasoline.

Terrabon is currently in the start-up phase of its Advanced Biofuels Research Facility in Bryan, Texas, which will con-

firm the commercial feasibility of the Company's MixAlco™ technology. Mix-Alco is an advanced bio-refining technology, developed in cooperation with Texas A&M University, which converts low-cost, readily available, non-food biomass into valuable chemicals such as acetic acid and ketones that can be processed into gasoline.

This gasoline is not ethanol. It has a higher energy value than ethanol, as comparable to regular gasoline, and can be blended directly with regular gasoline.

Valero's previous investments in renewable fuels technologies include work with biofuels companies and the purchase of seven ethanol plants in the Upper Midwest.

Republic sells landfill gas to power Lafarge cement plant

Courtney Ridge Landfill to supply the methane gas

Republic Services Inc. will provide landfill gas, a locally produced, cost-effective source of renewable energy, from its Courtney Ridge Landfill to the neighboring Lafarge-Sugar Creek Cement Plant. Lafarge, the largest supplier of cement products in the United States and Canada, will use landfill gas to replace nearly 20 percent of its coal at the Sugar Creek, Missouri cement plant. The project will use 2,400 cubic feet per minute of landfill gas as a direct fuel to assist in firing the kiln during Portland cement production.

The methane currently captured and destroyed at the Courtney Landfill will be utilized as fuel in the production of Portland cement thanks to the vision of

Republic Services and Lafarge. The project will reduce CO2 emissions by an estimated 33,000 tons annually, which is the equivalent of planting more than 8,000 acres of forest or removing emissions from more than 5,500 motor vehicles.

Republic supported Lafarge's efforts to build the nearly \$2 million project that consists primarily of a pipeline and gas processing unit. The Courtney Ridge Landfill's recently expanded gas recovery system consists of 32 wells, averaging 100 feet deep, over a 64 acre area. The landfill gas recovery system delivers gas to an on-site gas processing unit which compresses and removes moisture from the gas, measures its volume and heat value, and transports it via a pipeline to the cement plant. The gas pipeline is 6,500 feet long and runs from the landfill underneath MO-291 Highway to the neighboring cement plant.

PLASTICS

Harrington Industrial Plastics opens branches

Harrington Industrial Plastics has opened two new branches this year. The newest locations have been placed in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and Grand Rapids, Michigan. Harrington has grown from a regional distributorship to the largest distributor of industrial plastic piping systems in the United States in the last 50 years.

Harrington began with the purpose of servicing customers that handle corrosive liquids and has expanded its offerings to include products for customers with high-purity needs and products to help protect the environment. Companies that manufacture semiconductor, pharmaceuticals and bio-pharmaceuticals find Harrington a good resource for their demanding processes.

The new facilities offer fully stocked warehouses, with local delivery and staff available to answer questions.

The new locations also offer the expertise of technically-oriented sales crews to the local areas along with the knowledge and strength of 39 locations nationwide.

ECO2 Plastics reports 2008 results

ECO2 Plastics reported revenues of \$6.7 million for calendar year 2008 versus \$4.3 million during 2007. 2008 operating losses were \$12.3 million versus \$16 million during the prior year.

ECO2 finished the year with an increase in full-year revenue and decreased losses. The company rode through a significant decline in plastic prices and was able to maintain, without a decrease, the spread between buy and sell prices of the commodity. Demand for product continues to exceed supply and the opportunity for growth remains strong in the company's primary market of recycled PET flakes.



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PLASTICS

DuPont and WM launch recycling program for Tyvek

DuPont Nonwovens and Waste Management launched a national mail-in recycling program to capture banners, envelopes and other items printed on DuPont Tyvek®. This would provide a method for printers and other large volume users of printed products who are looking for a responsible and simple alternative to adding Tyvek to the nation's landfills.

Once recycled, Tyvek items will be repurposed for other products such as decking, playground equipment and corrugated pipes. The program answers a growing need for the

return of printed wide-format materials including signs, banners and posters, as well as envelopes, wristbands and racing bibs into existing recycle streams. For more information on ordering recycling kits, visit www.recycletyvek.wm.com.

The program also allows DuPont's customers to track on-line what they have ordered, the weight of each package that was returned and an aggregate total for each year.

"Tyvek is a unique, recyclable product made of high-density polyethylene that can be reused in many ways," said Carolyn Burns, marketing manager – DuPont Nonwovens.

For more than 20 years, DuPont has had a program in place to capture and recycle Tyvek envelopes at its plant in Richmond, Virginia, and recycles approximately 50,000 pounds annually at the site.

The Waste Management alliance will allow DuPont to expand the program in the United States and make it easier for customers to recycle their used banners, envelopes and other products.

Tyvek is made from 100 percent recyclable polyethylene.



Tyvek is used in a wide variety of products.

Dow challenges packaging industry to work together toward 100% recyclability

Plastic packaging is an important part of the solution in the big picture of sustainability, waste and the environment, according to The Dow Chemical Company. In a strong message first delivered to a recent gathering of packaging industry leaders, Dow challenged packaging value chain members to work together toward 100 percent recyclable packaging solutions – and asking consumers to challenge their mis-conceived view of plastic packaging as "waste."

"Plastic packaging is viewed by many consumers as waste, or a problem, or in some cases as unnecessary," said Glenn Wright, commercial vice president for Dow's North American Basic Plastics business. "But if you dig a little deeper, a very different story unfolds, and you realize that plastic packaging can be very much a part of the solution to many challenges facing society. In reality, packaging should be viewed as a waste reducer. It contributes to the extended shelf life of many food products and reduces the amount of product lost to contamination. Through material science advances, companies like Dow are also creating opportunities for thinner and lighter-weight packaging, which can translate into tangible resource savings."

Raising the ante for the packaging industry as a whole, Wright added: "All the players in this industry need to work together to demonstrate the concept of life-cycle thinking when it comes to plastic packaging – from first uses to multiple re-use or traditional recycling, and eventually to the concept of recycle-to-energy – sometimes known as energy-from-waste. This last idea is exciting because it could potentially allow us to make two good uses of plastic packaging, first to save resources when used in a package and sec-

ond as a source of energy that we could harness.

"As I think about these energy-producing possibilities, I ask myself, why do we mine coal for energy, yet bury plastic, even though plastic has nearly twice the energy value, according to the American Chemistry Council?" Wright observed. "Wouldn't it be great if we could help society view used packaging in its true light – a renewable energy resource, not waste?"

While the goal of 100 percent recycling, all the way to recycle-to-energy, is a bold consideration, Dow is calling on industry leaders to join it in challenging the status quo and find ways to initiate this industry-changing concept. For instance, with all rigid packaging materials being recyclable, could the recycling number on packaging be eliminated to reduce confusion and increase public participation in recycling? Could improved product marking for consumers also help them better understand the energy content (or second life value) of plastic packaging?

"The energy content of plastic packaging is significant," Wright said. "If we recycle the petroleum resources we've used back into energy, then we could actually get two uses out of the packaging in the end. Retailers and consumers could then experience these changes most noticeably in terms of energy- and purchase-related cost savings."

For example, thanks to the increased shelf life packaging provides, a grocery store can save 10 percent of energy costs associated with refrigeration. These savings translate into decreased use of natural resources, which could be used to provide a family with electricity for more than 12 years.

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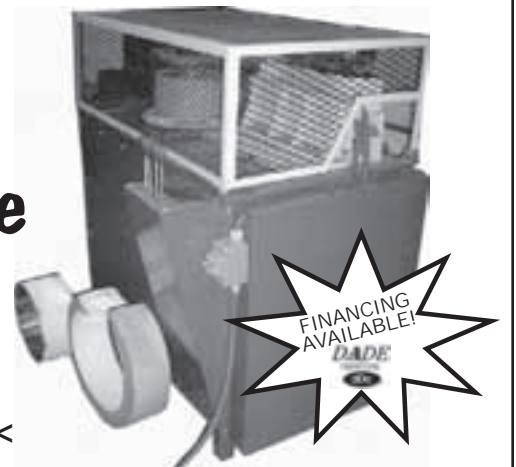
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CMRA honors C&D recycling excellence



Woody Raine, left, from the Texas DOT, accepts the award for Government Recycling Program of the Year from CMRA President James Taylor, Taylor Recycling.



Gil Lopes, left, from New England Recycling, receives his C&D Recycler of the Year award, the highest honor the association can bestow.



Kevin Herb, left, President, Broad Run Recycling, accepts the company's CMRA Award for Mixed C&D Recycler of the Year.

The Texas DOT, Broad Run Recycling in Manassas, Virginia, and Gil Lopes, New England Recycling, were all honored for being the tops in the construction and demolition (C&D) recycling field during the annual meeting of the Construction Materials Recycling Association (CMRA).

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), has one of the largest network of highway miles under its stewardship. In many parts of the state, TxDOT has been a big user of recycled aggregates with the assistant director lauding the advantages of recycled concrete in highway projects.

In just the last two years alone, TxDOT saved approximately 1.8 million tons of virgin aggregates by incorporating recycled concrete aggregate in cement treated base, flexible base, continuously reinforced concrete pavement, filter dams, gabion walls, concrete traffic barriers, flowable fill and select backfill for mechanically stabilized earth walls. This is on top of the state's use of recycled shingles in hot mix asphalt

for a few projects, and the common use of recycled asphalt in many operations.

Broad Run Recycling in Manassas, Virginia is a relatively new facility in the middle of a rapidly expanding area near our nation's capitol. The idea for the facility began when the owners' hauling company had limited nearby recycling options, and there was a growing demand for recycling because of the green building program, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). It is usually government that supports LEED, and it was two government agencies, the Virginia DEQ and local county, that gave Broad Run its 1,500 tons per day permits in record time, showing the support for the facility in the community. Land is at a premium in the area, so Broad Run is located on a lot of less than four acres. The sorting facility is placed within a building to fit in better with the neighborhood. But the facility's point of pride is the ability to do a virtual 100 percent recycling rate for LEED projects. Also, the state DEQ has approved

the recycling plant's C&D fines as a soil product.

Gil Lopes, New England Recycling, Taunton, Massachusetts, received the C&D Recycler of the Year Award from the CMRA.

Gil Lopes runs a facility so highly regarded that the state Department of Environmental Protection has used it for tours and as an example on how to run a C&D operation in its state. As for innovation, the design that Lopes was very active in developing has allowed New England

Recycling to maintain a very high recycling rate and allow for them to extract a multitude of commodities.

When the state of New Hampshire passed its ban on the use of C&D wood as a fuel product, Gil Lopes of New England Recycling stepped up and put his company's name on the CMRA's lawsuit as an aggrieved party. That took a lot of guts to put a spotlight on one's company against a large governmental agency.

Not only did Gil not hesitate, he pushed for the CMRA to go ahead with the lawsuit and has been very financially active in supporting the suit. In addition, Gil has long been a big financial and moral supporter of the CMRA and has always been looked upon as a credible leader for this industry.

The CMRA will hand out its 2010 awards at C&D World, its annual meeting next year in Las Vegas.

For information about the 2010 awards, view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

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Military benefits from double duty program from AT&T

To celebrate this year's recycling milestone of having recycled more than 2.5 million wireless devices since Earth Day 2008, AT&T will help Cell Phones For Soldiers (CPFS) unveil a new advocacy program to reach thousands of young people across the country. The effort will highlight the charity's dual mission, inviting consumers to do "double duty" for the environment and military families by recycling wireless devices. The charity estimates that the proceeds generated from recycling since Earth Day 2008 have enabled the purchase of over 250,000 prepaid phone cards for the troops.

Beginning this summer, AT&T and CPFS will launch cell phone recycling

drives through the American Camp Association (ACA). ACA represents camps and youth programs nationwide. Teens and tweens who are enjoying the environment and learning leadership skills at camp, will compete to see who can create the most environmentally-friendly and creative cell phone recycling bins.

An award will also be given to the camp that collects the most used phones from their communities. CPFS' teen founders will make an appearance at a leading camp later this summer to talk about leadership and taking action to support the environment and fight e-waste.

Call2Recycle reaches milestone in rechargeable battery collection

Call2Recycle announced that total collections since the program's inception in 1994 now exceed 50 million pounds of rechargeable batteries.

Through ongoing initiatives with retail and community partners, grassroots community efforts, and the support for recycling legislation at the state and municipal level, Call2Recycle has steadily grown its annual collections over the past 15 years and spread the rechargeable battery recycling message to consumers nationwide.

