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The challenge of legislating e-waste



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Paper recycling: To sort or not to sort

by MAURA KELLER

mkeller@americanrecycler.com

Commingling or single stream recycling is taking the nation by storm as more and more municipalities establish a streamlined system in which all recyclables, including plastic, paper, cardboard, aluminum and newspaper are put into a single cart for recycling. The local materials recovery facility is then responsible for sorting the recyclables to be sold, processed and reused. While co-mingling has proven to be an efficient system for the consumer and municipalities, the long term effect single stream recycling has on paper recycling is proving to be more problematic.

According to Bernard Newman, president and chief executive officer of Newman & Company, a 100 year old, family owned and operated paper recycler in Philadelphia, unsophisticated commingling impacts negatively on the processing of paper grades and separation of variable fibers that are used as recipes to make different grades of paper.

“It is a challenge for paper mills when it’s not sorted properly,” Newman said. “There is a need to educate collectors and accumulators of paper stock – primarily municipalities and government entities – on how to properly separate and prepare so it can be utilized effectively without tremendous additional cost.”

That said, Newman is seeing a significantly large paper recycling business growing in the Philadelphia area and in almost all major U.S. metropolitan cities.

“Recycling is quite mature and has become very sophisticated and has worked its way into smaller towns and communities and places that, some years ago, didn’t have the inclination or the wherewithal to become involved,” Newman said. “The industry advances as more paper mills are using more grades of recoverable fiber and the export market is significant – especially the Far East where the demand is enormous and constantly growing.”

Newman Paper Board has been manufacturing 100 percent recycled paperboard for 98 years. United States Recycling, Inc. (USRI), which is the company’s recycling arm, continues to grow as USRI purchases and acquires many grades of recoverable fiber shipping throughout North America and exports it all over the world.

Long Range Impact

As more municipalities allow commingling of paper products for recycling, the recycling process is being impacted.



Waste Management views paper recycling in a few segments – cardboard, newspaper, mixed paper and high-grade papers.

“With the increase in online shopping, we have seen increases in the mix of cardboard in our residential recycling programs, which has offset the decline of newspaper – replaced with electronic media,” said Waste Management vice president of recycling, Brent Bell. “So while the overall recycling percentage has remained relatively flat in recent years, the mix has changed.”

Waste Management is the largest recycler in North America with 14 to 15 million tons recycled annually. About 80 percent of the material the company collects curbside is paper and they feel that paper recycling has one of the largest greenhouse gas benefits from a sustainable materials management perspective.

“The conversion to single stream for many of our customers resulted in an increase in their recycling rate of nearly 40 percent, however the contamination rate also increased,” Bell said. Waste Management developed an educational campaign, called “Recycle Often. Recycle Right.” to help customers simplify what can be recycled in their curbside programs.

When co-mingling results in contamination, the result is significantly higher costs by mills to process and prepare paper stock for manufacturing their products in accordance with minimum quality standards.

“When bottles, cans or containers are not rinsed out, or still have liquids in them they can saturate the paper,” Bell said. “Sometimes even food is left in recyclable containers or placed in the recycling bin, which can cause paper to absorb grease, oil and other food waste.”

Michael McManus, communications director at Asia Pulp & Paper, one of the world’s largest, fully integrated pulp and paper manufacturers, said recyclability of paper is being reimaged on the forefront, by the manufacturers and converters who have sustainability top of mind.

In addition to recovering and reusing everything from scraps to binding, Asia Pulp & Paper and its supplier network procure large amounts of recycled or recovered material for integration into their products.

“To give you an example, at just one of our mills, we purchase about 1,500,000MT of recycled brown paper material annually which is, in turn, integrated into our product manufacturing and production,” McManus said. “Depending on location, we would love to acquire and utilize additional recovered material, but shipping, cargo costs and carbon footprint come into play.”

Commingling can certainly provide more incentive to recycle, but with it comes higher labor costs for separation, contamination, tracking and monitoring. That said, with education and newer technologies involving sensors, optical detection and cameras, McManus hopes to see those costs stabilize or come down over time.

Co-mingling or single stream recycling certainly offers benefits to recycling companies and consumers alike. The benefits include being able to make recycling easier for the customer and with that convenience, recycling rates should increase.

“The collection companies, either municipal owned or WM, can utilize an efficient compaction truck compared to the older dual stream trucks that may

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Consumers Energy offers appliance recycling

Consumers Energy is encouraging people to turn old household items into cash through its appliance recycling program.

Consumers Energy expects to recycle over 20,000 old refrigerators, freezers, room air conditioners and dehumidifiers this year. The energy provider started offering appliance recycling again after suspending its program in November.

“We are committed to helping our customers reduce their energy costs through a variety of energy efficiency programs. Recycling household appliances is an easy, no cost way to do that with no hassle and many benefits,” said Ted Ykimoff, Consumers Energy’s director of energy efficiency programs.

Consumers Energy residential electric customers can benefit from recycling appliances in two ways. They can

receive \$50 for each eligible refrigerator or freezer that they recycle and \$15 for each room air conditioner or dehumidifier. In addition, new appliances use less energy – some older appliances can add as much as \$150 a year to energy bills.

Working refrigerators, freezers, room air conditioners and dehumidifiers are eligible for the recycling program. Consumers Energy electric customers can go online to schedule a free pickup, typically within less than two weeks.

Consumers Energy takes steps to make sure old appliances are recycled responsibly. Environmentally harmful refrigerant and foam are recovered and reclaimed or destroyed, and metals, plastic and glass are recycled. Consumers Energy’s recycling facility is a participant in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Responsible Appliance Disposal program.

Paper recycling

■Continued from Page 1

have to divert off of a route when only half the truck was full – half of the truck was fibers and the other half was non-fibers,” Bell said.

For consumers, the benefit of comingling is that it’s become effortless and easy. It doesn’t take much time or thought, so more people are more likely to participate in recycling whether it be at home, at an airport, school, restaurant or shopping center. The advantage for companies like ours is that it increases the amount available, stabilizes the market, and lowers cost so we can more cost effectively integrate and create another lifecycle for this material.

“One of the biggest challenges we see today in the U.S. is a lack of recycling infrastructure and inconstancy,” McManus said. “As an example, some states offer curbside pick-up, while others require consumers to take their own initiative and bring their own waste to the proper recycling stations.”

From the paper/production side, Asia Pulp & Paper still sees challenges with brands that want to offer their customers the most sustainable solution, which people tend to default to as recycling paper, but can’t due to product limitations. This is most evident in food packaging where certification may require virgin paper or for a hot beverage cup that requires an inner liner to retain heat. These challenges require product innovation.

“The most important aspect of our industry is that the fiber based paper and packaging are some of the most widely recycled materials in the world,” McManus said. “We are a sector of growth, because as long as fiber can be grown in a sustainable and responsible way, we can re-grow the crop needed to produce the needs of consumers all over the world. We can then combine both virgin and recycled material to create products which consumers and businesses need and use every day.”

Looking Forward

Paper recycling and production experts agree about the certainty that paper recycling will grow and have far-reaching positive results. The whole triple bottom line of ‘people, planet, profit’ is at play within the paper recycling arm of the recycling industry, especially as paper recycling continues to increase.

As more developing and developed countries adopt programs through local municipalities and government, less trash means less landfills, increased sustainable and environmentally friendly communities, increased competition, more jobs, a drive to create better technologies to help sort, bundle and produce as well as increased opportunities for superior recycled products.

“I see a few growing pains, but many more positives in the future of paper recycling, most important of which is a cleaner, healthier planet,” McManus said.

Bell believes that paper recycling will grow, however, like all recycling products, if there is not a demand for the material the program will not be sustainable. “We must ensure that manufacturers not only produce products and packaging that are easy to recycle, but the use of recycled content by manufacturers is critical to the materials moving and ensuring the supply/demand economics are in balance,” Bell said.

While paper recycling is good for the environment, Newman said that there is less benefit for the recycling company and more for the municipality who collects it.

“That is where single stream comes to play,” Newman said. “Comingling procedures may reduce the cost of collecting but can create many costly problems for everyone after that. I believe the paper recycling industry will continue to grow until the practical recycling collection rate is achieved maximally throughout the country. That time is approaching but hasn’t been reached yet.”

Phoenix's compost facility earns Envision Silver Rating

The City of Phoenix's 27th Avenue Compost Facility is the recent recipient of the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure (ISI) Envision Silver verification. The Envision system rates sustainable infrastructure across the full range of environmental, social, and economic impacts. The 27th Avenue Compost Facility is the first solid waste infrastructure project in the U.S., and the first in Arizona, to earn the prestigious Envision recognition.

Phoenix set a goal of 40 percent waste reduction from landfills by 2020, which is part of a larger city sustainability goal to achieve zero waste by 2050. When completed, the compost facility will be capable of processing up to 110,000 tons of green and food waste per year, resulting in an estimated 11 percent reduction of waste being sent to the city landfills. The city plans to implement a second phase to the facility, which will allow it to double its composting program from 110,000 tons per year to 220,000.

Organizations involved in the design and construction of this state-of-the-art facility include the City of Phoenix (owner); Arrington Watkins Architects, Green Mountain Technologies, Dibble Engineering, Solutions AEC, and Floor & Associates, Inc. (project design team); Brycon Construction (project design team and constructor); and HDR (lead Envision sustainability facilitator). All partners collaborated at the earliest stages of design to enhance the sustainability of this facility.

Created in 2012 through a collaboration between ISI and the Zofnass Program for Sustainable Infrastructure at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design, the Envision system rates the impact of sustainable infrastructure projects as a whole. The ISI Envision system measures sustainability in five categories: Quality of Life, Leadership, Natural World, Resource Allocation, and Climate and Risk. These key areas contribute to the positive social, economic, and environmental impacts on a community.

The 27th Avenue Compost Facility earned high scores in the Leadership, Natural World, and Climate and Risk categories.

The nature of the compost facility is to reduce waste by turning food waste and green waste, a by-product of landscape operations, into a new material resource – compost, which will be sold to landscapers and used by the city to maintain its parks. Furthermore, this facility is not only a key component in the city's waste reduction plans, but it is also a key piece of Phoenix's new Resource Innovation Campus.

Although the project is located in an industrial area, landscaping components are being introduced at the site. The landscape design for this project is composed of only native and desert adaptive plant species, none of which require management through chemical applications.

This project also preserves greenfields, since 100 percent of the project's developed area is located on a greyfield (a previously developed site).

CARE members divert over 488 million pounds of carpet

The CARE Annual Report, released by the Carpet America Recovery Effort, reports that CARE members diverted more than 488 million pounds of carpet from U.S. landfills in 2016, down nearly 6 percent from 2015.

Of the carpet diverted to recycling, 167 million lbs. were recycled into carpet and other consumer products, 174 million lbs. were sent back to the landfill, and 144 million lbs. were sent to waste-to-energy and cement kilns.

2016 was a challenging year for CARE in terms of marketplace activity and demand for various fiber types. "Data shows the carpet recycling industry is under mounting stress. Until oil returns to greater than \$70 per barrel, we see continuing turbulent times ahead", said CARE's executive director Dr. Robert Peoples.

CARE continues to refine its survey methodology. It began using a mass balance approach in 2013. This

methodology focuses material flows by examining inputs and outputs in each step of the recycling process.

Seventy-two percent of recycled post-consumer carpet is manufactured into plastics. This category has grown over the past few years. The amount of material recycled in carpet fiber dropped 10 percentage points, from 13 percent to 3 percent. Carpet backing remained constant at 8 percent of end products manufactured. 11 percent of recycled post-consumer carpet pounds that were recycled went into new carpet. This is considered a true cradle-to-cradle process.

Carpet recycling employed 1,215 people in 2016. This is a decrease of 80 people or 6 percent versus the jobs reported in 2015.

To date, CARE members have kept over 4.6 billion pounds of waste carpet out of landfills since CARE was founded in 2002.

Recycle DSM Program expansion brings 42 new bins to downtown Des Moines, Iowa

Recycle DSM (Des Moines, Iowa), a partnership between the City of Des Moines and Operation Downtown, have added 42 new recycling bins for downtown. The new bins will be placed in the Historic East Village and the Western Gateway.

Recycle DSM aims to create a cleaner and greener Downtown Des Moines. The program began in October with 8 receptacles in the Historic East Village and has now expanded to 50 bins. The Coca-Cola/Keep America Beautiful Recycling Bin Grant Program awarded a grant for recycling bins to Operation Downtown. The City of Des Moines Public Works Department has also provided additional investment to expand Recycle DSM.

The Recycle DSM program builds off of existing efforts that include cigarette butt recycling through Operation Downtown and recycling at various Downtown events, in addition to efforts by residential and commercial property owners to offer recycling options to their residents and employees. The expansion of the existing program extends recycling from the residential and commercial to the public realm.

In addition to the recycling bins, sidewalk art installed throughout East Village and Western Gateway encourages residents and Downtown workers

and visitors to recycle. The art includes phrases such as "Eat.Drink.Recycle." and "The future is in your hands – Recycle DSM."

In total, the Coca-Cola/Keep America Beautiful Recycling Bin Grant Program will provide 3,522 recycling bins to colleges and universities, along with 996 bins to local governments and nonprofit organizations during the 2016-2017 grant cycle. The recycling bins are made possible through a grant from The Coca Cola Foundation, the philanthropic arm of The Coca-Cola Company.

More than 45 percent of the bins are designed specifically for permanent, ongoing use in public spaces such as athletic fields, K-12 schools, fairs and festivals, special events and park settings, with the remaining 55 percent to be used by students in college residence hall settings. The program is expected to result in an estimated 1 million pounds of recyclable materials collected during their first year in use.