The program scope has grown to encompass new battery chemistries and devices. Recognizing that consumers are upgrading their devices at an accelerated rate, Call2Recycle started accepting old cell phones in 2004 to ensure that the batteries they contain are properly recycled. The program further expanded last year by accepting a new battery chemistry – for the first time in seven years – and now collects nickel zinc rechargeable batteries in addition to nickel cadmium, nickel metal hydride, lithium ion and others.

Home program launched to recycle lamps and batteries

Battle Creek, Michigan residents now have a free, convenient solution for responsibly recycling compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and batteries right from their home, thanks to a new program the City of Battle Creek launched.

The city purchased 5,000 battery recycling kits and 2,000 CFL recycling kits through Waste Management's Think Green From Home (TGFH) program, which was launched last year nationwide to provide consumers convenient mail-in solutions to safely store and recycle household devices that contain heavy metal.

TGFH recycling kits will only be available to Battle Creek residents on a first come, first serve basis and will be distributed at the Battle Creek Public Works Office during normal business hours. There will be a limit one free

CFL and one free battery kit recycling kit per household.

The kits are suitable for both the storage and transport of discarded bulbs or batteries and are approved for shipping by the United States Postal Service. Consumers can ship the boxes directly from their home or at any one of the over 34,000 postal offices across the country.

CFLs have increased in use because they reduce energy, however the bulbs contain small amounts of mercury and should be properly recycled. TGFH recycling kits incorporate Mercury VaporLok™ technology, which is designed to reduce the risk of airborne exposure and environmental contamination from lamps broken during storage and shipping.

Sharp expands nationwide electronics recycling initiative

Sharp Electronics Corporation announced the expansion of its nationwide electronics recycling program to include additional collection sites in the Southeast, bringing the entire program to more than 300 collection sites.

More than 30 new drop-off locations throughout Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia will be added for free recycling.

Sharp's recycling program uses the infrastructure developed by the Electronics Manufacturers Recycling Management Company, which now expands through a collaboration with Creative Recycling Solutions, a recycling company that operates collection facilities in the Southeast and Midwest regions of the United States.



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Florida Tire Recycler offers zero landfill option to waste tire cutsomers

Florida Tire Recycling Inc. (FTR), an environmental solutions provider to the tire industry, announced that it will provide customers with a zero landfill option for recycling rubber. In addition to being the first 100 percent zero-landfill tire recycler, FTR is also Florida's first 100 percent clean tech company to employ "green collar" workers. This announcement comes on the heels of the company's recent unveiling of a Closed-Loop Product Lifecycle Solution program designed to recycle, reuse and reclaim 100 percent of discarded waste tires, one of America's greatest sustainable resources and the third most used raw material in United States manufacturing.

Today's tire companies, retail generators and tire recycling companies are on a mission: to ensure discarded tires are recycled into raw materials that make their way back into manufacturing as sustainable, green renewable material inputs – and not just thrown into a landfill to decompose. As part of this recycling initiative, companies are looking to recycling providers for a zero-landfilling process that not only produces high-quality raw material, but also positively impacts their own carbon footprint. In turn, they seek options that are economically viable today and, that over time,

will decrease long-term costs as the recovered materials (rubber, steel and fiber) become more valuable and viable in higher end manufacturing applications.

Florida Tire Recycling leverages today's technological innovation, joint market research and development activities to develop and extend its proprietary systems and processes to allow for 100 percent material recovery – resulting in purer, discrete material streams and, thus, enabling a broader use of the materials contained in a tire. By overcoming the economic barriers associated with tire recycling – market acceptance and working side-by-side with generators and manufacturers, FTR has created a sustainable closed-loop program in the Southeast.

"At FTR, we are committed to creating a recycling alternative that produces zero landfill and significantly reduces not only our own carbon footprint, but that of our customers," states Anthony Cialone, chief operating officer at Florida Tire Recycling. "By getting to zero-landfilling, we are able to recover 100 percent of the components of a scrap tire and manufacture them into sustainable, green and renewable raw materials with zero waste or byproducts."

Magnum enters acquisition negotiations over tire landfill

Magnum D'Or Resources, Inc. has been in negotiations to acquire a tire landfill in the United States.

Joseph Glusic, president and CEO of Magnum stated, "It is somewhat premature to release the full details of our negotiations, but let's just say we have resolved the most significant points of contention between the parties. We anticipate conclusion of our negotiations in short order followed by a Letter of Intent to consummate the deal based on these negotiated terms." Glusic went on to say, "With the addition

of a landfill, this ensures a secure and stable supply of raw material to our operations for a period of at least ten years if not more. This gives us considerable control over our supply costs and the flow of operations that will result in cost saving from both the logistics and economies of scale."

This new development gives Magnum the ability to process waste in a cradle to grave scenario. Initial plans envision a facility on the landfill site to process, test, and produce various products right from the source.

ON TOPIC — Q & A

by Irwin Rapoport

Waste companies cope with challenges

Solid waste management companies (including national integrated publicly-traded corporations, regional solid waste companies, and locally-based trash and recycling collection companies and landfill owners and operators) face a complex business environment for a number of reasons.

Their businesses put many of them at the apex of some of the most pressing environmental concerns of the day.

To learn more about how the industry is coping with these various challenges, American Recycler queried Bruce J. Parker, president and CEO of the National Solid Wastes Management Association.

There have been several mergers in the solid waste management industry in the past year. Do you foresee additional mergers occurring in the next few years and is this a positive or negative for the industry?

Parker: The solid waste industry, in large part, was built through consolidation – primarily through acquisitions. The recent combination of Allied Waste and Republic Services was billed as a merger. In terms of the rationalization of the industry, the difference between these terms is a distinction without a meaningful difference. I have little doubt that we will see more consolidation in the years ahead, and, yes, I do believe that overall it is good for the industry.

I can't remember a period when the industry has been more disciplined in getting the best efficiencies from operations and looking for returns on invested capital and margin growth as opposed to purely revenue growth.

How has the downturn in the economy affected the solid waste management industry and do the affects differ in terms of small operations compared to large multi-nationals and regional players? Is access to credit a problem?

Parker: There is a belief that the solid waste industry is recession resilient, and I believe that is true relative to most other business sectors. However, the industry certainly has been affected by this serious recessionary economy, most notably in the volume declines of both residential and non-construction waste. It's hard to say with certainty that national and large regional companies have more easy access to capital than the smaller independents because there are so many variables.

With the price of recyclables having declined, how has that affected the revenues of solid waste management companies, contracts with municipalities, commercial and institutional clients?

Parker: The nose dive in pricing for recyclable commodities has had a downward revenue impact on companies involved in the recycling chain. In many municipal recycling contracts the inherent volatility risk is shared between the hauler and municipality, and where possible, contracts with commercial and institutional customers have been renegotiated.

How has the fluctuating price of oil affected the transportation budgets of solid waste management companies and what are these companies doing to improve the situation?

Parker: Solid waste companies want to make their transportation budgets as efficient as possible. To this end, many solid waste companies are using routing software and GPS systems for better route time management, ensuring that tires are inflated properly and oil filters are changed regularly, using alternative fuels, such as natural gas, biodiesel and ethanol, and supporting the development of new technologies, such as hybrid trucks.

Has the drop in the price of oil affected operations to recover solid fuels and gases from landfills and investment in future projects to generate electricity and exploit resources at landfills?

Parker: No. The primary drivers for investment in landfill gas as a source of clean, renewable energy are climate change and the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from landfills, and to reduce and eventually eliminate our national dependence on foreign oil.

As environmental concern continues to grow across the nation in terms of the public, businesses, institutions and government, is the solid waste industry finding that it is harder to secure permits to expand existing landfills and create new ones?

Parker: Environmental concerns are not new when it comes to securing permits and constructing solid waste facilities. In my judgment, the enhanced environmental concerns over the past few years have not substantially made it more difficult to obtain facility operating permits. In the past, when one discussed such matters, we often discussed opposition in terms of NIMBY (not in my back yard concerns). Today, resistance is sometimes characterized as NIMTO (not in my term of office) or NOPEs (nowhere on planet earth). However, while the acronyms might have changed, the nature of opposition to development isn't really different. All sorts of development – even development that might seem on its face to be more environmentally desirable, such as wind farms and composting facilities – can face opposition.

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Sonic and Nalco Mobotec enter into joint venture

SONIC Technology Solutions, Inc. announced that it has entered into a joint venture (JV) with Nalco Mobotec, Inc., a Delaware corporation, to expand the use of waste fly ash from coal-fired power stations as a cement substitute. Nalco Mobotec is a subsidiary of Nalco Holding Company based in Naperville, Illinois.

The JV is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of Delaware, which will develop the SonoAsh process to condition waste fly ash as a cement substitute or additive.

Under the agreement, the JV will undertake development of Sonic's process, which physically preconditions waste fly ash and reduces residual carbon. Successful development will lead to a fully commercialized process allowing the waste fly ash to be used as a cement substitute or concrete additive.

The agreement establishes an earn-in arrangement by which Nalco Mobotec is entitled to direct and fund the development process in consideration for an up to 50% interest in the JV. The first phase of commercialization following successful development will lead to a production plant followed by strategic expansion through localized independent processing facilities.

SonoAsh utilizes a proprietary application that Sonic has developed over the last 18 months to convert waste fly ash from coal fired power plants into cement substitutes and additives for the global concrete industry. Under the terms of the JV agreement, Nalco Mobotec will be responsible for the strategic management of the JV and will invest to develop SonoAsh.

SALVAGING Millions

by Ron Sturgeon
Autosalvageconsultant.com

The strategic planning advantage Part 2 of 2

Last month we discussed how most small businesses just don't make the time to do strategic planning, so they don't grow as fast as they otherwise might, and they are always in a response mode, not ready for future conditions. Many big businesses have a systematic method for analyzing future initiatives, quantifying their value and choosing which ones to undertake.

I learned this method after I sold my business to Ford almost a decade ago, and I've seen it used successfully many times in my dealings with investment bankers and other stakeholders in the businesses that I have managed or that used my consultation services. Recently, I shared this method with a few small business owners. They were thrilled because this tool makes strategic planning much easier.

I'd like to share it with you. It's called "big and easy analysis," it's simple, and it works.

Take a white board or sheet of paper and divide it into four sections by drawing a cross on it. The cross will be labeled with two word pairs (Small-Big) and (Easy-Difficult). Label one end of the horizontal line Small and the other end Big. Label one end of the vertical line Easy and the other end Difficult.

Now number each initiative that you are considering as part of your strategic plan. As your planning group analyzes the value of the initiative, place its number in quadrant that corresponds to how difficult or easy it is and how big or small the value of the initiative is to your business.

At the completion of the exercise, you should have all of your initiatives mapped. The tool gives you a clear way to spot the initiatives that are easy and have a big impact on your results. You will likely want to start with those big and easy initiatives and then cherry pick from the others.

You can do this analysis alone, but you'll only get a fraction of the value. I suggest that business owners do the analysis with a small group of fellow business owners who are not competitors. The five to six member groups act as a brain trust and analyze initiatives for each member in succession.

This method is powerful because you can tap the wisdom of five other business owners in creating your strategic plan. Perhaps one of the other members of your brain trust has tried something similar to an initiative you're evaluating. Tapping your team can greatly improve the chances of hitting on an initiative that makes money.

A brain trust is a success when each member leaves with a much better plan than they could have created alone. Tapping into the collective intelligence of a brain trust is a great way to make sure your view is objective and your priorities are dead on. The strategic planning sessions allow business owners to write a strategic plan in an environment where they are undisturbed and in the company of peers motivated to help promote mutual success. Contact me if you are interested in attending such a brain trust planning session or feel free to use the tool on your own.

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.

PAPER

AbitibiBowater files Chapter 11 bankruptcy

AbitibiBowater Inc. announced that it and certain of its United States and Canadian subsidiaries have filed voluntary petitions in the United States under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code.

As well, AbitibiBowater and certain of its Canadian subsidiaries will seek creditor protection under the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act (CCAA) in Canada. AbitibiBowater's subsidiaries located outside the United States and Canada have not commenced Chapter 11, CCAA or similar proceedings.

The Company has concluded that there are no viable alternatives to its previously announced proposed refinancing of its Bowater and Abitibi-Consolidated subsidiaries, and as a result has determined that the best course of action is to pursue its overall restructuring under Court supervision in the United States and Canada. Concurrently with its CCAA filing, the Abitibi-Consolidated subsidiary will request the termination of its previously announced recapitalization transaction under the Canada Business Corporations Act.

AbitibiBowater plans to use this process to deal decisively with its debt burden for the benefit of all stakehold-

ers. The Company's normal day-to-day operations will continue during the restructuring process.

The Company has also announced that it has entered into a financing commitment with Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited and Avenue Management LLC for debtor-in-possession (DIP) financing totaling approximately \$200 million for certain of its Bowater subsidiaries. In addition, its Abitibi-Consolidated subsidiary has entered into an amendment providing for the continuation of its existing securitization program for its accounts receivable, in the approximate amount of \$210 million.

These arrangements are subject to approval of the Courts in both the United States and Canada and will allow the Company to meet current operating needs, including wages, benefits and other operating expenses. Additional financing options are currently under consideration.

"Today's announced decisions ensure business continuity for AbitibiBowater and were made only after all other viable options to recapitalize our long-term debt were exhausted," stated David J. Paterson, president and chief executive officer.

Stonewall Packaging builds new plant in North Carolina

Stonewall Packaging, LLC, a recycled cardboard manufacturer plans to invest more than \$16 million and create 61 jobs at a new plant in North Carolina.

North Carolina governor, Bev Perdue said that Stonewall Packaging LLC will renovate and modify a vacant mill in Sylva to make recycled cardboard packaging. The new jobs are expected to pay \$39,344 annually and will be filled this summer.

The company is a joint venture of Jackson Paper Manufacturing Co., which employs 119 people at a mill in Sylva that makes recycled corrugated cardboard for box manufacturers.

The project will receive a \$200,000 state grant from the One North Carolina Fund, which helps attract new businesses to the state.

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

—Martin Luther King Jr. (1929–1968)

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PAPER

Paper recovery up, but AF&PA cautions about future effects

The American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) announced that the United States' paper recovery rate grew in 2008 from 56 to 57.4 percent last year, but cautioned that the economic downturn caused a sharp decline in paper demand beginning in the fourth quarter of 2008. The long-term effect of the slowdown on recovery rates and recycling will depend on the speed with which the economy rebounds.

AF&PA credited the growth in the 2008 recovery rate to strong global demand for recovered fiber in the first three quarters of 2008, along with a sound recycling infrastructure and the ongoing commitment of millions of Americans.

"Recycling is one of America's great environmental success stories and the paper industry is proud to have played a central role in the significant growth in paper recovery in recent years. It's important that in the wake of the global recession, the resulting decline in paper demand, and the decline in value of recovered paper, that we protect both our infrastructure and personal commitment to recycling so that we are prepared to again meet growing demand as the market rebounds," said AF&PA president and CEO Donna Harman.

Harman pointed to the 2009 AF&PA Recycling Award winners as successful and innovative paper recycling programs in school, university, business, and community categories:

- AF&PA Business Leadership Recycling Award – Giant Eagle, Inc., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Giant Eagle, Inc. has established a comprehensive paper recycling program throughout its headquarter buildings and corporately owned supermarkets, fuel stations, and retail support centers. In 2008 Giant Eagle collected nearly 555 tons of mixed office paper and more than 42,000 tons of old corrugated containers for recycling.

- AF&PA Community Recycling Award – Orange County, North Carolina.

In 2008, the 128,000 residents of Orange County, North Carolina recovered approximately 8,750 tons of paper for recycling. This success was the result of education and outreach combined with accessibility for residents. The county recycling program includes weekly curbside collection in urban areas, biweekly curbside for rural locations, multi-family units, drop-off sites, and government buildings, plus collection from "park and ride" locations and city buses.

- AF&PA School Recycling Award – Wake County Public School System, Wake County, North Carolina.

The Department of Environmental Services of Wake County, North Carolina's FEED THE BIN paper recycling program serves more than 135,000 students in 152 schools. The program provides recycling bins for each classroom and office space and roll carts for the schools. An impressive 800 tons of paper were collected during the 2007-2008 school year.

- AF&PA College/University Recycling Award – Stanford University, Stanford, California.

With a student population of more than 17,350, the campus community recovered nearly 3,000 tons of paper for recycling and diverted 64 percent of its waste from the landfill in 2008. Stanford avoided paying landfill fees of \$133,000 and received approximately \$450,000 in revenue from its recyclables.

"In these tough economic times it is more important than ever to highlight the recycling programs that are making a difference. AF&PA appreciates the on-going dedication of Americans who recycle every day, and we congratulate the award winners for their achievements. They are inspiration to us all," said Harman.

For additional information, visit www.paperecycles.org.

Total printing-writing paper shipments down 25 percent for the year-to-date

According to the American Forest & Paper Association's (AF&PA) February 2009 Printing-Writing Paper Report, total printing-writing paper shipments decreased 24.5 percent in February compared to February 2008. For the year-to-date, shipments were down 25.1 percent. United States purchases of printing-writing papers dropped 24.2 percent in February versus year-ago and declined 25.8 percent for the year to date. Total printing-writing paper inventory levels increased 5,600 tons, or 0.3 percent, from January.

The United States became a net exporter of uncoated free sheet (UFS) for first time since at least January 1995. UFS shipments fell 19.1 percent compared to February 2008. For the year-to-date, UFS shipments were 19.4 percent below last year. United States purchases of UFS were also down, declining 20.7 percent when compared to February 2008, as imports in January have declined at a faster rate than shipments, down 44.2 percent compared to January 2009. In fact, UFS imports have slowed to below the level of exports for the first time since at least January 1995, which is as far back as AF&PA electronic records of trade data are available. UFS inventories decreased 0.4 percent compared to last month, a decline of 4,400 tons.

Coated free sheet (CFS) shipments hit double-digit decline for the fifth consecutive month. CFS shipments dropped by 24.3 percent compared to February 2008. For the year-to-date, shipments of

CFS were down 25.7 percent. United States purchases of CFS decreased 21.9 percent compared to last February and were off 24.2 percent for the year to date. CFS imports have recorded double-digit year-ago declines for 24 out of the past 26 months. During those same 26 months, CFS exports recorded 15 double-digit year-ago increases, and just six year-ago decreases. CFS inventories decreased 0.7 percent compared to January, a decline of 4,300 tons.

Uncoated mechanical (UM) shipments declined for the sixth consecutive month following seventeen consecutive months of increases. UM shipments decreased 28.6 percent when compared to February 2008 and for the year to date were down 32.2 percent. United States purchases of UM were down 25.7 percent when compared to February 2008 and were down 29.8 percent for the year to date. UM imports have declined compared to the prior year for the past eleven months. UM inventories increased 7.4 percent, or 6,800 tons, from January.

Coated mechanical (CM) shipments decreased the most in January, its tenth consecutive decline, following twelve consecutive months of increases. CM shipments fell 36.4 percent when compared to February 2008. Year-to-date shipments of CM were down 35.6 percent compared to last year. United States purchases of CM were down 32.2 percent compared to February 2008, and for the year to date were down 32.3 percent. CM inventories increased 2.6 percent, or 7,400 tons, from last month.

A certain man was infatuated with a young woman, but was so timid he never had the courage to speak to her. In fact, he even told his therapist that every time he got near her he felt like he was unimportant. He said that he felt as insignificant as a tiny pebble.

"Well," his therapist responded, "If you want to get the girl you'll just have to be a little boulder!"



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WASTE

Pennsylvania DEP awards grants to clear dump sites

Communities and nonprofit groups across Pennsylvania will receive financial assistance to help clean up more than 350 illegal dump sites as Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) acting Secretary John Hanger announced nearly \$500,000 in Community Cleanup Program Illegal Dump Grants.

Hanger said illegal dump sites are a problem across the state. These grants will assist partnerships of communities, organizations, businesses and local governments to clean up neighborhoods and natural areas that have become eyesores and threats to the public's health and safety and the environment.

Grants of up to \$25,000 were awarded on a competitive basis to help fund 42 organizations with cleanup projects in 31 counties. These cleanup efforts are expected to remove an estimated 2,200 tons of illegally discarded trash from the environment.

Hanger said cleaning up illegal dump sites is just the beginning. He stressed the need for education, surveillance and enforcement to prevent illegal dumping. Last month, PA CleanWays, in conjunction with DEP, conducted illegal dump cleanup workshops at five locations across the state.

For a complete list of the grantees, view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

Republic Services and Mack partner to introduce first American-built hybrid diesel garbage truck

Republic Services and Mack Trucks, Inc. have formed a partnership that allows Republic to field-test four pre-production diesel garbage trucks equipped with selective catalytic reduction (SCR) technology and to field test the first American-built Mack Diesel Hybrid garbage truck.

Republic is field testing the SCR prototype trucks in Denver (high altitude); Eden Prairie, Minnesota (cold climate); and Lakeland and Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. (humid climate). Using SCR technology, the trucks meet the United States Environmental Protection Agency emission regulations without using engine emission credits. Republic is committed to using multiple technolo-

gies to lower fuel consumption and emissions.

"Republic has been field testing the Mack SCR prototype garbage collection chassis," said Ron Cole, regional fleet sales manager for Mack Trucks. "This quickens the pace of our development of technologies that can be implemented immediately to protect our environment. Republic and Mack will continue to partner in the development of hybrid diesel-electric prototypes as both our companies explore opportunities to adopt hybrid at the heavy duty level for the collection of wastes and recyclables."

Mack says its diesel electric hybrid technology provides the maximum fuel

savings on routes with frequent braking and accelerations. This means that in addition to refuse collection work, it's good for urban delivery runs and certain construction applications.

Mack estimates its hybrid system can boost fuel economy by about 20 percent while cutting greenhouse emissions and the cost of maintenance.

In addition to its work at highway speeds, the engine also charges an onboard energy storage system, which provides power to the electric motor when demand is high. Energy that is generated during braking is captured and stored using regenerative braking.

Pennsylvania DEP approves higher tonnage limit for Veolia

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has approved an application by Veolia ES Solid Waste of PA Inc. to modify its permit and allow an increased daily tonnage at its Warren County transfer station in Pittsfield Township.

The new rate is 300 tons per day, while the previous rate was 120 tons per

day. The new permit allows the station to accept municipal waste and construction/demolition waste.

The modification also allows the transfer station to process residual waste such as packaging materials, trash and pallets from manufacturing facilities.

All of the waste that arrives at the transfer station is then transferred to a permitted landfill facility for disposal.

In its environmental assessment review, DEP concluded that Veolia demonstrated the benefits of the modifications outweigh the known and potential harms. Since no design or other operational changes were requested, the technical review of the application was minimal and DEP issued the new permit.

Veolia submitted its permit modification application on April 21, 2008.

Obama chooses Stanislaus to run EPA waste office

President Barack Obama announced his intent to nominate the following individuals to key administration posts: Anne Castle, assistant secretary for Water and Science, Department of the Interior; Mathy V. Stanislaus, assistant administrator for the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Environmental Protection Agency; Jo-Ellen Darcy, assistant secretary of the Army (Civil Works), Department of Defense; John U. Sepúlveda, assistant secretary of Human Resources, Department of Veterans Affairs; Roger Baker, assistant secretary for Information and Technology, Department of Veterans Affairs; and William Gunn, general counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

Mathy V. Stanislaus, nominee for assistant administrator for the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Environmental Protection Agency has over 20 years of experience in the environmental field, primarily in the areas of brownfields, Superfund and solid waste. He is an environmental lawyer and chemical engineer. Stanislaus co-founded and currently co-directs New Partners for Community Revitalization, Inc. (NPCR), a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to advance the renewal of New York's low and moderate income neighborhoods and through the redevelopment of brownfield sites.

Stanislaus served as assistant regional counsel for the United States Environmental Protection Agency in its New York Region II offices. He was responsible for all aspects of enforcement cases brought under CERCLA (Superfund), and Emergency Planning & Community Right to Know Act. He is a current board member of the New York City Environmental Justice Alliance, Inc.

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WASTE

Columbus man indicted in buried truck, trash, tires case

A Franklin County, Ohio grand jury has indicted 57-year-old Ronald Wayne Gunn in connection with the burying of a trash truck, more than 76 tons of trash and recyclables and 2,000 mostly industrial-size tires (equivalent to 15,000 passenger tires) at Gunn's former auto salvage yard, Ron's Auto Repairs and Salvage Parts, located on the northeast side of Columbus.

Gunn is charged with eight counts – five for operating a solid waste landfill without a license, two for open dumping and one for a water pollution charge.

The seven counts of open dumping and operating a solid waste landfill without a license are unclassified felonies. Each carries a penalty of two to four years in jail and up to \$25,000 in fines. Any jail time for the water pollution charge, a misdemeanor, would be served concurrently with other charges. (Since the public in this industrial area is served by city water and not wells, no health danger is believed to have been posed.) Overall penalties, for convictions on all counts, would range from 14-28 years in jail and up to \$175,000 in fines.