Grant recipients were chosen by Keep America Beautiful based on their potential to collect the most cans and bottles as well other considerations such as the extent of their need, recycling experience, and their ability to sustain the program in the future.



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Two men met on opposite sides of a river. One shouted to the other, "I need you to help me get to the other side!"

The other guy replied, "You ARE on the other side!"

Target agrees to engage corporate peers on foam phase-out of shipping polystyrene

As You Sow has withdrawn a shareholder proposal with Target Corp. that asks the company to phase out use of polystyrene packaging foam in its e-commerce operations as a result of the company's willingness to work with its value chain and industry peers to discuss replacing foam with less harmful alternatives.

Polystyrene foam used for beverage cups, takeout containers, and packing materials is rarely recycled. Most used foam ends up in landfills, where it can remain for hundreds of years. Due to its light weight, it becomes readily airborne and is often swept into waterways. These materials in water break

down into small indigestible pellets, which animals mistake for food. Ingestion of polystyrene can result in illness, death, and the destruction of marine ecosystems.

In light of these concerns, As You Sow filed shareholder proposals with Target and Amazon.com asking the companies to phase out use of foam packing materials.

Target has acknowledged concern about polystyrene foam production, the limited availability of recycling options, and foam's role in contributing to plastic pollution on land and in waterways. The company states that it does not use polystyrene foam in mate-

rials it ships directly to consumers. However, foam remains as a packing material in goods from third parties who sell through Target online. The company has agreed to engage its value chain to discuss replacing foam with more sustainable alternatives.

As You Sow has also filed a proposal with McDonald's Corp. to stop using foam beverage cups globally after phasing them out in the U.S. in 2013.

These corporate engagements are part of an initiative by As You Sow to move companies using disposable plastics to recycle, redesign, reduce, or phase them out as quickly as possible.

LA Sanitation and Los Angeles International Airport team up for organics waste recycling

As part of ongoing efforts for the City of Los Angeles, California to achieve the goal of zero waste and reducing the use of landfills, LA Sanitation and Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) have announced the start of an Organics Waste Recycling Pilot Program at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX).

The pilot program calls for the collection of food waste from: a sit-down restaurant, fast food restaurant, and coffee house in Terminal 8 and an airline lounge in Terminal 7. The program's effectiveness will be analyzed to deter-

mine the needs for all of the 108 food service establishments within LAX's 9 terminals.

Airport staff will collect the food waste from the pilot program locations. LA Sanitation will then collect the food waste and transport it to a facility, where it will be recycled and converted into renewable natural gas and used as fuel. Residual solids and liquids from the process will be made into beneficially reusable products such as soil amendments.

California Assembly Bill 1826 (AB 1826) requires businesses that generate

eight cubic yards of organics waste per week to have an organics recycling service in place. To ensure compliance with AB 1826, the City of Los Angeles adopted the Sustainable City Plan (Mayoral Directive No. 7) and the Los Angeles City Zero Waste Franchise System (Council Motion 14-1432).

Rhode Island launches recycling solution and PSA campaign

At a time when it's most needed in the U.S., the state of Rhode Island and the RI Resource Recovery Corporation are partnering with nonprofit organization Recycle Across America to tackle the chronic issues that are causing recycling in the U.S. to collapse, head on with the most progressive solution and campaign in recycling history.

Some of the most influential VIPs and recognized faces in Rhode Island, united at an event in Providence to cele-

brate their state's leadership as the first to begin implementing the society-wide standardized labels on recycling bins statewide, making it easy for people to begin recycling more and recycling right, wherever they might be. These RI influencers also came to the event to participate in a photoshoot for the upcoming statewide "Let's recycleRIGHT!" PSA and education campaign to bring awareness to the standardized labels and the need for proper recycling.

Dust Control renamed as BossTek

Dust Control Technology has changed its name to BossTek™ to better reflect all of the company's product lines. What hasn't changed is the company's dedication to equipment quality and customer service.

American owned and operated, and headquartered in the Midwest, the company maintains an extensive domestic

rental fleet of industrial-strength misting cannons of all sizes for dust and odor suppression, as well as crowd cooling. The firm also customizes equipment for sale both in North America and internationally. They serve numerous industries including landfills, demolition, bulk materials handling, recycling, ports and large event cooling.



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Owner, Publisher and Editor

ESTHER G. FOURNIER
news@AmericanRecycler.com

Editorial Focus Section Editor, Production and Layout

DAVID FOURNIER, JR.
david@AmericanRecycler.com

Production and Layout

MARY E. HILL
mary@AmericanRecycler.com

Marketing Representatives

MARY M. COX
maryc@AmericanRecycler.com
MARY E. HILL
mary@AmericanRecycler.com

Circulation Manager

DONNA L. MCMANUS
donna@AmericanRecycler.com

Writers and Contributors

DONNA CURRIE
dcurrie@AmericanRecycler.com
MARK HENRICKS
mhenricks@AmericanRecycler.com
MAURA KELLER
mkeller@AmericanRecycler.com
RON STURGEON
rons@rdsinvestments.com

Production Offices

900 W South Boundary, Bldg 6
Perrysburg, OH 43551-5235
877-777-0043 fax 419-931-0740
www.AmericanRecycler.com

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

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

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Events Calendar

June 5th-8th

Air & Waste Management Annual Conference & Exhibition. Westin Convention Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. 800-270-3444 • www.awma.org

August 8th-11th

2017 ADS International Convention & Tradeshow. Wynn Las Vegas, Las Vegas, Nevada. 816-285-0810 • www.diesel.org

August 21st-23rd

Waste Conversion Tech Conference & Tradeshow. Hyatt Regency Mission Bay Spa & Marina San Diego, California. 850-386-6280 • wasteconversionconference.com

August 23rd-25th

Agricultural Plastics Recycling Conference & Trade Show. Hyatt Regency Mission Bay Spa & Marina San Diego, California. 850-386-6280 • www.agplasticconference.com

September 12th-14th

The Battery Show Exhibition & Conference 2017. Suburban Collection Showplace, Novi, Michigan. 855-436-8683 • www.thebatteryshow.com

September 18th-20th

ARC's Annual Conference & Trade Show. Best Western Inn of the Ozarks, Eureka Springs, Arkansas. 866-290-1429 • www.recycleark.org

Sept 25th-27th

SWANA's WASTECON. Baltimore Convention Center, Baltimore, Maryland. 800-467-9262 • www.swana.org

September 30th-October 4th

Water Environment Federation's Annual Technical Exhibition and Conference. McCormick Place, Chicago, Illinois. 800-666-0206 • www.weftec.org

Slow Down To Get Around legislation signed into law in Iowa

Iowa Governor Terry Branstad, signed into law new legislation that will protect workers in the waste and recycling industry. HF314, Iowa's version of the Slow Down to Get Around law, qualifies waste and recycling vehicles as "utility vehicles" and therefore requires motorists to slow down or move out of their way or face penalties. The bill was co-sponsored by Representative Rob Taylor (R-44) and State Senator Roby Smith (R-47).

Iowa is now the 14th state to enact this vital legislation, commonly referred to as Slow Down to Get Around, which is designed to protect waste and recycling workers. The Iowa Chapter of the National Waste and Recycling Association (NWRA) took the critical steps to develop this legislation and achieve its support in the Iowa legislature.

The law goes into effect on July 1 and requires motorists to slow down, safely change lanes if possible and operate with due caution around waste and recycling trucks when safety lights are flashing, similar to cautions motorists must now exercise when traveling through a construction work zone or when passing a stopped public safety vehicle. Slow Down to Get Around is a nationwide campaign by NWRA and its state chapters.

"This law is about the safety of waste and recycling collectors who serve our communities statewide," said Lyle Vander Meiden of Midwest Sanitation, a leader in the Iowa Chapter of NWRA. "All motorists are to exercise caution

and must slow down to get around waste and recycling vehicles, which will save lives and prevent unnecessary accidents and injuries. Our focus now turns to raising awareness of the new law and educating residents of the dangers that collection workers face daily on our roadways."

The most recent data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that the waste and recycling collection occupation ranks fifth in the nation for injuries, accidents and fatalities, and more recent data shows that many accidents involving waste and collection workers are caused by inattentive motorists and distracted driving. Iowa now joins twelve other states that have enacted Slow Down to Get Around, including Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Virginia, Wisconsin and West Virginia.

In all states, NWRA encourages motorists to be aware of the roadside dangers facing refuse and collection workers. NWRA is asking the media, public safety and transportation agencies and community leaders in Iowa to educate motor about the new law.

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

Trex Company recycled pellets get ICC certified

Providing plastics and rotational molding companies with further incentive to manufacture with Trex® recycled pellets, the company has sought and achieved certification with the International Code Council (ICC) for its linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE) pellets. This certification confirms that both the Trex Spartan™ and Trex Cardinal™ lines of LLDPE pellets contain 100 percent post-consumer content material.

Launched in 2015, Trex's LLDPE pellets are made from the surplus of recycled post-consumer and commercial polyethylene that Trex regularly collects for the manufacturing of its composite decking. Ideal for use in molding, profile extrusion and blown film applications, the recycled pellets are designed to partially displace the virgin and off-spec resin typically used in the production of plastic goods. This allows manufacturers to lower their material costs and promote a more eco-friendly option to customers.

Trex currently has four lines dedicated to recycled pellet production, making it one of the leading producers of recycled LLDPE pellets in the country.

Responsible Battery Coalition launched to improve net sustainability of batteries

Organization commits to improving the life-cycle of batteries

In recognition of concerns over the hazards associated with batteries, a new coalition was launched to develop best practices for managing vehicle, industrial and stationary batteries. The Responsible Battery Coalition was launched at the Green California Summit, bringing together organizations committed to improving the life-cycle management of the batteries.

The Coalition will advance the responsible production, transport, sale, use, reuse, recycling, and recovery of transportation, stationary, and industrial batteries and other energy storage devices, regardless of the technology used to make them.

"Every battery needs to be responsibly managed, and that's why we exist," said executive director Pat Hayes. "While current vehicle batteries have a 99 percent recycling rate, our goal is 100 percent. This also means preparing for the influx of advanced energy storage technologies hitting the market over the next five years. Our work is to accelerate

solutions to ensure all batteries are responsibly managed."

The Responsible Battery Coalition is partnering with leading sustainability non-governmental organizations to build on efforts already underway. The Coalition will focus on implementing sustainability metrics and tools established by the Sustainability Consortium (TSC) to raise the bar for battery life-cycle management, and will work with the Suppliers Partnership for the Environment to identify practices to apply to next generation batteries. The Coalition also partnered with Living Lands & Waters, a group dedicated to the conservation and cleaning of our nation's waterways, including recycling recovered batteries.

The Coalition will collaborate with leading experts through its Science Advisory Board. This independent board will be led by Dr. Ramon Sanchez, director of Sustainable Technologies and Health Program at Harvard University's T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

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ARCA opens Milwaukee area recycling center

Appliance Recycling Centers of America, Inc. (ARCA), a provider of appliance recycling programs celebrated the official opening of their Milwaukee area appliance recycling center. The center will process units collected through Focus on Energy's Appliance Recycling Program. Focus on Energy is Wisconsin utilities' energy efficiency and renewable resource program.

The state-of-the-art recycling services ARCA offers are designed to guarantee that every appliance collected through ARCA's energy efficiency programs are fully de-manufactured, stripped of hazardous materials and disposed of in an environmentally responsible manner. The Milwaukee recycling center will process approximately 16,000 units this year.

ARCA is the largest appliance program implementer in North America with over one million units recycled to date. They implement similar programs for over 50 major utility partners across the country. Their focus is to help utility clients meet or exceed energy efficiency targets, while providing a world-class customer experience, as evidenced by an overall 97 percent satisfaction rate based on over 9,000 responses.

New Guam landfill built under GBB Receivership

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), through its Office of Research and Development, recently released a research report providing technical assistance on solid waste management for remote, economically challenged communities in the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and American Samoa in the US Pacific territories.

While the U.S. Territory of Guam was not a focus of the study, site visits were made to obtain an overview of Guam's solid waste management system. As part of its report, the EPA states that: "Guam is a positive example of how a territory which once only had a large unlined landfill as the sole option for MSW disposal can design, construct, and operate a state-of-the-art MSWLF."

The "Sustainable Approaches for Materials Management in Remote, Economically Challenged Areas of the Pacific" report, dated July 2016 and released in February 2017, provides a snapshot of the current state of waste management in the U.S. Pacific island territories, along with guidance to remote, economically challenged areas with similar challenges.

In 2008, the Chief Judge of the United States District Court of Guam appointed GBB as Receiver to achieve

the Guam Government's compliance with the Clean Water Act as set forth in a 2004 Consent Decree. The Decree, signed between the Government of Guam and the EPA, ordered the Government of Guam to close the Ordot Dump, cease all leachate discharges into the Lonfit River, and open a new municipal solid waste landfill facility.

To develop the turnaround plan, GBB assembled a multi-disciplinary team of solid waste, procurement, landfill engineering, financial, and communication experts who presented the Court with a roadmap for accomplishing the Consent Decree projects and reforming Guam's solid waste management system. GBB, working with public works, financial departments, the military, private waste haulers, and other stakeholders in Guam, has closed the Ordot Dump, opened a new landfill and is on a path to comply with all the terms of the Consent Decree in the most cost-effective and expeditious manner possible. This has been accomplished under the guidance of the Court and in consultation with the EPA and the Guam Environmental Protection Agency.