The illegal dumping was discovered through a tip concerning two buried trash trucks made to SWACO's www.nailadumper.com website. On November 5 and 6, 2008, investigators from SWACO's Nail-A-Dumper program (including the Franklin County Sheriff's Office) and Ohio EPA's Office of Special Investigations executed a search warrant at the site and discovered the remnants of one trash truck that had been buried several years ago five feet underground with a load of garbage. The

scrap tires were buried in multiple other holes throughout the premises along with miscellaneous trash.

Crews dug for two days at the site to recover the evidence. The city of Columbus removed 16.4 tons of trash. Ohio EPA conducted the excavation of the truck and tires and coordinated a contractor to clean up and properly dispose of 31.05 tons of mixed solid waste, 29.48 tons of recyclable waste (metal wheel rims) and 180.54 tons of tires.

Ohio EPA distributed more than \$48,000 from Ohio's Scrap Tire Management Fund to remove, shred and dispose of the auto, tractor and truck tires found at the site. Each year, approximately 12 million scrap tires are generated in Ohio. More than 43 million tires at 93 sites have been removed from stockpiles or illegal dumps across the state since Ohio's Scrap Tire Abatement Program began in 1996. It is estimated five million scrap tires still remain illegally dumped throughout Ohio.

The Nail-A-Dumper program is funded by SWACO. The team includes deputies from the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, a prosecutor from the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office, representatives from the Franklin County Health Department and an employee of the Columbus Refuse Division. Residents may call the Nail-A-Dumper hotline at 614-871-5322, 24 hours a day to report illegal dumping or littering or they may log on to www.nailadumper.com to make their report.

For additional information, view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

N-Viro signs lease extension for Florida N-Viro soil facility

N-Viro International Corporation has extended its lease for another five years for its facility in Volusia County (Daytona Beach), Florida, which currently services 12 municipalities. The extended lease was negotiated without any material change to the previous agreement.

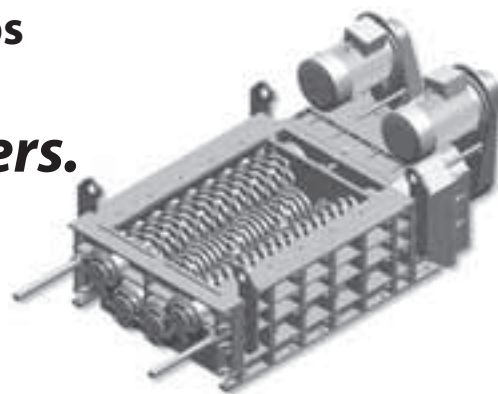
Timothy Kasmoch, CEO and president of N-Viro International, said, "Our Volusia County facility has consistently increased revenue and operational efficiency over the past two years, and is now processing between 300 and 350 tons per day. We are pleased with the decision by Volusia County to renew our lease for another five years. The Volusia County operation, which N-Viro has solely owned and operated since late 2006, is now a profitable operation, and contributed approximately 56 percent of our 2008 annual revenue. We believe the county's willingness to renew the lease for an additional five year period validates our operational plans in Florida, which has been focused on deriving revenues from transporting and processing

waste and producing N-Viro Soil, a Class AA product that is widely accepted in Florida as a beneficial soil amendment."

■ More WASTE news is available in this issue's Focus Section, Page B1

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INTERNATIONAL

Online exchange system created in Puerto Rico

The old saying "one man's trash is another man's treasure" has new meaning thanks to an online materials exchange system unveiled by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Puerto Rico Solid Waste Management Authority (SWMA). The free, bilingual system, called the Puerto Rico Materials Exchange, allows organizations and individuals to advertise, request and exchange a host of materials that may no longer be needed or otherwise headed to a landfill, through www.prmatex.org.

"The Puerto Rico Materials Exchange provides a forum for businesses and individuals alike to find and get rid of all kinds of business, building and construction materials that they no longer need, but that do not belong in one of the Commonwealth's already crowded landfills," said acting EPA regional administrator George Pavlou. "This system will also help businesses' bottom lines through opportunities to obtain free and low-cost materials, and to reduce waste disposal costs."

Items available on the website will include office furniture and equipment, building materials and tools, electronics, fixtures, textiles, appliances, batteries and paint. Users can search for a certain item or simply what materials are available in a particular area of Puerto Rico.

EPA will provide training and public outreach workshops for the website's users, SWMA staff and municipal recycling coordinators. The website builds on printed materials produced by SWMA and is modeled after New York City's Wa\$teMatch materials exchange site, www.wastematch.org.

The disposal and management of waste in Puerto Rico has been one of Commonwealth's major environmental challenges for years. Recycling rates in the Commonwealth are much lower than the national average and many of its landfills are nearing capacity or lack proper environmental controls.

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INTERNATIONAL

Ontario Environment Minister approves used tire plan

John Gerretsen, Ontario's environment minister, announced the approval of the Ontario Used Tire Program Plan, launching the most ambitious used tire stewardship program in the country.

The plan will implement a managed scrap tire solution for tires from the Ontario market, diverting these tires away from burning and landfilling to 3R's processing. The tires will be reused and recy-

clered into tire derived products (TDPs) such as under-the-hood automotive products, flooring, sports fields, play ground surfaces and construction-related equipment and materials.

The program is funded by brand owners and first importers of tires supplied to the Ontario market, including tire manufacturers, retailers and vehicle manufacturers who remit a tire stewardship fee (TSF) to OTS for each tire. These fees will be used by OTS to operate the used tire program, including the collection, transporting and processing costs of used tires, including those in stockpiles.

The program will manage all 12 million tires sold in Ontario annually, and will track the tires from collection at over 10,000 points across the province to their sale as tire-derived products, and includes an aggressive three year plan to eliminate approximately 2.8 million stockpiled tires in 90 sites across Ontario.

In the first year the program will inject over \$22 million into the Ontario-based scrap tire processing industry, supporting Ontario-based processors as they invest in their businesses to increase capacity, adopt new scrap tire processing technologies, and create new "green" jobs in the Province.

OTS will implement the used tire program on September 1, 2009.



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Events Calendar

May 17th-19th

2009 Waste-to-Fuels Conference & Trade Show. Hyatt Regency Mission Bay, San Diego, California. 800-441-7949
www.waste-to-fuels.org

May 26th-29th

Wastetech-2009. International Exhibition Center Crocus Expo, Russia.
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June 3rd-4th

Scrap to Profit 3. Hyatt, Buffalo, New York.
716-645-3446 • www.scraptoprofit.com

June 8th-9th

NRRA's 28th Annual Recycling Conference & Expo. Radisson Manchester Hotel/The Center of New Hampshire, Manchester, New Hampshire
603-736-4401 • www.nrra.net

June 8th-11th

WasteExpo 2009. Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nevada.
800-927-5007 • www.wasteexpo.com

June 24th-26th

Electronics & Battery Recycling '09. Westin Harbour Castle Hotel, Toronto, Canada. +41 62 785 10 00 • www.icm.ch

August 7th-9th

Pennsylvania Automotive Recycling Trade Society's Annual Convention & Trade Expo. Sheraton Harrisburg/Hershey, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.
877-211-0266 • www.parts.org

September 16th-18th

14th International Congress for Battery Recycling - ICBR 2009. Hotel InterContinental, Geneva, Switzerland.
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Canadian Waste & Recycling Expo. Vancouver Convention & Exhibition Centre, Vancouver, British Columbia.
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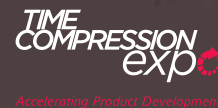
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BUSINESS BRIEFS

WM expands Lamptacker bulb recycling service

Waste Management, Inc. announced that its WM LampTracker® subsidiaries have acquired assets of H.T.R., Inc. and Earth Protection Services, Inc. which will bring additional scale and capabilities to its WM LampTracker compact fluorescent light bulb recycling business.

In addition to its existing Roseville, Minnesota lamp processing facility, Waste Management's WM LampTracker subsidiaries now have processing facilities in Kaiser, Missouri, Glendale, Arizona and Williamston, South Carolina. The other locations are Phoenix, Arizona, Mira Loma, California, Tigard, Oregon, Round Rock, Texas and Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

WM LampTracker provides total-care solutions for the handling and recycling of fluorescent lamps for small, medium and large-scale businesses across the United States, as well as for residential consumers.

Marathon Equipment closes Pennsylvania plant

Marathon Equipment Company, headquartered in Vernon, Alabama, is closing its Clearfield, Pennsylvania manufacturing plant effective May 15, 2009. "Due to poor economic conditions, production of the Clearfield plant is being consolidated with the Vernon plant," said Mike Beuke, vice president of operations.

Marathon officials are working closely with the PA Dislocated Workers Unit to help the 71 employees impacted by this closing to find other jobs in the community. Workers will continue employment with benefits for 60 days from the announced plant closing on March 17, 2009. Marathon officials are also working with employees to take advantage of educational opportunities offered by local agencies or schools. In addition, Marathon is offering employees outplacement counseling to include onsite computer access and resume and interview training.

Brandes named VP at Universal Package Systems

Universal Package Systems announced the hiring of Mike Brandes as vice president, operations.

Brandes has over 34 years of experience in the packaging industry, and will focus on helping customers and prospects develop creative and cost-effective solutions to packaging, storage and related material handling challenges.

Brandes' packaging and material handling experience includes working in manufacturing, assembly, estimating, sales, business development, general management and executive positions at a variety of packaging, transportation and material handling companies.

Most recently, Brandes was the general manager and business development manager at Tecumseh Corrugated Box.

Colt Refining relocates e-scrap recycling facility

Colt Refining, Inc. has moved its e-scrap recycling operation to a larger building in Hudson, New Hampshire. The new 75,000 square-foot plant, which is 60 percent larger than its current facility, will enable a scaling up of the company's processing capacity and will include a state-of-the-art shredding and metals separation system.

In conjunction with the move, this Colt business division, formerly called TRI, will be renamed Colt Recycling.

The new facility includes high-bay warehousing, dedicated computer testing and refurbishment areas, as well as the expanded e-scrap shredding system.

AISI's institute names new board chairman

The Steel Market Development Institute (SMDI), a business unit of the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI), announced that Daniel G. Mull, executive vice president of sales and marketing at ArcelorMittal USA, has been named to replace J. James Kutka, Jr. as chairman of the SMDI board of directors effective April 1, 2009.

Kutka, senior vice president-strategic planning and business development at United States Steel Corporation, will be retiring from United States Steel Corporation on the same day.

InEnTec Chemical appoints new managers

InEnTec Chemical LLC announced the appointment of Gary E. McDow as executive vice president business development and the appointment of Alan Sagers as plant manager of InEnTec Chemical Midland, a facility located at Dow Corning's Midland, Michigan site scheduled to begin operations in 2009.

InEnTec Chemical, a recently formed joint venture between InEnTec LLC and Lakeside Energy LLC, will build, own and operate commercial Plasma Enhanced Melter gasification facilities that will convert both hazardous and non-hazardous chemical residuals into useful chemical products and clean fuels or energy.

McDow brings to InEnTec Chemical a long and successful track record in business development and operations management in the industrial gas and chemical business sectors. He spent over 22 years at Air Liquide America where he held several senior management positions including most recently serving as vice president/Hydrogen Ventures.

Sagers will manage InEnTec Chemical's new Plasma Enhanced Melter plant that is currently under construction at Dow Corning's Midland, Michigan facility. A 21-year Dow Chemical veteran, Sagers adds extensive experience in plant optimization and process control, environmental, health and safety management, production planning, and plant start-up best practices.

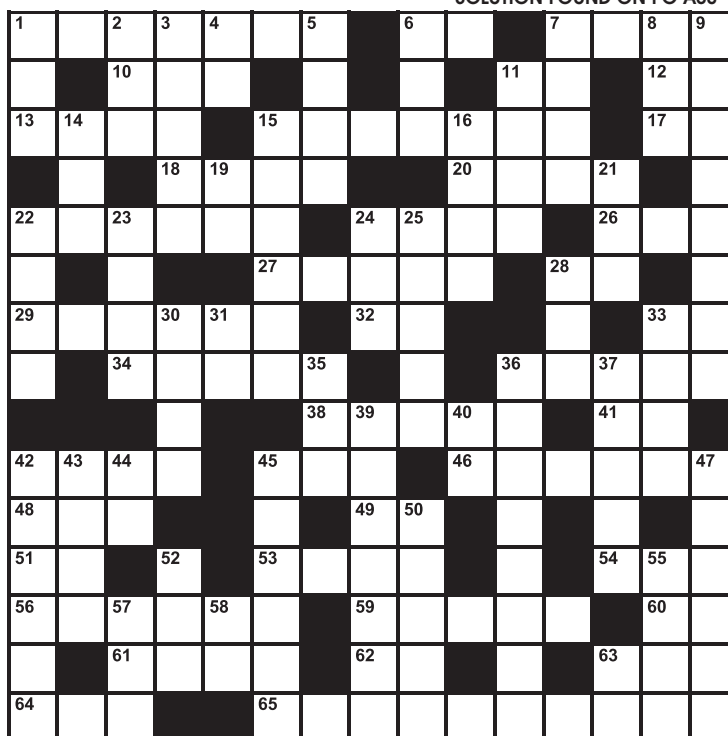
MONTHLY CROSSWORD

BY Myles Mellor

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ACROSS

1. Suspended droplets of liquid dispersions in air
6. ___-product, material generated as a consequence of an industrial process
7. Fossil ____, coal, crude oil or natural gas, for example
10. Yours and mine
11. That is, for short
12. Golden state
13. Sun blockers, in a way
15. Nature's way of recycling
17. Light switch alternative
18. Waterproof covering
20. Recreation
22. Type of tv screen
24. Oxygen provider
26. Santa's helper
27. Waste water outlet
28. "___, I love you"
29. The increase in the average measured temperature of the Earth's near-surface air and oceans, with warming
32. Dr. helper
33. Bean or Cool J preceder
34. Color symbolizing environmental awareness and responsibility
36. Spring month
38. Unwanted materials remaining from manufacturing processes
41. Technological communication advance
42. AquaNet emissions
45. Yoga accessory
46. Rockstar playgrounds
48. Ryan's "Love Story" co-star
49. Temperature control
51. Concerning
53. Succulent
54. It's bottled, in Cannes
56. Cylindrical wooden container
59. Capable of having an adverse effect on an organism
60. Either's partner
61. Farm measure
62. Russian river
63. Company abbr.
64. ___ scrap, material which is discarded during a manufacturing operation and which cannot be directly fed back into that operation
65. Charge for the unloading of waste at a recycling facility (2 words)



DOWN

1. Fly ____, fine residue left after trash is burned
2. Decay
3. Forces out
4. Eldest in the family
5. Closed-___ recycling, when a product is recycled into a similar product
6. Jazz dance
7. Greek cheese
8. ___friendly, aka sustainable
9. Trash heap
11. Archipelago member
14. To be unwell
15. ___-to ____, a term used in life-cycle analysis to describe a material or product that is recycled into a new product at the end of its defined life
16. ___-loop recycling, a recycling system in which a product made from one type of material is recycled into a different type of product
19. Morning time
21. Agreement word
22. Book part
23. All stirred up
24. Ocean pollutant
25. Orange leftovers
28. Soda drink
30. Buddies
31. Mystery channel letters
33. Peruvian capital
35. Northwest Airlines, for short
36. The process of exposing compost material to air
37. Dishwasher cycle
39. Waiting for a green light? (3 words)
40. Lightbulb filament, abbr.
42. Your daily footprint?
43. Pet vampire
44. Unit of radioactive activity
45. Forage grass
47. ___ reduction, an action to reduce waste at the point of generation
50. Chew loudly
52. Geometry line
55. Steak topper
57. Unprocessed
58. Hospital room
63. Providing that

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Schnitzer Steel elects two new board members

■ Schnitzer Steel Industries, Inc. announced that David J. Anderson and Wayland R. Hicks have been elected to the Company's board of directors, effective immediately. The addition of Anderson and Hicks expands the board to thirteen and results in the majority of the board being independent directors.

Anderson most recently served as executive director and co-vice chairman of Sauer-Danfoss Inc. and was the president and chief executive officer of Sauer-Danfoss Inc. from July 2002 through January 2009.

Hicks served as director and vice chairman of United Rentals, Inc. from 1998 through March 2009 and served as chief executive officer from December 2003 through June 2007.

Anderson and Hicks will serve terms as directors until the Company's 2010 annual meeting of shareholders.

Joseph Holsten to join Covanta board of directors

■ Covanta Holding Corporation announced the proposed addition to its board of directors of Joseph M. Holsten.

Holsten has served since 1998 as the chief executive officer of LKQ Corporation, a provider of recycled and aftermarket automobile replacement products. In addition to its operations in the United States, LKQ also has operations in Canada, Mexico, Costa Rica, and Guatemala.

Prior to joining LKQ, Holsten was the chief operating officer of Waste Management, Inc. and chief executive officer of a subsidiary, Waste Management International plc. Holsten held a number of other positions with Waste Management and various subsidiaries during his 17 year tenure.

Mountain Valley Recycling names president and CEO

■ Mountain Valley Recycling, LLC has named Ronald Whaley as president and chief operating officer. Under Whaley's new leadership, the company, which presently works with major plastic waste generators including retail department stores, mass merchandisers, grocers, specialty retailers and fortune 500 companies, looks to drive the value of recycling and sustainable closed loop product development nationally and internationally.

Whaley joins Mountain Valley from a 25-year career in the plastics industry, including serving as president and chief operating officer at Solo Cup Company. Whaley had also previously served as Solo's chief financial officer and executive vice president.

Whaley brings to Mountain Valley significant experience in plastics and polymers, purchasing, resin markets, pricing, manufacturing, logistics and supply chain management. An industry leader, his background extends across retail, consumer products, acquisitions, capital financing, financial management, and business development.

Whaley will be leading the management team at Mountain Valley along with the company's founder Danny Schrage. Schrage will continue serving as chairman and chief executive officer.

Jeffery Queen named CFO of Vecoplan

■ Vecoplan has promoted Jeffery Queen to their newly created position of chief financial officer.

Prior to his promotion Queen was director of finance at Vecoplan, during which time he oversaw the development, oversight, and implementation of "Best Accounting Practices" as they apply to domestic and international manufacturing, importing and sales. He also brings 16 years of experience in international finance, as controller at the United States subsidiary of a Belgium manufacturing concern, to his new position at Vecoplan.

Safety-Kleen named environmental steward

■ The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Environmental Stewardship Initiative has recognized Safety-Kleen for its "voluntary and proactive measures to go beyond compliance to improve the environment and ensure a sustainable future." The department awarded Safety-Kleen a "Certificate of Stewardship" specifically for its recycle center in Linden, New Jersey.

"Environmental stewardship is at the heart of Safety-Kleen's business goals," said Safety-Kleen CEO and president Frederick J. Florjancic.

The Linden facility was specifically recognized in six categories: environmental policy; environmental management system; greenhouse gas emissions calculations; purchasing policy; water exchange program; and, vendor/supply chain requirements.

Pagano named president of GL Industrial Services

■ Edward Pagano has been appointed president of Germanischer Lloyd (GL) Industrial Services for the Americas. In this new position Pagano will be responsible for the oil and gas industry and the expanding renewable energy market in the Americas region. He will be based in GL's Americas regional headquarters in Houston, Texas.

Pagano is in charge of a rapidly growing business segment within GL that includes more than 800 employees in North, South and Latin America. GL provides a broad spectrum of services for the oil and gas and renewable energy sectors.

Prior to joining GL, Pagano was the president for United States operations at WorleyParsons, an engineering, procurement and construction management contractor.

Advanced Disposal acquires Republic's assets

■ Advanced Disposal Services, Inc. announced that it has acquired certain assets from Republic Services, Inc. being divested as a result of Republic Services' recent merger with Allied Waste Industries, Inc.

The assets being acquired include thirteen commercial solid waste collection routes and contracts in the Atlanta Metropolitan Area as well as two municipal solid waste transfer stations, one in Gwinnett County (Lawrenceville) and one in Cobb County (Smyrna), Georgia. The closing date of the transaction was April 1, 2009.

The acquired commercial operations include front-end load routes in Gwinnett, Hall, Walton and other counties. No residential routes were acquired by Advanced Disposal. The transfer stations are fully permitted by the State of Georgia and accept MSW and C&D waste materials. No hazardous waste is permitted.

Granutech-Saturn makes management changes

■ Granutech-Saturn Systems has announced the appointment of Mike Hinsey as international vice president and the promotion of Scott White to the position of sales manager.

Hinsey, a 25-year Granutech veteran, was previously the company's international sales manager, a post he held for more than 15 years. In his new position he will develop and direct all non-United States sales efforts, will oversee the activity of a number of sales agents with international territories, and will report to Granutech's board of directors.

White, who held a sales director position at Granutech, has been named sales manager. In that capacity, he will oversee development of new personnel in the sales and parts departments; explore new markets and cultivate existing ones.

Seda celebrates 25 years in North America

■ SEDA Environmental, a producer of end-of-life vehicle (ELV) drainage technology, has a worldwide distributor network and exports to more than 40 countries. In 2009, SEDA will mark its 25th anniversary of operations in the United States.

The establishment of SEDA of North America in Smithtown, New York took place in 1984 and after moving to St. Petersburg, Florida in the mid-1990s, SEDA of North America was renamed SEDA Environmental Inc. in 1999.

UBS AG's holdings in Metso increases

■ Metso Corporation has been informed about a change in the holding of mutual funds managed by UBS AG of the paid up share capital of Metso Corporation.

On March 24, 2009 UBS AG's group holding in shares of Metso Corporation exceeded the 5 percent threshold. The holding amounted to 7,541,753 shares, which corresponds to 5.32 percent of the paid up share capital and votes in Metso Corporation.

According to UBS AG's announcement, this position is held at the following UBS entities: UBS AG, UBS Fund Management AG (Switzerland), UBS Global Asset Management Ltd. (UK), UBS Global Asset Management Life Ltd. (UK), UBS Global Asset Management SA (France), UBS Global Asset Management GmbH (Germany), UBS Financial Services Inc. (USA), UBS Global Asset Management Inc. (Americas) and UBS O'Connor LLC (USA).

S+S Inspection appoints sales manager

■ S+S Inspection has appointed Doug Pedersen as sales manager-inspection systems for North America.

With over 25 years experience, Pedersen is well known in the food industry having held senior sales positions in a number of leading Canadian and United States food machinery corporations.

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TENNESSEE SCRAP YARD AND U-PULL-IT YARD. Scrap yard offers 7.5 acres, 2 offices with 2-bay garage. Equipment includes 2005 OverBuilt car crusher, Mighty Mite can baler, 2000 Freightliner hook-lift roll-off truck, approximately 25 roll-off containers, 2005 Weigh-Tronix 70-foot drive-on scale, 2005 Komatsu WA250 wheel loader, 1999 Komatsu 320 wheel loader, approximately 50 non-ferrous storage containers, (3) 1998-2000 big rigs, (2) 48' crushed car trailers, (1) 48' equipment hauling trailer drop deck, (1) 40' scap hauling trailer, (1) 40' scrap hauling dump trailer, (2) WEN gas recovery systems, (1) new RM Johnson wheel crusher, (1) new 2-post car lift, several sets of forks, grapples and attachments to fit wheel loader, a set of non-ferrous digital weighing scales, (5) 48' dry box trailers, and lots more miscellaneous equipment not listed that goes with the business. U-Pull-It offers 17 acres with approximately 800 vehicles ranging from 1950 to 2004 with approximately 3,000 sq. ft. of storage and office space. All property is fenced, clean and environmentally safe and the property is level. Scrap license, weigh master license stay with the business. Business is located approximately 2 miles from I-75. Several salvage vehicle auctions are located 20 to 50 miles from location. Property fronts 2 roads, one is a major highway. Business sold as a whole, will not sell equipment or property separate. A great opportunity for a turn-key business. Priced to sell at \$1.2 million. Business would pay for itself in one year with proper management. Owner is ready to semi-retire. If interested, call 423-519-2699 or 423-351-7500 to set up your appointment.