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

TJM Capital invests in SAS of Luxemburg

TJM Capital Partners, through its portfolio company, Builtrite Holdings, LLC, announced its investment in SAS of Luxemburg, Ltd.

Founded in 1975, SAS Forks is a leading producer of highly engineered and differentiated auto dismantlers and processors, and material handling attachments serving the auto salvage, material recycling, scrap processing and quarrying market niches, among others.

The company will operate as a wholly owned subsidiary of Builtrite Holdings, LLC, and will continue to operate from its modern manufacturing facility located in Luxemburg, Wisconsin. Paul Secker, son of the company's founder, will continue to serve as SAS' president and all SAS Forks' employees will retain their current roles with the company.

Builrite Manufacturing, also a wholly owned subsidiary of Builtrite Holdings, LLC, located in Two Harbors, Minnesota, is a sister company to SAS Forks. Members of the new SAS Forks-Builrite Mfg. alliance will work together to provide all customers access to the full suite of advanced products currently offered by each company. Builtrite designs and produces broad families of truck mount and stationary electric material handlers.

The alliance between SAS Forks and Builtrite Manufacturing will yield significant benefits for all stakeholders, importantly, the new entity's valued customer base, supply partners and employees.

SAS' president, Paul Secker and Builtrite's president, Tom Cavallin will report to Bill Van Sant, executive chairman of Builtrite Holdings' board of directors. Van Sant has been associated with large public as well as small to mid-sized private manufacturing companies serving the heavy agricultural and construction equipment, and attachments, industries during his 40 year career. He also serves as an operating partner with TJM Capital Partners.

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ISRI releases 2017 Legislative Agenda highlighting priorities

The Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI) recently released its legislative agenda detailing its advocacy priorities. The agenda emphasizes six broad issue areas affecting the industry: Taxes & the Economy, International Trade, Energy and the Environment, Transportation & Infrastructure Development, Workplace Safety Initiatives, and Regulatory Policy.

“The 2017 Legislative Agenda draws attention to the legislative priorities ISRI has been advocating for on behalf of its members for a number of years,” said Robin Wiener, president of ISRI. “With a new Administration settling in, and much uncertainty in Washington as a whole, we wanted to make it clear where ISRI stood on issues that impact the recycling industry. The decisions made by Congress, the Administration, at the state-level, and internationally can have far reaching ramifications on recyclers. It is important that our members know we are fighting on

their behalf every day at every level of government.”

The legislative agenda serves as one of the many ways in which ISRI promotes safe, economically sustainable and environmentally responsible recycling. It applies to policies and regulations at the state, national, and international levels where applicable. In addition to ISRI using the agenda to represent the industry, individual members of ISRI can use it in their advocacy efforts, and policymakers can use it to learn more about key issues facing recycling.

“Recycling is an economic leader and job creator, positively contributing to the U.S. balance of trade,” continued Wiener. “While it has proven to be remarkably durable throughout history, policies and regulations related to international trade, safety, transportation, taxes, and other issues can have a far-reaching impact. It is important that as an industry we are proactive in protecting our interests.”

Pro Disposal driver named as ‘finalist’ for national award

An employee at Pro Disposal & Recycling was named recently as a finalist for “Driver of the Year” in a national competition sponsored by the National Waste & Recycling Association. Regina Chacon, who has almost singlehandedly turned her Lone Tree, Colorado route into a marvel of customer satisfaction, was named for distinction in the Small Company category.

According to the National Waste & Recycling Association, winning drivers

demonstrate the ability to operate their trucks in a safe and responsible manner, have an outstanding performance record, and contribute to the positive image of the solid waste industry.

Her boss at Pro Disposal, Robert Rodriguez, noted that Chacon had more than 1,800 consecutive work days without a vehicle accident and without a reportable injury, working in a field traditionally dominated by men.

SWANA & EREF partner on joint needlestick survey

Research to quantify specific injuries at North American MRFs

The Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) and the Environmental Research and Education Foundation (EREF) are conducting a joint research project to quantify and address the issue of needlestick injuries at material recovery facilities (MRFs) in the U.S. and Canada.

Needlestick injuries are a serious risk to waste industry workers, especially in MRFs where sorting recyclables on picking lines and similar activities can put employees in contact with sharps and, as a result, blood borne pathogens.

The objectives of the survey are to inventory observances of needles and syringes in MRF waste streams in the U.S. and Canada and document the extent of needle-related incidences (both those that resulted in no injuries and those that did).

“SWANA is very pleased to partner with EREF on this important project,” stated David Biderman, SWANA’s executive director and chief executive officer. “We need to better understand the scope of the needlestick problem at MRFs in order to develop appropriate mitigation strategies, which may include regulatory proposals.”

Historically, the frequency of needles and syringes in the recycling stream and the associated incidence rate of associated injuries in MRFs has not been

well documented, though it has been suggested anecdotally in the industry that the rate has increased in recent years. This is consistent with the increased disposal of needles and syringes generated by older Americans in their homes.

“If successful, SWANA and EREF may survey companies and sanitation departments to assess needlestick issues in the collection side of the industry as well,” added Biderman.

“This effort builds off of and expands EREF’s prior data acquisition efforts to better characterize the number of recycling facilities and their activities,” said Bryan Staley, EREF’s president and chief executive officer. “Given their focus on safety, working with SWANA is a natural fit and results from this project provide a useful benchmark for owners and operators to use as they evaluate this issue in their own facilities.”

This project is one of the first to be conducted under the terms of a memorandum of understanding that was executed by the two organizations in late 2016.

Results will be aggregated in a form that keeps the identity of individual facilities private.

For a direct link to take the survey, view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.



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ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

EAWC revises agreement

EAWC Technologies, (also known as Europort Active World Corp.), has signed a revised agreement with Mexican Company, Tecnologias Verdes SA de CV, to build waste to energy (WtE) plants in Mexico.

The revised agreement, originally signed in March 2015, extends and expands its plans to construct a WtE power plant in Chiapas, Mexico; the first of 5 planned for this area of the country. Each plant is expected to deliver 50 to 125 Mw per hour with all 5 scheduled to active no later than 2020.

Mexico's energy sector had been under strict governmental management

since 1938. This changed in 2013 and 2014 when Mexico amended its constitution and passed enabling legislation overhauling its energy sector to allow private and foreign investment. EAWC plans to finance construction of its WtE projects through the placement of bonds secured by energy contracts.

Orders for the five WtE plants are expected to provide over \$300 million in equipment sales alone, and related royalties for use of EAWC licensed technology would provide about \$90 million in fees annually beginning in 2019 for the next 15 years. EAWC is also expected to generate revenue from the supply of gas to the power plants.

Republic Services expands its Twin Cities compressed natural gas powered fleet

Republic Services unveiled a new compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling station and over 50 new CNG powered trucks to serve customers throughout the Twin Cities region. The new CNG trucks are replacing older, diesel-powered trucks in the company's Twin Cities-based fleet.

Republic operates a total of 115 collection vehicles that serve customers in both Eden Prairie and Hennepin County. Nearly 50 percent of Republic's fleet in the area is powered by the domestic natural gas fuel source. Clean Energy Fuels designed and built the CNG fueling station.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), each new CNG collection truck deployed is equivalent to planting over 600 mature trees each year. Based on EPA calculations,

the carbon emissions reduction benefits from Republic's CNG powered fleet in the Twin Cities is equivalent to planting more than 30,000 mature trees annually.

Republic has over 500 employees in the Twin Cities area who serve more than 200,000 households and over 10,000 commercial customers. Republic also owns and operates two recycling centers and two transfer stations locally.

Nationwide, Republic operates a fleet of more than 2,500 CNG vehicles and 38 natural gas fueling stations. Republic's CNG fleet helps to save roughly 18 million gallons of diesel fuel annually. As the operator of the eighth largest vocational fleet in the country, Republic has set a goal of reducing fleet greenhouse gas emissions by 3 percent by 2018.

Two wind energy centers in Kansas commissioned

Gov. Brownback says projects help move closer to 50 percent renewable energy goal

State and local leaders and landowners joined executives from NextEra Energy Resources and Westar Energy to celebrate the commissioning of the Kingman and Ninnescah Wind Energy Centers, which has created hundreds of construction jobs as well as millions of dollars in economic benefits to the region.

The Kingman and Ninnescah Wind Energy Centers feature more than 240 GE wind turbines designed to pivot to capture the prevailing wind and convert it to clean, renewable electricity. Together, they have a generating capacity of 400 megawatts, capable of powering more than 100,000 homes. The energy serves customers of Westar

Energy as well as its wholesale partners Midwest Energy and the cities of McPherson, Chanute, Iola, Fredonia and Sabetha through energy management service agreements.

The projects have created a significant economic boost for Kingman and Pratt Counties, creating approximately 500 jobs during the construction phase in 2016, and approximately 35 full time jobs once the projects became operational in December.

The projects will provide more than \$40 million in guaranteed payments to the county governments over their projected 30 year operational life, and nearly \$100 million in payments to local landowners.

Desjardins invests in clean energy

More than \$1 billion has been invested to support renewable energy, thanks to financing from Desjardins Group's Capital Markets Division and equity investments from the Desjardins Group Pension Plan, with the contribution of two Desjardins insurance subsidiaries. Of this amount, nearly \$550 million was invested in 31 wind farms, some \$300 million in 14 solar energy projects and \$155 million in 9 hydroelectric projects and a biomass power plant.

Together, these facilities can generate nearly 2,700 MW of energy. This is the equivalent of the third largest Hydro-Québec generating station in the Nord-

du-Québec region, after the Robert-Bourassa generating station (5,616 MW).

According to Jean-Yves Bourgeois, vice president, Capital Markets at Desjardins, wind and solar energy are the fastest growing sources of energy across the globe, "Canada is rich in renewable energy sources and we can see this in our infrastructure financing portfolio. These energy sectors create high-value-added jobs and are drivers of growth for Desjardins. We're proud to finance this growing strategic sector and to contribute to the development of clean and renewable sources of energy for Canadians."



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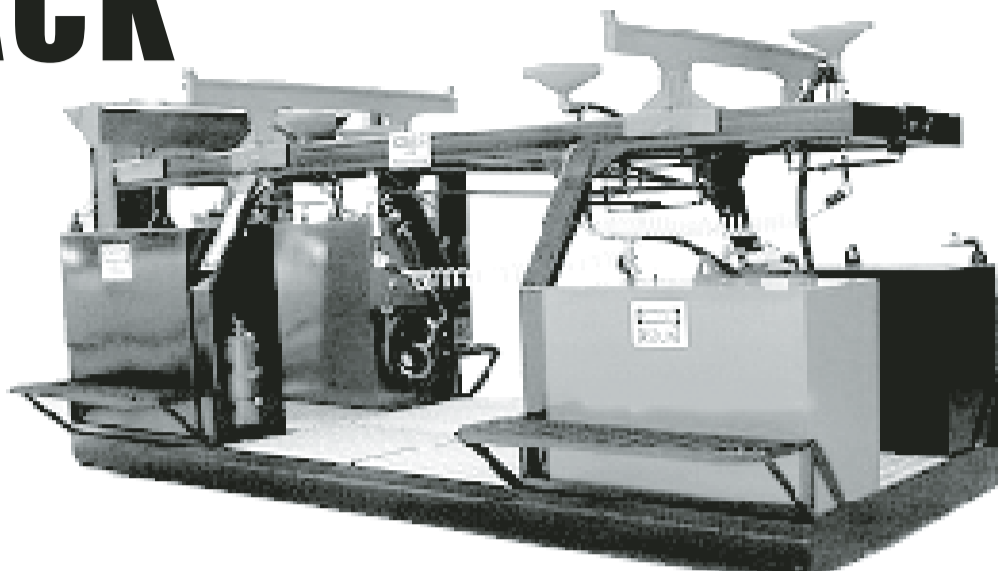
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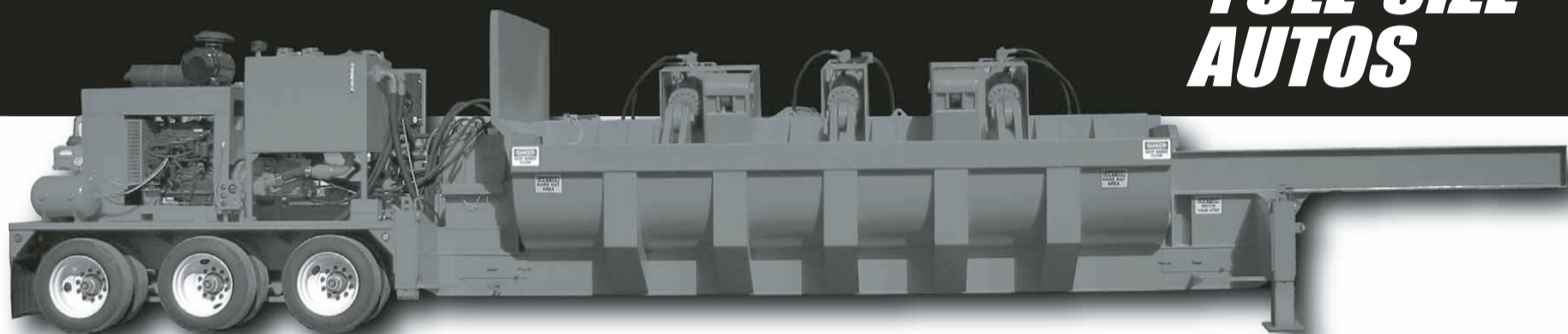
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RUBBER

Gerdau Manitoba mill helps to recycle millions of tires

Gerdau North America, a steel manufacturer in Selkirk, and Reliable Tire Recycling, in Winnipeg, have partnered for over 10 years to recycle tires.