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- '06 Daewoo 300 excavator w/LaBounty contractor's grapple, 4000 hrs.
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- 1999 Kobelco SK300LC (Crawler) with 04 Genesis GXP500R Shear
- Factory Rebuilt Labounty MSD40R

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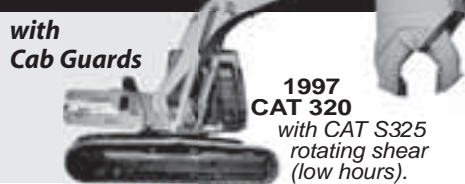
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- 2002 Liebherr A904 (Rubber) 38' Reach, Elev Cab, Gen Set & Grapple
- 1993 Liebherr R932 (Crawler) 45' Reach, Elev Cab, Gen Set & Grapple
- 2000 Caterpillar M318 MH (Rubber) 35' Reach, Hyd Cab, Gen Set
- 1999 Caterpillar M325B MH (Rubber) 50' Reach, Elev Cab, Gen Set & Grapple
- 1998 Caterpillar 330BL MH (Crawler) 47' Reach, Elev Cab, Gen Set
- 2004 Caterpillar 345B MH (Crawler) 56' Reach, Elev Cab, Gen Set
- 1994 Caterpillar 375L MH (Crawler) 55' Reach, Elev Cab, Gen Set
- 2004 Hyundai 210LC-7 MH (Crawler) 38' Reach, Hyd Cab, Gen Set, Grapple

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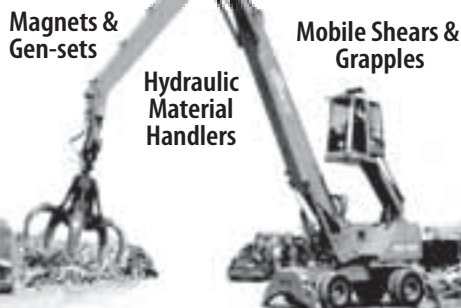
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- 2005 LIEBHERR R934HD (rubber), 50' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2003 LIEBHERR R944EW (crawler), 50' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2001 LIEBHERR A934 REBUILT (rubber), 49' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2001 LIEBHERR A924 REBUILT (rubber), 40' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2001 LIEBHERR A904 REBUILT (rubber), 38' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2000 LIEBHERR R914 REBUILT (crawler), 38' reach, 4' cab riser, gen-set and grapple.
- 2000 LIEBHERR A904 REBUILT (rubber), 35' reach, 4' cab riser, gen-set and grapple.
- 1998 LIEBHERR A922 REBUILT (rubber), gen-set, grapple and magnet, no riser.
- 1997 LIEBHERR R932EW REBUILT (crawler) 49' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2004 COLMAR 5260 AUTO LOGGER/BALER with 16.5" chamber, crane and grapple.
- Aluminum King SWEAT FURNACE with molds.
- 2004, 2005 & 2008 FUCHS MHL 360 (rubber), 59' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set, magnet & grapple.
- 1996, 2001, 2005 FUCHS RHL350 (crawlers), 50' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-sets and grapples.
- 2004 & 2007 FUCHS MHL 350 (rubber), 50' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
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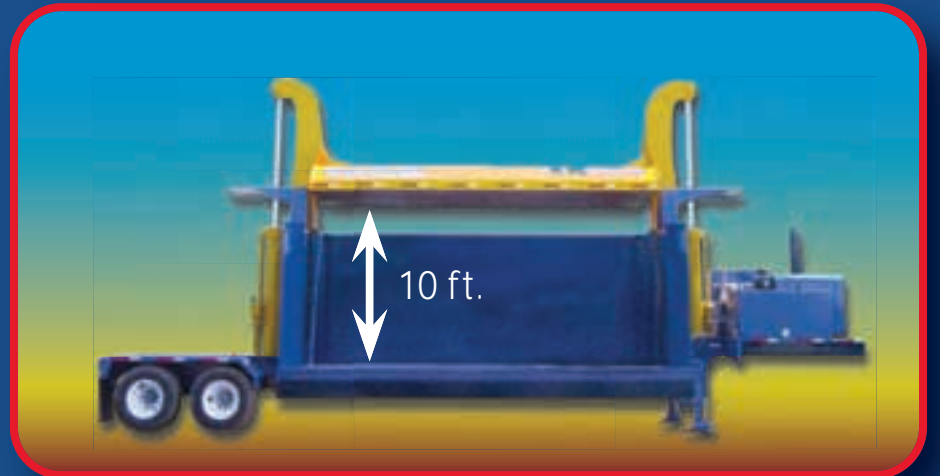
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Republic and Allied: The first 100 days

by MIKE BRESLIN

mbreslin@americanrecycler.com

Last December Republic Services, Inc. and Allied Waste Industries, Inc. completed their merger, which created the second largest waste and environmental services company in the States, now operating as Republic Services, Inc. The hundred day mark has come and gone, and though the honeymoon may be over, the combined companies still seem to be thriving.

The merger of the companies only happened after a long courtship where each partner had time to get acquainted and learn each other's strengths and weaknesses. "What's interesting is that there had been talks between the two companies for almost five years. It wasn't until the early part of 2008 when the conversations were reinitiated and the deal ultimately came together," said Doug Borro, Republic's vice president of program management for the merger.

A quick overview of the deal: Republic, with approximately \$3.3 billion in 2008 revenues, acquired Allied with approximately \$6.1 billion in 2008 revenues through an all stock transaction. Proforma guidance for 2009 is \$8.4 billion.

A week after the June merger announcement, the functional leaders of both companies held an engagement party in Florida. Doug Borro commented on the cocktail party before the formal meeting, "The level of camaraderie was uncanny. We all seemed to gravitate towards our counterparts at the other company and the emotional merger was immediate. I was with Allied



COURTESY OF REPUBLIC SERVICES

Republic Services merged with Allied Waste a little over four months ago. Both companies report that the transition was smooth and the merger a success. The merger increased the number of landfills owned by Republic from 59 to 213 with synergistic savings of \$150 million.

during the BFI acquisition and while we did the mechanical merger it was a very hard emotional merger between the people."

Will Flower, Republic's executive vice president of communications, believes that Republic people developed an immediate respect and admiration for Allied people. "We never saw an us versus them mentality develop."

Borro has been in the waste industry for over 20 years and came to Allied as part of

the Laidlaw acquisition in 1989. "The difference between this merger and other acquisitions and mergers we've done is really the focus on people. It's the recognition that it's not the billing systems, it's not the facilities. You have to have all the people aligned to understand what their job is. That's the factor that makes the difference between a good merger and a poor one. They have to be confident in doing their job and be motivated."

The bond between the companies became ever stronger during the due dili-

gence period when Waste Management (WM) made an unsolicited hostile takeover bid for Republic. "I believe the move by WM galvanized the Republic and Allied teams together in a way that has given us tremendous benefits," said Flower.

The first stage of strategic planning began immediately after the merger announcement with a proactive communications effort on a number of fronts. A weekly "RE-AL Deal" newsletter kept both

See REPUBLIC MERGER, Page 7

Recession impacts solid waste industry

by BRIAN R. HOOK

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The solid waste industry is generally considered to be recession resistant, because waste collection and disposal services are needed in both good and bad times. But this current recession is hurting both the private and public sectors of the industry.

Unlike some of the less severe recessions during the last half of the 20th century, declines in volumes this time are impacting the entire solid waste industry, said Bruce

Parker, president and chief executive officer of the Washington D.C.-based National Solid Waste Management Association. He added that the current recession is the "most steep and complex recession" since the Great Depression, which started in 1929.

"The economy is the issue that is affecting the whole industry," Parker said.

Construction, both residential and commercial, is down. Therefore, there is less construction and demolition waste being processed. The same goes for manufacturing. When consumers cut back on

spending, less packaging is needed. Plus, with fewer consumers eating out, restaurants are buying fewer products and producing less waste.

Dismal reports from across the country on disposal tonnage substantiate the drop in solid waste volumes. Parker cited a 30 percent decline in volume from Los Angeles County residents at the Puente Hills landfill in California in January. Lancaster County in Pennsylvania also reported a 10 percent decline in solid waste disposal in January.

"Communities, which receive host fees where landfills are located, may also be affected by the decline in waste volumes," Parker said. "This revenue is used for civic purposes, such as building schools, libraries and purchasing police cars and fire trucks."

The decline in solid waste volumes is also impacting the manufacturing side of the industry. Manufacturers of mobile trucks and transfer trailers, along with stationary equipment like balers, compactors

See WASTE RECESSION, Page 6

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A Letter from the Editor

Dear readers,

I hope everyone had a productive Earth Day. Maybe it's just me, but it seems as if these environmentally conscientious holidays have become more and more popular as the green movement has picked up steam.

I mean, my inbox was packed with press releases about what companies planned on doing to celebrate. From launching green products to planting small rainforests, the effort that individuals and corporations are putting forth to appear eco-friendly is staggering.

But what I didn't see was information on the companies that were green before green was cool, the companies who are green every day simply because of what they do. People in the salvage, waste and recycling industries do far more for the environment than plant a couple of trees once a year, yet they aren't lauded for their everyday efforts.

So to you folks out there saving the environment one truckload or bale at a time, I salute you. You're green, and profitable, and modest to boot, and I think it's a shame that more companies don't follow suit. For you, every day is Earth Day, and industry will never truly be green until environmental concerns are handled as matter-of-factly as you handle them. Keep up the good work.

Eco-holidays and due plaudits aside, I hope you enjoy this latest Focus Section. This month is all about solid waste – like the old Waste Section has come back for a guest appearance.

While the concept of a section focused on waste may be a blast from the past, the information contained herein is as timely and relevant as ever. Those in the market for compacting equipment will find this month's equipment spotlight particularly useful, and people with musophobia (that's fear of rats and mice) will be glad to see the information in the neighboring article.

Read on, and as always, if something piques your interest and you'd like to know more, please visit our website, www.AmericanRecycler.com, or feel free to contact either myself or any of our writers.

Until next month,



Dave Fournier
Focus Section Editor
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When rats attack: Vector control

by IRWIN RAPPOPORT

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Where there's waste, there's vectors – critters like rats, mosquitoes and birds that are both a nuisance and a health hazard. Minimizing their presence and reducing vector populations are the goals of the various jurisdictions involved from collection points on the streets to the dumping of trash into landfills.

New York City (NYC) takes vector control very seriously, especially when it comes to rats. The city's main line of defense is dealing with rats at the collection point. NYC informs citizens and businesses how they should properly put out their trash, the necessary steps to prevent vector infestations and how to deal with infestations.

Some of the city's anti-rat programs include Property Level Rodent Control, Rodent Indexing, a Citywide Rodent Taskforce and the Rat Control Academy.

Bobby Corrigan, an exterminator who teaches courses at the Academy noted, "We don't have rat infestations unless there's major food available. When people say 'how do I get rid of rats,' the first thing I always say is, 'tell me what they're eating.' I don't say, 'Oh, here's the poison.'"

Harry Nespoli, president of the Uniformed Sanitationmen's Association IBT Local 831, knows firsthand the situation of rat infestations in NYC, having spent his early years on the streets working with the city's Department of Sanitation.

Nespoli applauds the city's efforts to control vectors and protect sanitation workers. "I saw the city under the gun when the rats just totally had control

and right now I don't believe that is happening," he said. "It is because of the tough restrictions that city hall is mandating on the public and the private companies to make sure that this stuff is picked up and picked up on a regular basis.

"We're at our highest point right now with the cleanest streets that we ever had," he added. "The mayor takes pride in city streets because that is what keeps the rats away. The fact that you don't have baskets overflowing and have clean sweeping teams that are responsible to clean blocks and ratings on all 59 districts of the city is making a difference."

puts out its trash and maintains its properties.

Sanitation workers who deliver trash to transfer stations are told to report situations where rats are found at these facilities.

He added that vermin prefer solid waste to recyclables and that New Yorkers are recycling in greater numbers and that they are cleaning these items prior to putting them out for collection.

Nespoli stresses that sanitation services are essential and noted that the sanitation department was founded to prevent diseases caused by solid waste.



At landfills with seagull problems, speakers that broadcast the cries of hawks can be an effective deterrent to the winged nuisances.

Nespoli said that the growing use of trash containers is helping to seriously eliminate food sources for rats, be it on the curb or in alleys.

Along with citizens, the city depends on sanitation workers to be the eyes and ears in terms of reporting vector infestations.

"Our workers are concerned about rats and where they come in contact with people. They report whatever they see," he said.

While only a few workers have actually been bitten, coming into contact with rats is not pleasant and Nespoli recalls an incident when a rat crawled into the heavy rain gear worn by one worker, which severely startled the employee. Nespoli also recalls situations when rats jumped out of the hopper in the truck, which was very disconcerting.

He credits worker safety to improved vector controls and to workers who move rapidly when collecting trash, wear heavy gloves and take appropriate measures such as kicking cans and bags to check for rats.

NYC sanitation workers collect residential trash and recyclables, while the private sector collects the non-residential sector trash. Since the landfill on Staten Island closed, the city no longer operates waste transfer stations. The private sector also operates MRFs. City inspectors are just as rigorous about how the non-residential sector

"We have a responsibility to the taxpayers," he said. "It's important and I try to carry that over to my workforce – they are keeping everyone safe from diseases."