Reliable Tire Recycling drops off tires at Gerdau, where Gerdau recycles the tire rims. Gerdau is one of the largest recyclers in North America, and 98 percent of its steel is made from recycled scrap metals.

In turn, Reliable Tire Recycling takes from Gerdau a load of tires to be made into rubber products, such as mats for hockey rinks and gyms.

The partnership increased its tire numbers in 2015, when Gerdau had a surplus of tires in its yard.

"I contacted Reliable Tire and asked if there was interest in taking more tires," Chad Webster, Gerdau's division manager, said. "It turns out they had a need for more tires, and we certainly had a need to get rid of the tires we had onsite. We set up dedicated runs each week, and we were able to eliminate our tire surplus."

Reliable Tire Recycling began picking up tires two to three times per week in May 2015 to reduce Gerdau's tire inventory. Since then, Gerdau has shipped 433 tons of tires to Reliable Tire for recycling.

In the past year, Gerdau has recycled 173 tons of steel rims from Reliable Tire. The steel rims go into a shredder and then are sent to the melt shop to be made into steel products used in transport, agri-business and mining equipment, and in the construction of buildings.

Reliable Tire recycles over 1.5 million tires a year from various sources, including Gerdau.

In addition to hockey rinks and gyms, rubber matting is used in horse stalls.

Other projects include rain splash pads and rubber mulch, which is used for landscaping instead of wood mulch. Rubber mulch is found in the Manitoba Legislative Building.

Cooper Tire & Rubber Company declares quarterly dividend

Cooper Tire & Rubber Company disclosed that a quarterly dividend of 10.5 cents per share on common stock would be payable on June 30, 2017 to stockholders of record at the close of

business June 1, 2017. This will mark the 181st consecutive quarterly dividend paid by Cooper Tire & Rubber Company, headquartered in Findlay, Ohio.

PAPER

57th annual survey of paper, paperboard, and pulp capacity released

The American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) released the 57th Annual Survey of Paper, Paperboard and Pulp Capacity, reporting that U.S. paper and paperboard capacity declined 1.3 percent in 2016, in line with the long term decline rate of 1.3 percent per year since 2001.

Containerboard capacity continued to expand during recent years, increasing 1.4 percent in 2016 to a record 38.2 million tons. Containerboard accounted for 45 percent of U.S. paper and paperboard capacity in 2016, up from 36 percent in 2000. Tissue paper capacity has also been trending upward, expanding 0.7 percent in 2016 to 8.7 million tons.

Reflecting displacement from digital communications, capacity for

newsprint and printing-writing papers continued to decline in 2016. Some of the capacity reductions in printing-writing papers are due to conversion of machines to produce fluff pulp and other paper products.

Survey responses indicate total paper and paperboard capacity will decrease 0.4 percent in 2017.

The annual survey reports U.S. industry capacity data for 2016 and 2017 for all major grades of paper, paperboard and pulp, as well as fiber consumption, based on a comprehensive survey of all U.S. pulp and paper mills. Survey data includes responses from companies representing more than 88 percent of U.S. paper and paperboard industry capacity, with estimates completing the data set.

Cascades and Tricentris partner

Cascades and Tricentris have signed a three year partnership agreement. As part of this deal, Tricentris will supply all of the cardboard recovered at its three sorting facilities to Cascades. This alliance between two of Quebec's leaders in cardboard recovery and recycling is all the more important because of its benefits for the environment and the local economy.

For these two organizations, this deal will sustain the momentum they share

from several other successful collaborations. Over the next 3 years, 75,000 tons of cardboard, obtained through selective collection and sorted by Tricentris will be transferred to Cascades. Sourced from the recycling bins of the 1.9 million Quebec residents served by Tricentris, this material will be used to manufacture Cascades products made with recycled fibers. The materials are therefore used, sorted and processed entirely within Quebec.

METAL RECYCLERS

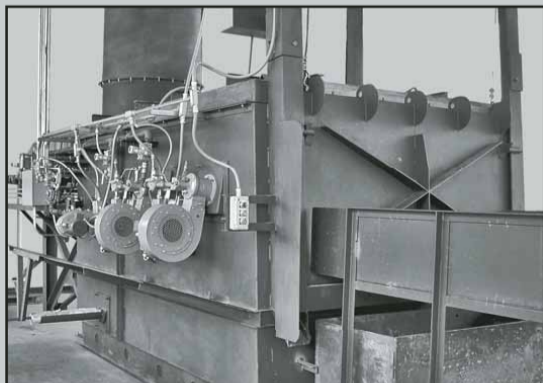
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PAPER

Sonoco increases stock dividend by 5.4 percent

Sonoco, a large global packaging company, reported financial results for its first quarter, ending April 2, 2017.

GAAP net income attributable to Sonoco in the first quarter was \$53.7 million, or \$0.53 per diluted share, compared with \$59.9 million, or \$0.59 per diluted share, in 2016. Base earnings in the first quarter were \$59.9 million, or \$0.59 per diluted share, compared with \$66.5 million, or \$0.65 per diluted share, in 2016. Base earnings and base earnings per diluted share are non-GAAP financial measures adjusted to remove restructuring-related items, asset impairment charges, acquisition expenses and other items, if any, the exclusion of which the company believes improves comparability and analysis of the ongoing operating performance of the business.

First quarter GAAP earnings include after-tax restructuring costs and acquisition-related expenses of \$6.1 million, or \$0.06 per diluted share. In the first quarter of 2016, GAAP results included \$0.06 per diluted share, after tax, in restructuring related charges.

Net sales for the first quarter were \$1.17 billion, down \$54.0 million, or 4.4 percent, from last year's quarter. The decline in sales was a result of the previously mentioned divested businesses, net of acquisitions; the discontinuation of the company's contract packaging business in Mexico; and the negative impact of foreign exchange, partially offset by higher selling prices, primarily attributed to rising recovered paper costs.

Gross profits were \$220.2 million in the first quarter, down \$25.1 million, compared with \$245.3 million in the same period in 2016. Gross profit as a

percent of sales declined to 18.8 percent, compared with 20.0 percent in the same period in 2016. The gross profit percentage reduction in the quarter was due primarily to an unfavorable price/cost relationship, most notably in our Industrial Segment. First quarter selling, general and administrative expenses were down \$8.1 million from the prior year at \$126.1 million, driven by the previously mentioned divested businesses, net of acquisitions, lower management incentives and fewer fiscal days, partially offset by wage and other inflation.

Cash generated from operations in the first quarter was \$67.4 million, compared with \$66.4 million in the same period in 2016. This \$1.0 million improvement was a combination of several mostly offsetting factors. Net working capital provided \$65.0 million more year over year, driven by enhanced collections of items outstanding at the end of 2016 and timing of payments to suppliers. This year-over-year improvement was offset by increases in cash paid for income taxes, higher cash contributions to the Company's pension plan and payments of miscellaneous receivables and liabilities, as well as lower net income.

During the quarter, net capital expenditures were \$49.0 million, compared to \$53.1 million in the prior year quarter; and cash dividends paid were \$36.8 million, compared to \$35.4 million in the prior year.

The board of directors of Sonoco declared a \$.39 per share quarterly common stock dividend a 5.4 percent increase from the previous quarterly dividend of \$.37 per share. The dividend will be paid on June 9, 2017.

AF&PA releases paper reports

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

Containerboard

Containerboard production was 3.9 percent higher compared to March 2016. The month-over-month average daily production compared to February 2017 was 3.1 percent lower.

The containerboard operating rate for March decreased from 97.8 percent to 96.3 percent, which was 3.4 percent higher compared to March of last year.

Printing-Writing Paper Report

According to the report, total printing-writing paper shipments decreased 9 percent in March compared to March 2016. Total printing-writing paper inventory levels were essentially flat from February 2017, down less than 1 percent.

•Uncoated free sheet (UFS) paper shipments decreased 7 percent year-over-year in March. UFS imports decreased 13 percent in February com-

pared to February 2016, with exports decreasing 2 percent year-over-year in February.

•March coated free sheet (CFS) paper shipments decreased 6 percent compared to March 2016. Imports of CFS papers increased 9 percent year-over-year in February, and exports increased 2 percent in February relative to the previous year.

•Uncoated mechanical (UM) paper shipments decreased 26 percent in March compared to March 2016. Imports of UM decreased 11 percent in February, with exports of UM in February decreasing 45 percent.

Boxboard Report

Total boxboard production increased 1.0 percent when compared to March 2016, and increased 10.2 percent from February.

Unbleached kraft boxboard production decreased over the same month as last year, but increased compared to February.

Green America calls on universities to make a "Better Paper Commitment"

In its newest push to encourage the magazine industry to use recycled paper, the nonprofit Green America's Better Paper Project launched "One Million Trees" to encourage higher education institutions to publish alumni magazines on recycled paper. One million trees a year could be saved if colleges and universities took this common-sense step for the environment.

According to the U.S. Census, there are almost 67 million people with higher education degrees across the country, with over three million new graduates joining alumni associations every year. These alumni receive up to four magazines throughout the year from their alma maters. These tens of millions of alumni magazines add up to significant environmental impacts, such as wasting enough energy to power a small town for an entire year.

"Printing on recycled paper is a great way to achieve multiple environmental benefits all at the same time," said Susan Kinsella, executive director of Conservatee, a nonprofit environmental

organization that researches and strategizes paper production impacts. "Not only does recycled paper save trees and reduce greenhouse gases, but it also reduces the demand for water and energy, diminishes the production of solid waste, and quickly minimizes the paper production footprint on the environment. In fact, a recent life cycle analysis found that 100 percent recycled paper had considerably lower impact levels for over 140 environmental impact categories. And it's top quality paper, as well."

Green America is asking universities to participate in the One Million Trees campaign by making the Better Paper Commitment. By taking this step, universities would commit to starting with a minimum of 30 percent recycled content for alumni magazines and publications, as well as using Forestry Stewardship Council-certified fiber for any virgin content in the paper.

More on the goals of the campaign can be found at <http://betterpaper.org/onemilliontrees>.

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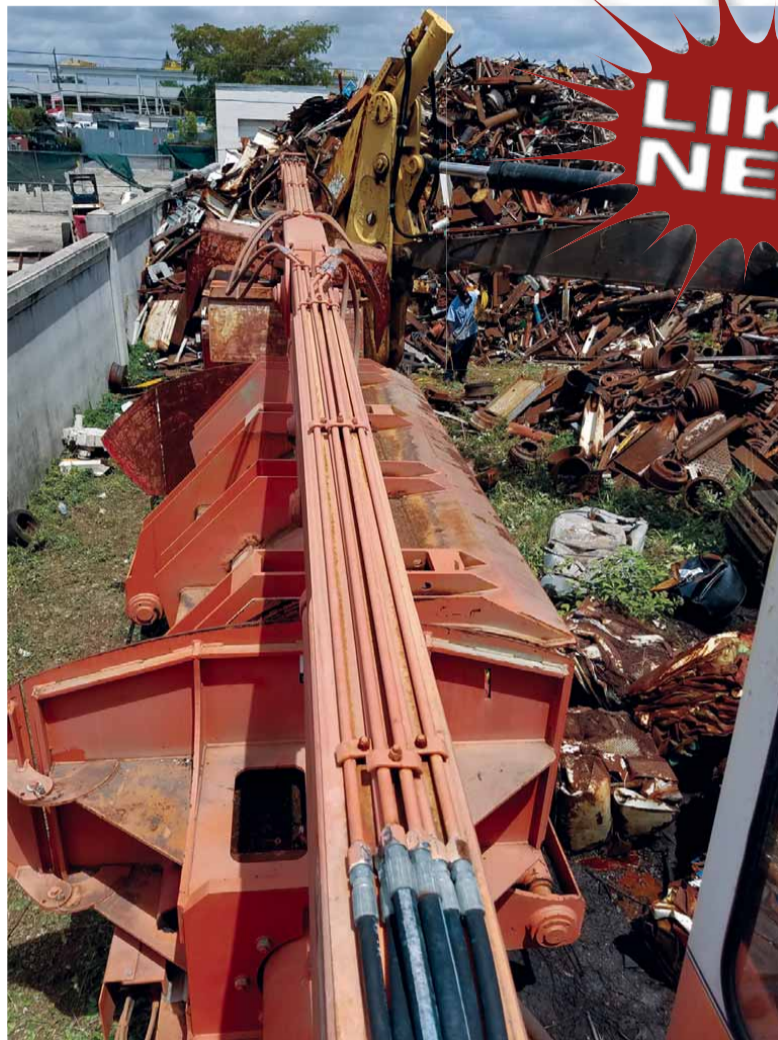


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METALS

Steel imports increase 25 percent in March

Based on preliminary Census Bureau data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that the U.S. imported a total of 3,396,000 net tons (NT) of steel in March 2017, including 2,517,000 NT of finished steel (up 24.8 percent and 21.0 percent, respectively, vs. February final data). Year-to-date (YTD) through 3 months of 2017, total and finished steel imports are 8,933,000 and 6,927,000 NT, up 18.7 percent and 7.8 percent, respectively, vs. the same period in 2016.

Key finished steel products with significant import increases in March compared to February include heavy structural shapes (up 83 percent), hot rolled sheets (up 53 percent), reinforcing bars (up 49 percent), plates in coils (up 31 percent), oil country goods (up 31 percent), hot rolled bars (up 29 percent), wire rods (up 24 percent) cut lengths plates (up 23 percent), wire drawn (up 23 percent) and tin plate (up 22 percent). Major products with significant YTD import increases vs. the same period last year include oil country goods (up 144 percent), cold rolled

U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN (Thousands of Net Tons)					
	MAR 2017	FEB 2017	2016 Full Year	2017 Annualized	% Change 2017 Annual vs. 2016
SOUTH KOREA	317	260	3,812	3,557	-6.7%
TURKEY	298	196	2,416	3,204	32.6%
JAPAN	135	100	1,798	1,521	-15.4%
TAIWAN	90	103	1,083	1,218	12.3%
VIETNAM	70	71	960	998	3.9%
GERMANY	93	52	1,192	907	-23.9%
INDIA	81	79	312	778	149.0%
All Others	1,433	1,219	14,765	15,527	5.2%
TOTAL	2,517	2,080	26,338	27,708	5.2%

sheets (up 45 percent), sheets and strip all other metallic coated (up 41 percent), standard pipe (up 29 percent), sheets and strip hot dipped galvanized (up 23 percent), tin plate (up 21 percent) line pipe (up 16 percent) and reinforcing bars (up 12 percent).

In March, the largest volumes of finished steel imports from offshore were from South Korea (317,000 NT, up 22 percent from February final), Turkey (298,000 NT, up 52 percent),

Japan (135,000 NT, up 35 percent), Germany (93,000 NT, up 77 percent) and Taiwan (90,000 NT, down 12 percent). For the first three months of 2017, the largest offshore suppliers were South Korea (889,000 NT, down 1 percent vs. the same period in 2016), Turkey (801,000 NT, up 10 percent), Japan (380,000 NT, down 16 percent), Taiwan (304,000 NT, up 94 percent) and Vietnam (249,000 NT, up 32 percent).

Steel packaging recycling in Europe reaches all time high

Recycling of steel packaging in Europe has reached another all-time high of 77.5 percent, according to figures issued by APEAL, the Association of European Producers of Steel for Packaging.

This record rate, which represents data from 2015, confirms steel as Europe's most recycled packaging material for the eleventh consecutive year and sees the recycling rate of steel packaging increase by 1.5 percentage points since 2014.

The result is that over 2.7 million tons of steel have been effectively recycled and will be available for the manufacture of new steel products.

Alexis Van Maercke, secretary general of APEAL, said, "This is another major achievement and sees the recycling rate of steel for packaging pull still further away from that of other packaging materials."

"APEAL has long advocated ambitious yet achievable recycling rates for all materials in the circular economy package, on the understanding that we continue to measure the 'real recycling' rate. We are closer than ever before to achieving a truly circular economy which reduces waste, saves resources and closes the material loop."

February steel shipments down 6.2 percent

The American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that for the month of February 2017, U.S. steel mills shipped 7,232,341 net tons, a 6.2 percent decrease from the 7,708,416 net tons shipped in the previous month, January 2017, and a 2.4 percent increase from the 7,059,442 net tons shipped in February 2016. Shipments year-to-date in 2017 are 14,940,757

net tons, a 6.0 percent increase vs. 2016 shipments of 14,090,749 net tons for 2 months.

A comparison of February shipments to the previous month of January shows the following changes: hot rolled sheets, down 3 percent, hot dipped galvanized sheets and strip, down 6 percent and cold rolled sheets, down 8 percent.

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METALS

Partnership formed to acquire ship and scrap processing complex

Joint venture owners restart vessel recycling operations at former ESCO Marine site; adding jobs and renewing key US Navy – MARAD Projects

Hilco Redevelopment Partners, a unit of Hilco Global, and MCM Marine Services, an affiliate of MCM Management Corp. (MCM), have completed a transaction to purchase the assets of one of the largest and busiest ship recycling and scrap processing companies in the world (formerly known as ESCO Marine).

The new joint venture company will be opened under the name SteelCoast with a new management and operations team to begin running the business immediately. SteelCoast's headquarters are in Brownsville, Texas.

The joint venture deal closed on May 1, 2017 following US Bankruptcy Court proceedings presided over by Judge David R. Jones. Hilco and MCM acquired the assets from the previous ship recycling and scrapping operation which were sold following a Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceeding filed in late 2015. Financial details and purchase price were not disclosed.

Hilco Redevelopment Partners EVP and SteelCoast Board Member, Roberto Perez said, "Putting a deal together to acquire and relaunch this unique ship recycling and scrap processing business was complex, especially given the nature of the assets and our goal of maintaining key U.S. Government client relationships. Following

a lengthy diligence process, we are confident that SteelCoast has a very substantial growth path."

The new company, SteelCoast, will be one of the largest and most technologically advanced reclamation, remediation and recycling firms located in North America. The Brownsville, Texas facility, which has already undergone over one million dollars in renovations and improvements, will provide a complete end to end solution including recycling of huge oceangoing vessels (both military and non-military) from around the world.

SteelCoast will also dismantle decommissioned, idled or underutilized oil rigs, train locomotives, railcars, as well as other industrial and commercial sources of recyclable metals. Additionally, SteelCoast will process automobiles and other light metal products in its 4500 HP shredder. These types of reclamation and recycling projects allow for the scrap processing of both ferrous and nonferrous metals during the dismantling process. SteelCoast will then work to process and resell the scrap to be used in various other manufacturing industries.

Hilco and MCM also announced that it has installed Kris Wood as chief executive officer at SteelCoast and is in

the process of adding an experienced operations and management team.

Working with Wood over the last many months, SteelCoast has developed a detailed business plan which includes an investment in sales support to build upon its very impressive client base, which includes contracts with the U.S. Navy and marketing and reselling of the recycled materials. SteelCoast also has immediate plans to invest millions of dollars more into the infrastructure, berths, technology and equipment to ensure the facility is a leading state of the art, world class ship recycling and scrap processing facility.

Chief executive officer Kris Wood has considerable experience within the ship recycling and scrap processing industry. As a lifelong South Texas resident, he worked at the former company for over 12 years, having touched almost every operational and administrative aspect of the business as he added new management responsibilities throughout his career.

Wood has led several key team projects over the years including oversight of key U.S. Navy and MARAD initiatives.

SteelCoast will immediately commence the work of dismantling the decommissioned aircraft carrier USS Saratoga and former MARAD vessels Shenandoah & Yellowstone.

AIST appoints new president

Randy C. Skagen, vice president and general manager, Nucor Steel Tuscaloosa Inc. has been appointed president of the Association for Iron & Steel Technology (AIST).

Also appointed as officers were:

- First vice president: James F. Dudek, vice president, Asset Revitalization and Manufacturing Excellence, United States Steel Corporation, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

- Second vice president: Ronald J. O'Malley, F. Kenneth Iverson chair, professor and director, Kent D. Peaslee Steel Manufacturing Research Center, Missouri University of Science and Technology, Rolla, Missouri.

- Past president: Wendell L. Carter, vice president and general manager, ArcelorMittal Indiana Harbor, East Chicago, Indiana.

- First officer-at-large: Steven J. Henderson, vice president and chief supply chain officer, Commercial Metals Company, Irving, Texas.

- Second officer-at-large: Keith J. Howell, chief operating officer, USA Operations, ArcelorMittal USA, Burns Harbor, Indiana.

- Treasurer: Joseph Dzierzawski, president and chief executive officer, SMS USA, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

- Secretary: Ronald E. Ashburn, executive director, Association for Iron & Steel Technology, Warrendale, Pennsylvania.

- AIST Foundation president: Kolin L. Keller, vice president, operations support, Commercial Metals Company, Seguin, Texas.

Novelis enters joint venture with Kobe Steel in South Korea

Novelis Inc. has entered into a joint venture agreement with Kobe Steel, Ltd., a producer of aluminum rolled products in Japan. The joint venture, to be named Ulsan Aluminum, Ltd., will be formed by Novelis selling Kobe Steel 50 percent of its ownership interest in its Ulsan, South Korea facility for \$315 million.

Through the venture, Novelis and Kobe Steel will jointly own and operate the Ulsan facility, with each company remaining responsible for its metal supply and commercial relationships. The joint venture transaction is expected to close in September 2017, subject to customary closing conditions.

By entering into this joint venture, Novelis will better utilize its rolling capacity at Ulsan, which will continue to focus on automotive and specialty sheet in order to meet the increasing demand for lightweight rolled aluminum products across Asia. Partnering

with another world-class manufacturing company will allow Novelis to drive operational efficiencies and process enhancements. As a result, Novelis' Ulsan facility, along with its Yeongju facility in South Korea and its Changzhou facility in China, will be better positioned to deliver innovative, value-added products and services to customers. The transaction will generate cash proceeds to enhance Novelis' strategic flexibility and reduce its net debt.

Located in the industrial hub of Korea, Novelis' Ulsan facility employs approximately 600 people and currently focuses on the production of rolled aluminum sheet for a variety of markets in Asia. The plant recently completed a major expansion, adding a new three-stand hot finishing mill as well as a pusher furnace and annealing furnaces.

*How many opticians does it take to change a lightbulb?
Is it one or two? One... or two?*



Commodity		Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5
#1 Bushelings	per gross ton	\$204.00	\$220.00	\$235.00	\$284.00	\$350.00
#1 Bundles	per gross ton	204.00	218.00	235.00	275.00	325.00
Plate and Structural	per gross ton	214.00	209.00	229.00	250.00	279.00
#1 & 2 Mixed Steel	per gross ton	192.00	190.00	225.00	235.00	260.00
Shredder Bundles (tin)	per gross ton	173.00	172.00	170.00	195.00	210.00
Crushed Auto Bodies	per gross ton	173.00	172.00	170.00	195.00	210.00
Steel Turnings	per gross ton	94.00	100.00	105.00	184.00	199.00
#1 Copper	per pound	2.32	2.27	2.40	2.49	2.30
#2 Copper	per pound	2.18	2.16	2.21	2.23	2.08
Aluminum Cans	per pound	.59	.61	.65	.60	.60
Auto Radiators	per pound	1.57	1.58	1.54	1.57	1.58
Aluminum Core Radiators	per pound	.62	.57	.53	.54	.60
Heater Cores	per pound	1.12	1.08	1.09	1.19	1.29
Stainless Steel	per pound	.56	.50	.59	.55	.57

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AUTOMOTIVE

SALVAGING Millions

by Ron Sturgeon
Autosalvageconsultant.com

Tools for Success – Watch and understand your competitors, but focus on building your business

The first article in this series listed more than 25 tactics to increase your business success. I have used all of them.

As business owners, sometimes we become obsessed with what our competitors are doing. Don't misunderstand. Of course, you do need to understand your competitors and pay attention to them, but that does not mean you need to respond to everything they do. Nor should you ever let concern about them stop you from building your business.

Sometimes, however, you do need to get data about competitors. Not long ago, I was starting a new venture, renting salon suites and chairs to beauty professionals, and I needed to understand what competitors were doing to make sure that I entered the market with the right value propositions.

I could have hired a high priced consultant and gotten the information I needed. Instead, I wrote an advertisement, placed it on craigslist, and found a retired business person with a market research background to help me do a focused competitor study. This person cost \$15 per hour and was delighted to help with the project.

We started by mystery shopping the competitors, both on the phone and in person. We gathered all of the results in a spreadsheet and a short report. For less than \$2,000 I was able to learn a great deal about all of the Tarrant County salons renting spaces or suites.

I got copies of their leases, found out their rates, learned whether they provided towels, and discovered whether they charged tenants for washers and dryers. The study also showed me which of my competitors offered tenants free Wi-Fi and provided the answers to a litany of other specific questions about the competition.

With this data, I was able to build my value propositions in ways that make my salons more attractive to beauty professionals wanting to rent space. I learned what to do and,

as important, what not to do by having the researcher do mystery shops and talk to leasing professionals and operators during site visits.

I knew the approximate size of the competitors' operations from tax records and site visits, about how many vacancies they had, and what they were charging for rent. In some cases, I even heard which tactics they were using to find tenants. What people will tell you if you ask amazes me.

When I was running an auto salvage yard, I periodically mystery shopped my competitors because I wanted to know how we compared on metrics that matter. I gathered data on how long it took my competition to answer the phone. I sent someone to buy a small part so that I could see how the warranty each competitor offered compared with ours. I looked to see how neat their operations appeared. I gathered data to estimate sales volume and sales per employee, key performance indicators for salvage yards.

Another easy, low cost way to monitor competitors is to set up a Google alert on their company name (easy to do at google.com/alerts). If they have an e-mailed newsletter for customers offered on their website, sign up so that you can see what they are sending to customers and how often.

I watched my competitors, but I did not obsess over them. I didn't do something just because a competitor started doing it. More often, because I was peer benchmarking with non-competitive yards in other markets, I was the most innovative local yard. If you are interested in learning how to use this technique, I have written about it in Peer Benchmarking Groups: One Entrepreneur's Story of Extreme Success.

Because I was leading the way, competitors had to decide whether to respond. Yes, I had an eye on them, but I didn't let them worry me much. I stayed too busy planning, managing, measuring, and executing. You should too.

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.

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Border Adjustment Tax costs car owners \$160 more annually for repairs and maintenance

The Auto Care Association warned lawmakers that the proposed Border Adjustment Tax (BAT) on imports would significantly increase auto repair and maintenance costs for the average car owner in the U.S.