Ed Repa, director of environmental programs with the National Solid Wastes Management Association, said the principal areas where vectors can occur are at the solid waste collection point and landfills – areas where food and water are available.

In terms of landfills, he said that daily six-inch coverings of earth is an effective deterrent to vectors and that in terms of mammals, rats are of primary concern. Birds, mosquitoes and flies are also a concern due to food available at the surface level and the availability of water.

Part of the process is to compact the new waste with steel-wheeled landfill compactors that tear open plastic bags and increase the density of the waste.

"Something in there is probably not going to live very long when you have a big blade spreading the waste and a 100,000 ton-plus vehicle running over the garbage," said Repa. "I can only speak for the companies I know of – they do a good job. There are often people who live near landfills. Companies that want to keep their permits and get them renewed, which in a lot of places they have to do it on an annual

See VECTOR CONTROL, Page 7

AR Upcoming Section B editorial focus topics:

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JUL	6/17	Wood/Green Waste	
AUG	7/20	Auto Recycling	
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\$30 million methane tax credit scam unearthed

The United States has sued four certified public accounts (CPA), 27 tax preparers and one other individual, seeking to bar them from promoting an alleged tax scam involving bogus income tax credits claimed for sham sales of methane from landfills, the Justice Department announced.

According to the civil injunction lawsuit, filed in Tampa with the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida, George Calvert of Hernando Beach, Florida, and Gregory Guido of Lithia, Florida, concocted a scheme that involves creating bogus business records purportedly documenting sales of methane from landfills in Puerto Rico, Illinois, New York, Ohio and Connecticut. The suit alleges that there were no methane sales, but that the defendants helped their customers claim tax credits based on the purported sales. Federal law allows an income tax credit with respect to certain sales of fuel from non-conventional sources, including methane produced from landfills.

The government complaint alleges that Calvert and Guido promoted the scheme through tax preparers, who acted as sub-promoters. The tax preparers allegedly sold interests in the sham methane production facilities to thousands of customers in at least 14 states

across the country and prepared income tax returns for their customers claiming more than \$30 million in tax credits based on the sham methane sales.



At legitimate facilities, generators like these produce electricity from methane harvested from landfills.

Two of the larger sub-promoters, according to the complaint, were Louis and Elizabeth Powell, a married couple from Carthage, Texas. The suit alleges that the Powells sold the scheme to more than 1,800 customers, and then prepared tax returns for customers claiming more than \$7.8 million of the improper credits.

Another large sub-promoter alleged to have promoted the scheme is Ronald Fontenot of Lake Charles,

Louisiana. The complaint alleges that Fontenot is the president and CEO of Compro-Tax Inc., a tax preparation service with over 100 offices in the eastern and southern United States. According to the complaint, Fontenot promoted the credit scheme to all Compro-Tax store operators, and at least 54 of those store operators sold interests in the scheme to customers and then prepared federal income tax returns for the customers claiming the improper tax credits.

The complaint further alleges that one sub-promoter, Sally Hand-Bostick, operator of National Express Tax in Carrollton, Texas, is a representative for Drake Software, a Franklin, North Carolina-based company that sells tax preparation software to tax preparers in all 50 states. Hand-Bostick allegedly promoted the scheme to tax preparers who were her Drake Software customers. She also allegedly sold the scheme to her own tax preparation customers, and prepared returns for those customers claiming nearly \$2.5 million of the improper tax credits.

For more information and a list of all defendants named in the suit, view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

Republic caps landfill with flexible solar cover

Republic Services, Inc. has embarked on an initiative to greatly increase renewable energy output at its landfills. The company combined a first-of-its-kind solar technology with an existing biogas-to-energy system to turn its Tessman Road Landfill in San Antonio, Texas into a sustainable energy park.

Republic's latest green energy venture will cover portions of soon to be closed areas of active landfills with flexible, laminate-type photovoltaic (PV) solar collection strips developed by United Solar. The flexible solar laminates, which capture the sun's rays for conversion into electricity, are adhered directly to a Firestone manufactured synthetic green-colored geomembrane used to cover and close a landfill as it reaches capacity. Unlike the more traditional rigid solar panels, which are bulky and frequently cost-prohibitive to install, Republic's system uses flexible nonreflective collection strips less than 1/4 inch thick.

The flexible solar strips can be configured to maximize the hours of sunlight exposure throughout the year, depending upon a landfill's design and site contours. For its demonstration project at the Tessman Road facility, Republic will partner with CPS Energy, Greater San Antonio's electric and natural gas provider, to deploy 5.6 acres of the 680-acre landfill with the solar energy cover, attaching over 1,000 Uni-Solar flexible solar strips to the landfill's south facing side slope. Republic and CPS Energy will study and document the results of this solar demonstration project for use in the deployment of solar energy covers on owned landfills throughout the region. Construction on the project, approved by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), began in December, 2008 and became fully operational in March, 2009.

The new solar cover will complement the landfill's existing biogas-to-energy system, in operation since 2002. The system collects and processes biogas, which is naturally produced at the landfill through the decomposition of waste. The solar strips, which have flexible photovoltaic silicon cells that convert sunlight directly into electricity, will complement the amount of renewable energy provided by the landfill.

With over 300 days of sunlight in San Antonio per year, Republic estimates that the energy produced by the two fully-operational systems, will continuously create about nine megawatts of power – enough to power 5,500 area homes.

"The solar energy cover is easier to inspect, maintain and repair than a traditional clay cap, and is technically superior in terms of odor control and storm water management," said Tony Walker, project manager for Republic. "Geomembrane covers are already in use across the country, but Republic is the first to integrate flexible solar cell technology to create an energy-producing cover system. We look forward to working with state regulators across the country to capitalize on the opportunities provided by landfills and, specifically, our efforts to further the country's energy independence movement through new sources of solar power."

Republic has 213 operating landfills in 40 states across the country. The company's research suggests that as much as 2,350 acres could be covered with solar energy covers, depending on regulatory approvals. That translates into enough solar energy to power up to 47,000 homes per year. Combine that with existing biogas-to-energy technology, and Republic has the potential to generate enough green electricity to power 300,000 homes across the country.

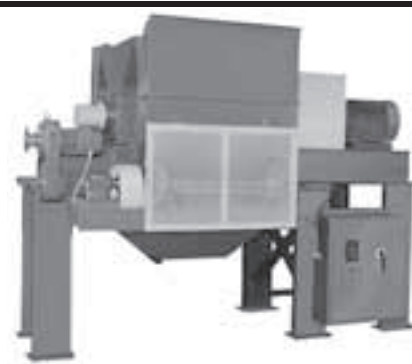
Waste Connections to acquire Potrero Hills Landfill

Waste Connections, Inc. announced that it has entered into an agreement to purchase the Potrero Hills Landfill in Northern California from Republic Services, Inc. The landfill, located in Suisun City, California, is being divested as a result of Republic Services' recent merg-

er with Allied Waste Industries, Inc. The transaction remains subject to customary closing conditions, including regulatory approval. Closing is expected to occur during the second quarter of 2009. Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

At a nudist colony for intellectuals in England, two old men were sitting on the front porch. One turned to the other and said, "I say, old boy, have you read Marx?" The other said, "Yes, it's these wicker chairs."

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EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

Waste compactors

by MARK HENRICKS

mhenricks@americanrecycler.com

When material streams consist of more air than valuable recyclables, recyclers turn to compactors to squeeze out the empty spaces. The result is lower cost of transportation as well as improved productivity and higher profits.



J.M. Hydraulics, Inc.

Compactors and balers sometimes utilize a similar compression mechanism. However, balers compress recyclables into bricks or bales, which are then restrained with wire, ribbon or other ties. Compactors produce materials that cling together by themselves, are loaded into containers or, sometimes, wrapped in plastic or inserted into bags. Both techniques reduce the volume of recyclables, making them easier and cheaper to handle.

In Valdese, North Carolina, Bakers Waste Equipment manufactures a wide range of compactors used in recycling applications. Its stationary compactors include the S-200, a 2 cubic yard compactor that uses a hydraulic ram to compact materials with 63,900 lbs. of pressure. Bakers also manufactures similar three, four and five cubic yard stationary compactors. Bakers' B-35SC self-contained unit couples a 2 cubic yard compactor with a 35 cubic yard container on a 22 ft. skid.

Chris Burns, director of sales marketing for Bakers, said, "We sell them a lot to government accounts, such as counties and municipalities, to go in recycle centers or convenience centers. In rural areas they allow residents to come to a centralized location where they'll have containers to collect waste and recyclables. They use our stationary and self-contained compactors to compact bulk residential recyclables.

"Mostly what we see people using them for are paper and cardboard," Burns said. "They can be putting plas-

tics in there as well." A typical configuration has a two to three cubic yard compactor feeding a 40 ft. trailer that is used to transport the recyclables for further processing.

Challenges of the applications include setting up the equipment to achieve adequate packing pressures, especially with cardboard. "Cardboard is probably one of the more difficult recyclable products that we have to accommodate," Burns said. "We sometimes have to build large feed hoppers and larger units to accommodate those, especially if they're not breaking them down prior to going in." Currently, Baker is designing a number of new compactor products for more specific applications, including restaurants and multi-family residential complexes.

WasteCare Corporation of Gainesville, Georgia, manufactures a wide range of compactors used for materials including paper and plastic. Those popular for recycling applications include two models of continuous feed compactors that deposit compressed materials into bins. The Model CB-2900 bin compactors, for instance, hold roughly one yard of loose trash and about six yards of compacted



Marathon Equipment

trash. The electrically-powered compactor exerts a maximum of 600 lbs. of downward pressure. WasteCare's portable PortaPack compactors are to be used with existing drums, boxes and trash bins. Up to 8-to-1 compression ratios can be achieved with downward pressure of up to 6,000 lbs. of force with these models.

Matt Kennedy, WasteCare's sales manager, said business remains good. "People are a little slower to make

decisions, but the level of inquiries hasn't dropped. People are asking me more questions before they buy and are taking longer. But overall the activity is still there. It hasn't dropped off too much."

According to Kennedy, some of the most common requests today are renting to own or utilizing WasteCare's internal financing. Popular niche products include bulb crushers used to reduce emissions from old fluorescent bulbs, save space and improve productivity of recycling personnel.

Precision Machinery Systems Inc. of York, Pennsylvania, makes a specialty compactor used in industrial settings for recycling expanded polystyrene packing material. The company was founded 15 years ago when major oil companies began a recycling effort in response to a push to reduce the use of polystyrenes, said president Barry Bosies. The early recycling efforts had difficulty meeting financial goals, however, and compaction was the solution.

"If you had to ship undensified polystyrenes, you could get maybe 1,000 lbs. to 1,500 lbs. in a truck," Bosies said. "We came up with a piece of equipment that allows you to get 40,000 lbs. in a tractor trailer. The whole equation became a lot friendlier."

Challenges with compressing polystyrene include obtaining adequate densification and dealing with the material's propensity to jam. "You need fairly significant pressure in order to get the air out of the cells," Bosies said. "Our machine produces about 425 lbs. of pressure per square inch of ram face." Precision Machinery employs a hydraulically-powered ram that presses material against either a fixed face, or an opening that emits a thin ribbon. Their eight models can process from 25 lbs. per hour to 600 lbs. per hour.

Although the first models were originally intended for expanded polystyrene, other uses today include compacting plastic milk containers, sawdust and aluminum cans. Business was active when prices for oil, the feedstock for polystyrene, were high, but demand has tapered off since oil prices declined, Bosies said.

Manufacturer List

American Recycling Systems
Vincent Cerniglia
800-220-6099
www.Dlacontract.com

Bakers Waste Equipment
Chris Burns
828-879-8222
www.bwe-nc.com

C+M Baling Systems, Inc.
John Gibbs
800-225-3796
www.baling.com

Harmony Enterprises, Inc.
Brenda Hoag
800-658-2320
www.harmony1.com

J.M. Hydraulics, Inc.
Jose Martinez
818-771-0534
www.baletech.com

Marathon Equipment
Becky Smith
800-269-7237
www.marathonequipment.com

Nedland Industries, Inc.
Dave Nedland
800-447-4925
www.nedland.com

Precision Machinery Systems
Dawn Webert
717-846-6800
www.precisionmachinerysystems.com

Quality Bilt Equipment, LLC
Mike Dugan
888-773-9313
www.qualitybilt.com

S & G Enterprises, Inc.
Mark Griffith
888-726-3528
www.ramflat.com

Sani-Tech Systems, Inc.
Jerry Kaptein
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Waste recession

■Continued from Page 1

and containers, have taken cost-cutting measures. Parker said equipment manufacturers have cut their workforce and slowed production because solid waste companies are postponing purchasing new equipment.