The BAT, which would impose a new 20 percent tax on imported goods and services, would result in a \$20 billion per year tax increase on automotive parts. For the average family, this would mean a \$160 increase in annual auto repair and maintenance costs, to about \$1,100 per year, according to an analysis of the tax conducted by the Auto Care Association. With the average age of a vehicle on the road at 11.6 years, and the industry's data showing that middle and lower income households tend to drive the oldest cars, this group would be susceptible to even larger increases in their repair bills should the BAT become law.

"The Border Adjustment Tax will drive up auto repair costs to about \$1,100 per year for car owners," said Bill Hanvey, president and chief executive officer, Auto Care Association. "This is also a highly regressive tax that will hit working families the hardest

because they tend to drive older vehicles that require more repair work and maintenance. The BAT will hurt middle class consumers and have a chilling effect on small businesses that conduct auto repair work and serve as a source of good-paying jobs in every community in the country. The Auto Care Association strongly urges Congress and the Trump Administration to reject this ill-conceived tax increase."

The Auto Care Association is part of Americans for Affordable Products, a national coalition of 400 businesses and trade associations that are opposing the BAT. In addition to the higher auto repair costs it would create, the BAT has been estimated to cost the average American family \$1,700 per year in higher prices on everyday consumer items, such as gasoline, groceries, clothing, shoes and prescription medicines. This tax hike would burden middle class households who have seen their wages stagnate in recent years, while enabling profitable, multi-national corporations that already avoid paying their fair share of taxes to operate virtually tax-free.

U.S. EPA settles with trucking companies over diesel rule

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) disclosed recent settlements with 3 companies totaling \$201,000 in penalties for violating California's Truck and Bus Regulation. The companies either failed to install particulate filters on their own heavy duty diesel trucks or failed to verify that trucks they hired for use in California complied with the state rule.

"Diesel trucks are heavily used in the San Joaquin Valley and Los Angeles Basin, which suffer from some of the worst air quality in the nation," said Alexis Strauss, EPA's acting regional administrator for the Pacific Southwest.

About 625,000 trucks are registered outside of the state, but operate in California and are subject to the rule. Many of these vehicles are older models and emit high amounts of particulate matter and nitrogen oxides. The rule, which requires diesel trucks and buses that operate in California to be upgraded to reduce diesel emissions, is an essential part of the state's plan to attain cleaner air.

C.R. England, Inc. operated 34 heavy duty diesel trucks in California from 2013 to 2014 without the required diesel particulate filters. The company, headquartered in Salt Lake City, Utah, is required to pay a \$64,000 penalty and is currently in compliance.

Knight Transportation Inc. failed to verify that the carriers it hired to transport goods in California from 2012 to

2014 complied with the Truck and Bus rule. Knight, headquartered in Phoenix, Arizona, is required to pay a \$72,000 penalty; the company agreed to register all of its hired contractors on the state database (TRUCRS) and to provide verification of state compliance.

Werner Enterprises, Inc. operated five heavy duty diesel trucks in California from 2012 to 2014 without the required diesel particulate filters. Werner also failed to verify that the carriers it hired to transport goods in California complied with the Truck and Bus rule. The company, headquartered in Omaha, Nebraska, is required to pay a \$65,000 penalty.

The California Truck and Bus Regulation was adopted into federal Clean Air Act plan requirements in 2012 and applies to diesel trucks and buses operating in California. The rule requires trucking companies to upgrade vehicles they own to meet specific NOx and particulate matter performance standards and also requires trucking companies to verify compliance of vehicles they hire or dispatch. Heavy duty diesel trucks in California must meet 2010 engine emissions levels or use diesel particulate filters that can reduce the emissions of diesel particulates into the atmosphere by 85 percent or more.

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

PLASTICS

Bottled water companies continue to reduce environmental impact

Actions that bottled water companies continue to take to reduce their environmental footprint were highlighted on Earth Day, according to the International Bottled Water Association (IBWA).

"We agree with the organizers of Earth Day that education is the foundation for progress, which is why IBWA is taking this opportunity to educate the public about the bottled water industry's continued efforts to reduce the impact of its products and its dedication to protecting our environment and natural resources," said Jill Culora, vice president of communications for IBWA.

Some of these measures include:

- Lightweighting PET plastic packaging. With an average weight of 9.25 grams per 16.9 ounce single-serve container, bottled water uses one-third the amount of PET it takes to make soda and other drink containers, which need to be thicker due to carbonation and manufacturing processes and weigh, on average, 23.9 grams.

- Reducing water used in production facilities. On average, it takes only

1.32 liters of water to produce 1 liter of finished bottled water (including the liter of water consumed). This is the lowest water-use ratio of any packaged beverage product.

- Using less energy. On average, only 0.24 mega joules of energy are used to produce 1 liter of bottle of water – the lowest amount compared to any packaged drink.

- Providing consumers with packaging that is 100 percent recyclable (even the caps).

- Entering into partnerships with stakeholders to educate consumers and increase recycling rates.

- Home and office delivery three and five gallon plastic bottled water containers are returned to the plant, sanitized, and then re-used 30 to 50 times before they are removed from the market and recycled.

- Making PET plastic bottles from recycled plastic (rPET) – which uses 84 percent less energy to manufacture than those made from virgin material. It also saves more than \$8 million in landfill dumping fees every year. Many bottled water companies already use bottles

made from 50, 75, and, in some cases, 100 percent rPET.

- Educating consumers about the importance of recycling their empty bottled water containers. A study by the National Association for PET Container Resources shows empty PET bottled water containers have a higher recycling rate than the overall PET bottle rate.

- Reducing impact on landfills. Bottled water containers are 100 percent recyclable, but when they aren't recycled, they make up just 3.3 percent of all beverage containers that end up in landfills.

- Developing a Material Recovery Program (MRP), a collaborative joint venture between businesses and government that supports the development of new, comprehensive solutions to help manage solid waste in U.S. communities. This can be done by having all consumer product companies, including bottled water, work together with state and local governments to improve recycling and waste education and collection efforts for all packaged goods.

Solegear and Braskem partner in recycling containers

Solegear Bioplastic Technologies Inc. and Braskem, a producer of biopolymers, entered into a three year partnership in which Solegear will utilize Braskem's I'm green™ polyethylene to produce and distribute a series of household recycling containers under its good natured™ brand. The first products resulting from this partnership will be on display starting this Friday at the Natural Products Expo in Anaheim, California.

Braskem developed its I'm green™ material from Brazilian sugarcane – a renewable and sustainable resource – to be a drop-in biopolymer substitute to conventional polyethylene. Cultivation of sugarcane utilizes carbon dioxide and releases oxygen, which gives the material a negative carbon footprint.

Braskem's analysis has confirmed the environmental impact of using 1 ton of green PE is the equivalent of capturing 2.78 tons of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere from a cradle to gate perspective.

MODRoto names Ernst to Southeast sales territory

Recycling cart manufacturer MODRoto, Madison, Indiana, has named Mike Ernst regional sales manager. Covering the Southeast territory of Alabama, Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana and Puerto Rico, Ernst will be responsible for the continued growth and market expansion of the company's proprietary product lines including its pioneering Poly-Trux recycling carts, laundry carts and bulk containers.

Petcore Europe gains members

Petcore Europe, a Brussels based association representing the complete PET value chain in Europe, welcomed eight new members in 2017: Hordijk Verpakkingen, Sukano, Pellenc ST, The Mossi Ghisolfi Group, SUEZ, Plastipak Packaging, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Plastipak Holdings, Inc., Sidel and L'Oréal.

Petcore Europe membership is open to all interested companies involved in the PET value chain.

A plumber presented his customer, a lawyer, with a bill charging rates of \$500 an hour. The lawyer was outraged and said, "I don't even make that kind of money – doesn't that seem a bit steep?" The plumber replied, "That's what I thought, when I was a lawyer."

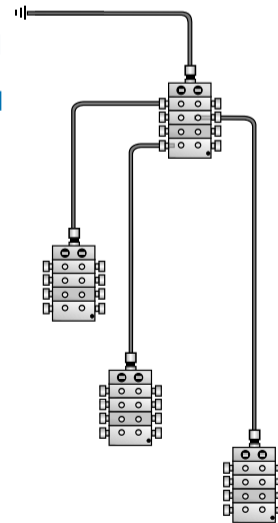
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PLASTICS

U.S. recycling of plastic film grows 3 percent

The recycling of plastic wraps, bags and other film packaging grew 34 million pounds, or 3 percent, in 2015 to reach a minimum of nearly 1.2 billion pounds for the year. This marks the eleventh consecutive year of increases and the highest annual collection of plastic film since the survey began. Plastic film recycling – a category that includes flexible product wraps, bags and commercial stretch film made primarily from polyethylene (PE) – has increased nearly 84 percent since the first report was issued in 2005.

Released at the Plastics Recycling Conference, the 2015 National Post-Consumer Plastic Bag & Film Recycling Report also found that film processing in the U.S. and Canada increased 11 percent for the year while exports declined by almost 4 percent.

“We are very pleased that plastic film recycling continues to grow,” said Steve Russell, vice president of American Chemistry Council (ACC) Plastics Division. “America’s plastic makers are strong supporters of plastic film recycling, and due to expanding participation in our Wrap Recycling Action Program, or WRAP, we expect to see film recycling continue to rise.”

Plastic film continues to be one of the fastest growing areas of recycling. According to the EPA’s 2014 Advancing Sustainable Materials Management report, the plastic film recycling rate is 15 percent.

A separate report released found that the post-consumer recycling of

non-bottle rigid plastics (rigids) has grown 280 percent since tracking began in 2007. Rigids recycling generally held strong but dipped by 45 million pounds, or not quite 4 percent, to a minimum of 1.24 billion pounds in 2015.

The 2015 National Post-Consumer Non-Bottle Rigid Recycling Report also found that about 67 percent of the rigid plastics collected were recycled in the U.S. or Canada, with the remaining exported overseas.

Factors that contributed to the recent leveling include challenging market conditions for commodities in general, increased competition from virgin plastic materials, and weakened demand in Asia. Higher quality bales (clean, single resin) fared better than mixed materials as they are less costly to reclaim.

The rigid plastics category includes food containers, caps, lids, tubs, and cups; bulky items such as buckets, carts and lawn furniture; and used commercial scrap such as crates, battery casings and drums.

As in prior years, polypropylene and high density polyethylene comprised the two largest resins in this category representing 41 percent and 33 percent, respectively, of total rigid plastics collected.

Both the film and rigids reports were based on an annual survey of reclaimers conducted by More Recycling (formerly Moore Recycling Associates, Inc.).

Unilever develops new technology to tackle global issue of plastic sachet waste

Unilever unveiled its new technology to recycle sachet waste. This technology, called CreaSolv® Process, has been developed with the Fraunhofer Institute for Process Engineering and Packaging IVV in Germany and is inspired by an innovation used to recycle TV sets.

Hundreds of billions of plastic sachets are thrown away globally every year. Unilever has developed new technology to recycle sachets.

Today, only 14 percent of all plastic packaging is recycled globally. Unilever has pledged to make 100 percent of packaging recyclable, reusable or compostable by 2025.

Billions of single use sachets are sold every year, particularly in developing and emerging markets. Sachets are extremely resource efficient and allow low income consumers to buy small amounts of products that would otherwise be unaffordable to them. But without a viable recycling option, sachet packaging ends up in landfills.

CreaSolv Process technology has been adapted from a method used to separate brominated flame retardants from waste electrical and electronic equipment polymers. During the process, the plastic is recovered from the sachet, and the plastic then used to create new sachets for Unilever products – creating a full circular economy approach.

Commenting, David Blanchard, Chief R&D Officer said, “Billions of sachets are used once and just thrown away, all over the world, ending up in landfill or in our waterways and oceans. At the start of this year we made a commitment to help solve this problem, developing new recycling technologies. We intend to make this tech open source and would hope to scale the technology with industry partners, so others – including our competitors – can use it.

“There is a clear economic case for delivering this. We know that globally \$80 to 120 billion is lost to the economy through failing to properly recycle plastics each year. Finding a solution represents a huge opportunity. We believe that our commitment to making 100 percent of our packaging recyclable, reusable or compostable will support the long-term growth of our business.”

Unilever will open a pilot plant in Indonesia later this year to test the long term commercial viability of the technology. Indonesia is a critical country in which to tackle waste, producing 64 million tons every year.

To tackle the industry-wide sachet waste issue, Unilever is looking to create a sustainable system change by setting up waste collection schemes to channel the sachets to be recycled.

Trex Company honors schools for recycling efforts

Students nationwide are learning just how rewarding recycling can be. Trex Company, a decking and railing brand and leader in outdoor living products, has announced the winners of its 10th annual Trex Plastic Film Recycling Challenge, which pits K-12 schools against one another in a fun, friendly competition to collect and recycle the most polyethylene

plastic for the chance to win Trex products for their schools.

Trex awards prizes to top recyclers based on grade level, school size and region. This year, 54 winners representing schools from across the country worked hard to recycle the most plastic and earn a new Trex bench for their campus or playground as well as a picture frame made from

Trex composite materials to showcase their winner certificate.

More than 550 schools nationwide participated in the 2016-17 Trex Plastic Film Recycling Challenge. Through their combined recycling efforts, a total of 252,813 pounds of polyethylene plastic were salvaged and kept from winding up in landfills.

“Offering a rewarding, hands-on school project, the Trex Plastic Film Recycling Challenge provides students with a better understanding and appreciation for sustainable practices,” said Stephanie Hicks, material resource coordinator for Trex. “After a decade, the program is still growing – with a record number of pounds recycled this year – and continues to educate tens of thousands of students about environmental responsibility.”