Yet another major impact from the recession on the solid waste industry is a drop in prices for recyclable materials, Parker said. There have been reductions in the amount of material that mills are buying. Therefore, some recycling facilities have had to lay off workers, reduce hours of operations and take other steps to reduce operating costs.

A Closer Look

by Donna Currie

Portland Disposal

Jonie Simonton • 503-281-8736



Jonie Simonton, along with her family, run Portland Disposal.

Before 1991, Portland, Oregon had as many as 200 independent trash haulers. "Most of us operated out of our homes," said Jonie Simonton, vice president of Portland Disposal & Recycling.

That all changed when the city required that the haulers had to buy a franchise in order to pick up trash in the city. As part of the franchise agreement, haulers had to have phones staffed eight hours a day, which didn't make sense for the small companies who might get one or two calls a day.

At the time, Simonton and her husband owned Gatto Sanitary, which then merged with Salvi Sanitary and Cargni Sanitary to form Portland Disposal & Recycling. While Portland Disposal itself dates back to that merger in 1991, the oldest of the three founding companies traces its roots back to 1936 in Portland.

Gatto Sanitary had about 1,000 accounts in 1991, which grew to 9,000 after the companies merged. Now, the Portland Disposal has about 35,000 accounts, including both residential and commercial accounts. That translates to 45 routes every day, not including drop boxes.

Simonton explained that when the franchising began, haulers were given territories based on their current existing base. Not every residence in an area uses the garbage service, so some areas have fewer customers than estimated. While the system wasn't perfect, she said that it was fair.

Since commercial accounts weren't franchised, those are scattered around the city. Sometimes those accounts are serviced by one of the company's owners. "All the partners are working partners," Simonton said. "Nobody just sits back and does nothing." For her part, Simonton acts as office manager, while other partners might work a route if someone is off sick, and there are plenty of meetings to attend and paperwork to take care of.

Simonton said that paperwork is one of the things that has changed a lot since she and her husband were working from home. "Billing is hugely improved," she said, explaining that when they had 1,000 customers, doing paperwork by hand "worked quite well" but that the current automated billing and credit card payment by phone are much more efficient.

Communicating with drivers has also taken great leaps due to technology. Simonton recalled that she would leave handwritten notes for the drivers at the beginning of their routes, and not see them again until the end of the day. Now, it's easy to contact a driver if plans need to be changed.

Meanwhile, Google Earth and Google's Street View make it easier for new or replacement drivers to see exactly where they're going on the routes – a far cry from the verbal directions of the past.

One of Portland Disposal's trucks has been outfitted with a computer and onboard camera to take photos of the loads. "It's very innovative," Simonton said. What's been working very well for the company for a while is the computer program "actually written by a garbage man," that helps run the business.

Simonton said that one of the biggest challenges is getting people to understand what is recyclable. "We haul recycling, yard debris and garbage," she explained, but some people have trouble figuring out what to put into each bin. As far as the recycling, the only thing that needs to be kept separate is glass, but "the biggest problem is plastic bags. They jam up the machinery."

Right now, drivers can take photos of loads with their cell phones and send them back to the office in case customers have questions. In some cases, Simonton said, customers have found out that unauthorized people have dumped items into their trash or recycling bins. "We do have some problems with illegal dumping."

Simonton's husband has since passed away, but she still works with family members. "Both of my sons work here," she said. "It's wonderful. I get to see my boys every day when they check in." She said that her sons also feel like they can be a part of what their father was involved in, and before him, their grandfather, who also had a garbage route in the city.

Other partners also have family members working at the company, although there are "a few whose kids branched off and did other things."

"While recycling always has experienced cycles with some deep economic pot-holes, this one has been the most sustained because of our global economy," Parker said. "The good news is that I have seen no evidence of recyclables being disposed of or municipal recycling programs being closed, with a few exceptions in small rural areas."

To cope with the downturn in the economy, Houston-based Waste Management Inc. announced a restructuring in the first quarter that will cost the company \$50 million to implement. But the company says the changes will result in annualized savings of more than \$100 million.

Rutland, Vermont-based Casella Waste Systems Inc. is also in the middle of what the company's chairman and chief executive officer, John Casella, described as a "comprehensive effort to improve all aspects of our operating structure and daily business practices" in a statement to shareholders.

"The widening economic recession, both locally and globally, poses a significant challenge on many levels," said Joe Fusco, vice president of communications at Casella Waste. "The worldwide collapse of the recyclable commodities markets, for example, has had a measureable impact on our recycling revenues. We've also seen lower solid waste volumes in markets that have been particularly hard hit by the economic downturn."

Casella Waste reported a 14 percent drop in revenue in its fiscal third quarter, ended January 31, 2009. Revenue totaled \$121.2 million, down \$19.7 million from the comparable quarter last year. But the company was able to reduce its net loss to \$3.8 million or \$.15 a share compared with \$4.6 million or \$.18 a share last year.

"The economy is issue number one. Almost nothing else approaches this challenge in terms of importance, and the effort and focus required to manage intelligently

through the downturn," Fusco said. The company is also increasing pricing where supported by the market and reducing its capital expenditure plans.

Soft demand for commodity recycling materials and one of the worst downturns in the residential housing construction market in history will likely continue to impact solid waste collection volumes through at least the rest of this year, said Stewart Scharf, an environmental services equity analyst at Standard & Poor's Corp. in New York.

"With manufacturing down sharply, the appetite for purchasing recycled materials, especially in China, from the United States has dried up, forcing commodity prices to plunge by as much as 75 to 90 percent in some regions," Scharf said.

Standard & Poor's is forecasting a 42 percent decline in housing starts this year. The drop in housing starts translates into less construction and demolition waste. Plus, Scharf said the downturn has carried over into the industrial and commercial markets.

With S&P forecasting a 3 percent decline in real gross domestic product for 2009, Scharf said, solid-waste volumes would probably continue to decline this year. However, he said that President Barack Obama's economic stimulus plan and bank bailout plans should lead to a gradual improvement in the capital markets, easing the credit crunch.

"It's basically an industry-wide, across-the-board type of downturn. Although the industry is generally recession resistant, the extent of this economic crisis has affected both large and small haulers," Scharf said. "The smaller haulers are having a more difficult time coping with the financial woes, which will likely lead to more niche acquisitions by the larger players and more attractive acquisition multiples as well."

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Republic merger

■Continued from Page 1

companies' employees informed on merger details. They launched a merger-specific website, republicallied.com, to provide open, current communications on all developments for employees and the public. "The one consistent theme about a successful merger is a pronounced communications effort for your employees, vendors, customers and investors," said Flower.

The communications program also included daily and weekly meetings and phone conferences and posting pre and post merger videos on YouTube by Jim O'Connor, Republic's chairman and CEO. O'Connor, no mere business man, has changed a transmission in a garbage truck, so he knows both the everyday gritty jobs, as well as the interior of the corporate jet, which was busier than ever as an airborne meeting room.

The next phase was the development of a "Day One Playbook" that would take the new organization through the first 30 days and was robust enough to complete the integration of systems and infrastructure. This was a plan that evolved from the beginning and is still evolving today, but began with a very clever, pragmatic approach. The integration team developed a list of everyone in both companies who had gone through a significant merger and asked them questions, such as: What went wrong? What went right? What should have been done differently? From this knowledge, the four-person corporate integration team compiled over a thousand tasks in the playbook for implementing details at the general manager (GM) level. It was all practical, front line guidance like moving trucks, buying or renting property and was not concerned with over-arching corporate systems like IT or billing. "It is a menu that a GM can pick and choose from on what is occurring in that market and helps build-out a tailored plan for that particular market," said Borro.

As a result of the merger, Republic now has 400 hauling companies, 242 transfer stations, 213 landfills and 78 recycling plants. The highest priorities were in 17 to 20 markets where Republic and Allied services overlapped and that affected about 140 divisions. Republic operates under about 100 different names in local markets and those names will remain. The new corporate identity is a low priority. In those critical, complex overlapping markets everything in the playbooks was geared to a 120-day countdown to get people, assets, billing and hauling systems in place. These were strategic, task-scheduled plans to complete successful mergers at each location.

To manage these integrations, five project integration teams were formed, each consisting of a project manager and a management trainee. "We included trainees to build talent by exposing them to our business so when we are done we will have a stronger team in place," Borro commented. The integration teams traveled from business to business on a priority basis and assisted the GM's team to complete tasks. "They would have weekly teleconferences with corporate for problem-resolution so we had a real fix on issues in each market," said Flower.

"In our case we had two mature, successful companies that had a series of strong processes that were working and

continue to work today. We're picking the best of the best and are on version 17 of the playbook. We get updates from the field, make changes in the playbook and implement for the next round," Borro said.

In accordance with the merger agreement with the United States Department of Justice, Republic is in the process of divesting six municipal solid waste landfills, six collection operations and three transfer stations located in seven markets. "As these assets come to market we get a lot of interest and expect a premium price," said Flower. "Divestiture is on-track with several letters of sale agreements and we expect to close all sales in the second quarter." The proceeds for the sale of the assets will be used for debt reduction.

Of course, the real prize in a successful merger is the synergistic cost savings and ongoing operational efficiencies. Republic estimated synergy savings at \$150 million with about \$90 to \$100 million coming in cuts to personnel and overhead. Two corporate offices and eight regional offices were reduced to one corporate and four regional offices. Most of the layoffs occurred when Republic closed its Fort Lauderdale headquarters and relocated to Phoenix. There were also some staff reductions in field offices due to redundant positions and the slower economy. A total of about 400 jobs were eliminated. Republic now has fewer than 35,000 employees and believes it is right-sized, lean and structured properly to perform comfortably.

It is the ongoing operational efficiencies, however, that really made this merger work. Republic went from having 59 landfills before the merger to 213 afterward. More disposal outlets cut time and hauling costs, saves money and results in better customer service.

"One thing that we learned before we started, when we interviewed the employees who have gone through mergers is that this doesn't have to be done overnight. We don't want to drag it out, we want to do it right," Borro added.

"When you look at the reasons for this merger, whether in a good economy or a weak economy those reasons were good. It's like a good marriage. If two people are right to be together it doesn't matter what the economy is like, it's a good time to get married," Flower said.

AR EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

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Vector control

■Continued from Page 2

basis, try to be as good a neighbor as they can be. We don't want to have problems at our landfills."

Landfill inspectors play a key role in vector control, and according to Repa, they take complaints very seriously.

Landfill operators employ a variety of rat control techniques, including traps and other methods to ensure problems do not occur.

The city depends on sanitation workers to be the eyes and ears in terms of reporting vector infestations.

Eliminating standing water at landfills is a key factor in vector control. Rules and regulations are strict about eliminating water sources. Repa said solid waste is naturally wet and rainfall can create surface water pools.

Sound devices with the cries of hawks are employed to keep birds away. Daily cover helps to bury trash and removes an open food source for them. Pyrotechnics are also employed. Gulls, said Repa, because they are a migratory species, are protected federally and cannot be killed unless special permits are issued. This applies to other birds as well.

"New techniques and rules basically prevent landfill operators from making their facilities attractive to animals," he said, adding that when new regulations and rules are put forward for discussion, facility owners and operators

want to work with government at all levels to draw up regulations that are not "onerous," but ensure that effective solutions are implemented that protect human health and the environment.

"We have," he said, "under our Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), a federal rule that sets standards for landfills. It is very prescriptive and says that you have to control vectors, surface water run-on and run-off and liners."

Vector infestation at waste transfer stations and MRFs, said Repa, is not a major problem due to quick pickups at transfer stations and at MRFs where very little material is left on the ground by the end of the day.

"We find that rats come from a bin or someone's garbage, which is dumped into a bin and end up in somebody's facility," said Repa. "Some people don't close the top down or overfill the bins."

But he noted that the situation is improving due to the growing use of containers by the residential and non-residential sector and the use of trucks designed to pick up bins and deposit the material directly into the truck.

"Most commercial buildings have a container that can be picked up by front-end loading garbage trucks," said Repa, who noted that when there is lack of standardization on the residential front, people purchase a wide variety of containers and cans, some of which may not be effective due to poorly fitting covers that can be opened by animals. "We have a variety of containers that will keep the rats out for the most part, but if they are sitting in the back alley and people are putting trash into them on a daily basis, the smell may attract other animals."



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Westinghouse 4160V Disconnect Switch Gear for Toshiba Motor.

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