Launched back on November 15th in conjunction with America Recycles Day, schools were given detailed instructions, promotional materials, recycling bins and a list of qualifying recyclable materials. Participants weighed and reported collection totals to Trex each month

throughout the program before delivering the recycled plastic to designated Trex drop off points in their communities.

One of the largest recyclers of plastic in the U.S., Trex uses more than 1.5 billion plastic bags to make its eco-friendly, wood-alternative outdoor living products each year. In addition to plastic grocery and retail bags, Trex reuses polyethylene plastic from a variety of common household items – such as case overwraps, bread bags, bubble wrap, newspaper sleeves and dry cleaning bags – to create composite products that offer a superior alternative to wood and an eco-friendly choice to consumers.

“The value of recycling influences everything we do as a company. For example, a standard 16 foot Trex board contains recycled material from approximately 2,250 plastic bags,” said Jim Cline, president and chief executive officer of Trex.

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WASTE

Dollar General to pay over a million in fines

The Tulare County District Attorney's Office, along with 31 other California District Attorneys, disclosed that Kern County Superior Court Judge Sidney P. Chapin has ordered the Tennessee based company Dolgen California, and its subsidiary corporations, that own and operate Dollar General Stores and a Distribution Center in California to pay \$1.125 million as part of a civil settlement in an environmental prosecution.

The Final Judgment agreed to by Dolgen California, DG Strategic II, and DG Strategic VII, resolves allegations made in a civil enforcement lawsuit filed April 11, 2017, in Kern County. The lawsuit alleged that Dollar General retail stores throughout the state and their distribution center unlawfully handled and disposed of various hazardous wastes and materials over a five year period. Those hazardous wastes and materials included automotive fluids, alkaline batteries, electronic waste, aerosol cans, expired over the counter medications, and other toxic, ignitable, and corrosive wastes.

Inspectors from district attorney offices and environmental regulators statewide conducted a series of undercover inspections of waste bins originating at Dollar General retail stores and facilities. The inspections revealed that Dollar General retail stores and their distribution center had been routinely and systematically sending hazardous wastes to local landfills throughout California that were not permitted to receive those wastes. Tulare County District Attorney investigators and Tulare County Environmental Health performed three waste inspections, with similar results. Regulators also found the documentation of employee training to be inaccurate or incomplete.

Dollar General was cooperative throughout the investigation and quickly responded to enhance its policies and procedures designed to eliminate the improper disposal of hazardous waste products in California. The Judgment requires hazardous waste be labeled, packaged and stored to minimize the risk of exposure to employees and customers. The proper handling of hazardous wastes also ensures that incompatible wastes do not combine to cause dangerous chemical reactions.

Under the settlement, Dolgen California must pay \$500,000 in civil penalties and \$375,000 to reimburse the costs of the investigation. Of those penalties and costs, \$60,000 are awarded to the Tulare County District Attorney's Office, and \$8,817.50 to Tulare County Environmental Health. An additional \$112,000 will fund supplemental environmental projects furthering consumer protection and environmental enforcement in California. Dolgen will also fund hazardous waste minimization and enhanced compliance projects valued at \$138,000. The retailer will be bound under the terms of a permanent injunction prohibiting similar future violations.

DSNY contracts with WM to transport waste from Brooklyn by barge

The New York City Department of Sanitation has selected Waste Management for a \$3.3 billion, 20 year contract to export waste from the Hamilton Avenue and Southwest Brooklyn marine transfer stations. This contract is the final long term waste export contract of the city's 2006 Solid Waste Management Plan, a comprehensive, long term plan to equitably and sustainably collect and dispose of New York City's municipal solid waste.

Mayor Bill de Blasio said, "For far too long, a few communities in the five boroughs have been saturated by waste transfer stations and resulting truck traffic. We are taking a huge step in shifting the burden away from those communities. When these stations are fully up and running, overburdened communities will breathe easier knowing 200 fewer trucks per day will be carrying trash through Brooklyn."

The Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) is a fair, five-borough plan that will handle New York City's waste and offer flexibility and resiliency in the case of a natural disaster or other emergency. The plan provides NYC with new world class infrastructure and mandates a switch from reliance on long-haul trucking to a system of marine and rail transfer stations spread throughout the five boroughs. Full implementation of the plan will reduce annual truck travel by more than 60 million miles, including more than 5 million miles in and around New York City, and will cut greenhouse gas emissions associated with waste transport by more 34,000 tons annually.

The Solid Waste Management Plan will dramatically reduce truck traffic associated with waste collection and hauling in neighborhoods historically overburdened by waste processing infrastructure, including North Brooklyn, the South Bronx and Southeast Queens. The opening of the Hamilton Avenue Marine Transfer Station later this year will redirect approximately 1,600 tons of refuse per day and 200 DSNY trucks per day

from private land-based transfer stations in environmental justice areas in Brooklyn, including 780 tons per day and 100 trucks per day from North Brooklyn alone. The Southwest Brooklyn Marine Transfer Station will further redistribute the burden of waste when it opens in 2018.

Under the terms of the contract, Waste Management will accept sealed waste containers from the Department of Sanitation at the Hamilton Avenue and Southwest Brooklyn marine transfer stations. Cranes will load the containers onto barges, which will be transported to a Waste Management-owned intermodal facility in Elizabeth, New Jersey. From there, containers will be transported to a rail yard, where they will be loaded onto rail cars for transport to their final destinations. The contract includes disposal facilities in Virginia and upstate New York. The \$3.3 billion contract has an initial term of 20 years with two optional 5-year extensions.

The SWMP is supported by an environmental impact statement finding no significant adverse impacts, was overwhelmingly approved by the City Council, and was authorized by the State Department of Environmental Conservation in 2006. Under the de Blasio Administration, the City has renewed its commitment to engaging with stakeholders and representatives from communities in the vicinity of waste transfer infrastructure, including those near marine transfer stations as well as those in communities historically overburdened by waste transfer infrastructure.

Waste Management is a committed, proven and reliable partner for New York City. Waste Management owns and operates rail-based transfer stations in Brooklyn, Queens, and the Bronx that last year exported more than 1.2 million tons of DSNY-collected municipal solid waste. The contract is subject to review by the Comptroller's Office. The Hamilton Avenue MTS is currently scheduled to open in Fall 2017.

NWRA honors Hall of Famers

The National Waste & Recycling Association (NWRA) named this year's recipients of the industry's highest awards. Twenty-two industry professionals will be honored for their commitment to safety, contributions to the communities they serve, trailblazing efforts within the industry and the work they have achieved that has made waste and recycling safer, smarter and stronger. Awardees were honored at WasteExpo.

Individuals were honored in the following categories: Drivers of the Year, Operator of the Year, Members of the Year, Chapter Leadership and Distinguished Service. Also, four industry legends are being inducted into the NWRA Hall of Fame.

The winners of the Driver of the Year award, sponsored by 3rd Eye and Heil Environmental, were evaluated based on their driving records, as well as their commitment to customers. This year's class of honorees includes the first ever woman to win this recognition. The recipients are:

- Javier Verduzco: Large Commercial, Republic Services, Huntington Beach, California.
- Jesse Peña: Large Industrial, Republic Services, Phoenix, Arizona.
- Mark Rutkowski: Large Industrial, Waste Management, Baltimore, Maryland.
- Rick Thomas: Large Residential, Waste Connections, Eugene, Oregon.
- Halsey Wolford: Regional Commercial, Rumpke, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- Greg Figueroa: Regional Industrial, WCA, Tavares, Florida.
- Terry Russell: Regional Residential, Rumpke, Circleville, Ohio.
- Derrick Belin: Medium, All Waste, Inc., Hartford, Connecticut.
- Bill Kuhlman: Small, Walters Recycling and Refuse, Blaine, Minnesota.
- Rhonda Kitchen: Public, Wasatch Front Waste and Recycling District, Midvale, Utah.

The Operator of the Year Award, sponsored by Volvo, recognizes the safest and most industrious heavy equipment operator in post collection operations. This is a new award and its first recipient will be Bruce Russin of Casella Waste Solutions.

The Chapter Leadership Award recognizes outstanding contributions to advocacy and advancement of the industry through NWRA's state chapters. This year's recipient chairs the NWRA Florida chapter. His name is Charlie Latham with Waste Management.

Distinguished Service Award recipients are honored for their continuing contributions toward the advancement of the industry and for their community involvement. This year's winners are:

- Carmen Smothers – Environmental Solutions Group.
- James Thaxton – Rumpke Waste & Recycling.

For a complete list of honorees, including Member of the Year awards, view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

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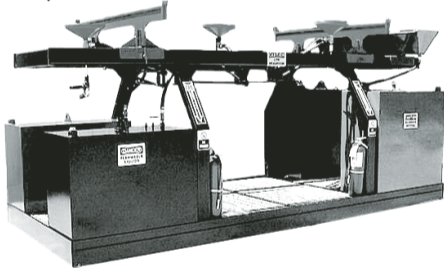
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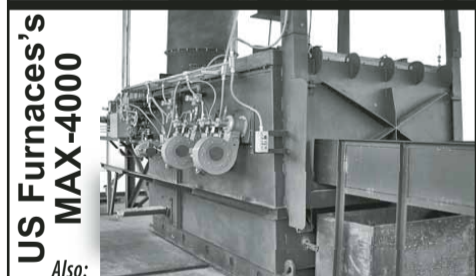
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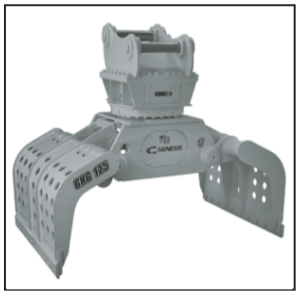


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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Totem Equipment and Supply new Bandit dealer

■ Bandit Industries Inc. welcomed Totem Equipment and Supply to the company's growing dealership network. Located in Anchorage, Totem Equipment will offer sales, parts and service for Bandit hand-fed wood chippers and stump grinders.

Serving Alaska's construction industry since 1961, Totem Equipment offers a wide range of experience among their staff, including specialized Bandit parts and service training.

Rumpke driver receives award for service

■ Terry Russell, a driver for Rumpke Waste & Recycling Services in Circleville, Ohio, received a Driver of the Year Award from the National Waste & Recycling Association (NWRA) at a special awards ceremony in New Orleans.

Russell, who has worked for Rumpke for 13 years, has an outstanding safety record on the road. Each week he drives an average of 900 miles on his route, with an average 2,250 pickups.

Richardson Service 1991 joins Bandit's network

■ Bandit Industries is partnering with Richardson Service 1991 Inc., serving nearly all of South Carolina, expanding their dealer network in the southern U.S.

Richardson Service 1991, based in Conway, gives Bandit's South Carolina customers a local option for parts, service, rentals and sales for Bandit hand-fed wood chippers and stump grinders. They're located at 2667 U.S. 378 in Conway, in eastern South Carolina.

Richardson Service started out as a small local repair shop and has since grown to include a large rental fleet of construction, forestry, and compact equipment. With the growth, they improved all aspects of its repair facility to offer their customers the best service in the area.

AEM elects three directors of the company

■ The Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM) has elected Grant Godbersen, vice president manufacturing of GOMACO Corp., to the AEM board of directors, and has elected Susanne Cobey, president and chief executive officer of Eagle Crusher Company, and Mary Erholtz, vice president marketing of Superior Industries, to the AEM CE sector board, to fill unexpired terms.

AEM is the North American based trade group representing off-road equipment manufacturers and suppliers.

AEM officers and directors work on behalf of all member companies to provide strategic direction and guidance for Association action in areas including public policy, market data and exhibitions, as well as technical, safety and regulatory issues and education/training.

Speedemissions purchases assets of Alabama firm

■ Speedemissions, Inc., a vehicle emissions testing and safety inspections company operating 22 stores in the Atlanta and St. Louis markets, has closed an Asset Purchase Agreement with Auto Recycling of Montgomery (ARM), an Alabama corporation, pursuant to which the company agreed to purchase certain assets of ARM, including land, buildings, equipment and inventory previously used by ARM in an auto recycling operation which ceased operations in June of 2014.

With the Asset Purchase Agreement, Speedemissions intends to create an auto salvage business operation at the existing location in Montgomery, Alabama but expects it will take approximately 60 days to hire employees and put the necessary business systems in place before sales operations can commence.

As part of an overall strategic initiative, Speedemissions has formed a wholly-owned subsidiary for the purpose of seeking future acquisitions within the auto recycling industry, subject to capital availability, in addition to its existing vehicle emission testing business operations.

Federal Signal agrees to acquisition of TBEI

■ Federal Signal Corporation, a leader in environmental and safety solutions, has executed a definitive agreement to acquire Truck Bodies and Equipment International (TBEI), a U.S. manufacturer of dump truck bodies and trailers, for \$270 million, subject to post-closing adjustments.

This represents a multiple of 7.2x TBEI's EBITDA for the 12 month period ending March 31, 2017, before accounting for synergies.

The acquisition will enable the company to strengthen its market position as a specialty vehicle manufacturer in maintenance and infrastructure markets. This transaction will also allow the company to leverage its expertise in building chassis-based vehicles, significantly expand its exposure to higher growth industrial end-markets and balance the mix of revenues it generates from municipal and industrial markets. The transaction is expected to be immediately accretive to the company's margins and earnings per share, excluding transaction costs and before giving effect to anticipated synergies.

Noranda finalizes agreement with Concord

■ Noranda and Concord Resources have entered into a long term, exclusive off take agreement for smelter grade alumina produced at Noranda's alumina refinery in Gramercy, Louisiana, and a related third party marketing arrangement for bauxite produced at Noranda's mining facility in St. Ann, Jamaica.

The agreement runs through 2024.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Jason Rebucci named president of PT Tech

■ The Timken Company has named Jason K. Rebucci president of PT Tech, LLC. Timken recently acquired the assets of PT Tech, Inc., adding engineered clutches, brakes, power take-off units and other torque management devices to Timken's growing portfolio of mechanical power transmission products. Rebucci reports to Hans Landin, vice president – mechanical power transmission.

Based in Sharon Center, Ohio, PT Tech has served an established original equipment customer base primarily in North American mining, aggregate, metals manufacturing, road-working, and wood recycling industries since 1978.

Rebucci joined Timken in 2003 as a co-op engineer before being hired full time as a product engineer. He served in subsequent roles of increasing responsibility in manufacturing, engineering and sales prior to his most recent assignment as global purchasing manager for bearing elements.

Rebucci will be working at the PT Tech facility located in Sharon Center, Ohio.

Meridian Waste acquires Mobile Science Technologies

■ Meridian Waste Solutions, Inc., a non-hazardous solid waste services company, acquired Mobile Science Technologies, Inc., a technology service provider and builder of innovative apps. Mobile Science Technologies, Inc. will operate as wholly-owned subsidiary of Meridian Waste.

Mobile Science Technologies, Inc. develops and operates technology, websites, hosting and security. The tech firm has been developing web-based software and mobile applications for the last six years.

Conair appoints Sam Rajkovich as VP of sales

■ Sam Rajkovich has been named vice president, sales and marketing at Conair.

Rajkovich brings more than a decade of sales and marketing experience to his new role at Conair. He assumes responsibility for implementing customer-focused strategies and programs throughout the Conair sales and marketing organization. As the key message leader, he will take ownership of the company brand and define and implement short and long term programs that build awareness, support growth initiatives and enhance satisfaction.

Before joining Conair, Rajkovich served as vice president, sales and marketing for Sturtevant, where he led business development for this global provider of equipment and technology solutions for material processing and research since 2012. His prior experience also includes work as vice president, sales and marketing for Hartzell Air Movement Company.

RiverRoad Waste creates management buyout

■ RiverRoad Waste Solutions Inc., a specialist in waste and recycling solutions, has undergone a successful management buyout from owner CharterHouse Equity Partners. The acquisition has been led by RiverRoad's chief executive officer Kris Bunnell and chief operating officer Dan McGowan.

The transaction will enable RiverRoad to enhance its position as a market leader, building on the strong client base it has nurtured since 2004, while providing a robust platform for growth as a provider of digital solutions for efficient waste diversion and recycling.

Strategic imperatives for RiverRoad following the transaction include leveraging the company's strong market positioning, reputation and track record working with leading brands nationwide. The company also will look to increase adoption of its market leading digital platform for waste management and recycling, building on the myRoad 3.0 release in 2016.

Nucor promotes Leon Topalian to executive VP

■ Nucor Corporation announced that Leon Topalian, vice president and general manager of Nucor – Yamato Steel Company, has been promoted to executive vice president.

Topalian began his career with Nucor as a project engineer at Nucor Steel-Berkeley in 1996 and was promoted to cold mill production supervisor in 1998. He has held various leadership positions throughout his Nucor career in Australia, at Nucor Steel South Carolina and Nucor Steel Kankakee. Most recently, he has served as vice president and general manager of Nucor – Yamato Steel Company since 2014.

Bunting Magnetics hires new product manager

■ Bunting Magnetics Co. has appointed Brock Herrmann as its product manager over magnetic separation.

Herrmann will manage the growth and profitability of the company's line of magnetic separation products by supporting the company's sales team, identifying new markets and customers and new product development. Bunting Magnetics' separation equipment includes a line of in-line magnets, magnetic liquid traps, several styles of drawer filters and the NUHI™ Neo Ultra High Intensity cartridge magnet. The company's products are found in thousands of plastics and food, grain, powder and bulk processing facilities nationwide.

Based in Newton, Kansas, Herrmann draws on over 10 years of experience in sales, product development and new business in a variety of position in the energy sector. Most recently, he was senior sales manager at CW Manufacturing, an industrial equipment manufacturer providing design, engineering, manufacturing and equipment repair services.

Upstate Shredding hires Tony Van Slyke as CFO

■ Weitsman Recycling has hired a long time financial industry veteran to lead the company into its next phase of growth and expansion.

Tony Van Slyke has been hired as the chief financial officer (CFO) and will be accountable for the administrative, financial and risk management operations of the company, to include the development of a financial and operational strategy, metrics tied to that strategy, and the ongoing development and monitoring of control systems designed to preserve company assets and report accurate financial results. The hire comes on the heels of a new micro fines plant being commissioned as well as additional technology systems being built and installed at the company's primary processing facility in Owego.

As CFO, Van Slyke will be responsible for controllership duties, which includes presenting and reporting accurate and timely historical financial information of the company. In addition, Van Slyke will be responsible for the company's present financial condition, so he must decide how to best invest the company's money, taking into consideration risk and liquidity.

Van Slyke will also be responsible for the economic strategy and forecasting for the company. Part of his responsibility includes being able to identify and report what areas of a company are most efficient and how the company can capitalize on this information. This aspect of his duties also include economic forecasting and modeling to try and predict the best way to ensure the company's success in the future.

Prior to joining Upstate Shredding – Weitsman Recycling, Van Slyke worked for A.L. George, LLC (Onondaga Beverage) as the company's controller and CFO since 1996. Prior to joining Onondaga Beverage, Van Slyke worked as the controller for Best Brands Beverage from 1991 to 1995.

Equipment manufacturer's association elects director

■ The Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM) has elected Brad Boehler, president of Skyjack Inc., to the AEM CE sector board to fill a term.

AEM is the North American based international trade group representing off-road equipment manufacturers and suppliers, with more than 900 companies and over 200 product lines in the agriculture, construction, forestry, mining and utility sectors worldwide.

Boehler joined Skyjack in 2003 and has progressively held strategic positions. He holds the designation of professional engineer and began his career as a military engineer with the Canadian Armed Forces.

He is active in several AEM working committees and chairs the AEM Canada Working Group and is also active in leadership roles for the International Powered Access Federation.

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The challenge of legislating e-waste recycling

by MAURA KELLER

mkeller@americanrecycler.com

E-waste is a growing issue in the U.S. As the volume of electronics and cordless devices increases, so does the amount of e-waste.

According to EPA, only about one million tons of over 3.4 million tons of e-waste generated in the U.S. in 2012 was recycled, resulting in a recycling rate of only 29 percent. To date, e-waste recycling in the U.S. has been limited by a variety of factors, including: insufficient collection, the lack of comprehensive federal legislation or policy mandating e-waste recycling, the absence of advanced recycling and recovery technologies and the illegal export of hazardous e-waste to developing countries. In 2014, United Nations University estimated that 42 million tons of e-waste was generated. If all the materials from that e-waste were recovered, they would collectively be worth \$52 billion.

Brooks Hoffman, principal of product management for secure IT asset disposition at Iron Mountain, says that in order to increase the e-waste recycling rate in the U.S., more comprehensive federal regulation is needed in order to harmonize the current patchwork quilt of state environmental regulation.

“This regulation should encourage investment in the necessary infrastructure, establish mandatory recycling targets, and create financing and enforcement mechanisms for e-waste collection and recycling,” Hoffman said.

Iron Mountain’s end-to-end Secure IT Asset Disposition service enables agencies to safely and securely dispose of their equipment, including PCs and laptops, servers, hard drives and mobile devices, with the peace of mind that such disposal complies with applicable data security and e-waste disposal regulations.

The main federal law governing solid waste is the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA). While it only regulates the disposal of CRT monitors, many states have also introduced legislation concerning recycling and reuse of electronics. The “Electronic Device Recycling Research and Development Act,” passed in 2009, requires the EPA to give merit-based grants to consortia of universities, government labs and private industries to conduct research with the purpose of finding new approaches to recycling and reduction of hazardous materials in electronic devices and to “contribute to the professional development of scientists, engineers, and technicians in the field of electronic device manufacturing, design, refurbishing, and recycling.”

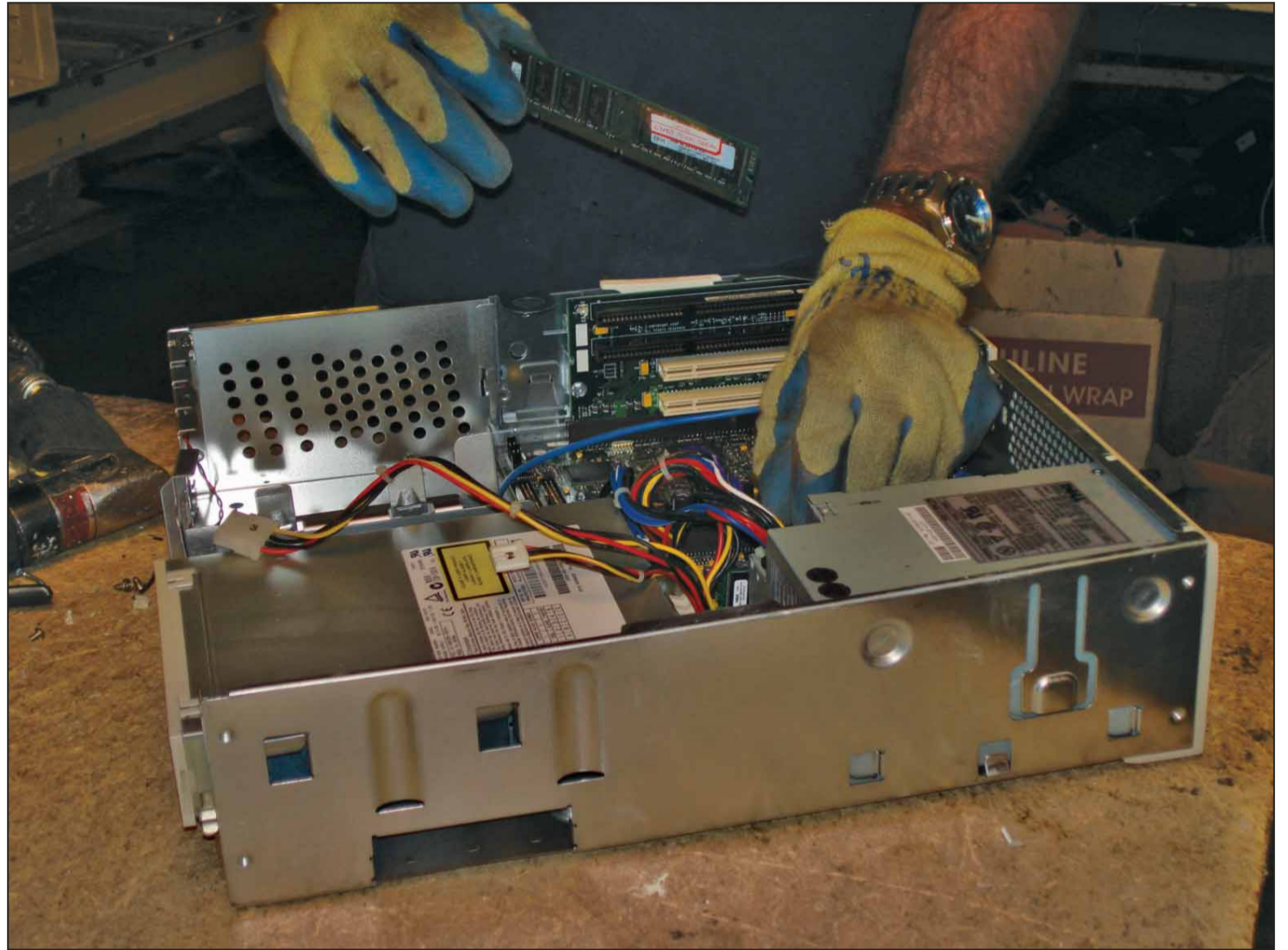


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And here’s why: When e-waste is discarded into landfills, the air, soil, and water is polluted with chemicals like lead (a neurotoxin), nickel, cadmium, mercury, and arsenic – which can cause neurological damage, cancer, miscarriages, birth defects, diminished IQs, and other irreversible health effects. Once leached into the environment, nickel, cadmium, mercury and lead can take up to 20 years or more to decompose.

“The core principle of ‘diversion from landfill’ has driven legislation in many states that requires increasing amounts of electronic waste to be collected and processed separate from the solid waste stream,” Hoffman said.

State Response

“To date, 25 states have enacted legislation requiring e-waste recycling,” Hoffman said. “With the exception of California and Utah, all use the Extended Producer Responsibility approach – which requires manufacturers to fund the cost of recycling their products.”

Massachusetts was the first in the U.S. to make it illegal to dispose of CRTs in landfills in April 2000. In 2003, California enacted the “Electronic Waste Recycling Act,” the first state legislation governing other forms of e-waste – including a broader waste ban and “advance recovery fee fund-

ing.” Under the law, electronic waste in USA, several other states have recently struggled as well to ensure that consumers have a reasonably priced option for responsibly recycling their items.”

According to the Electronics Recycling Coordination Clearinghouse, California takes a two pronged approach to the management of electronic waste generated and handled in state. In California e-waste is presumed hazardous regardless of generator sector and may not be disposed as municipal solid waste. Instead it may be managed as a universal waste to encourage the compliant recovery and recycling of available resources. The second avenue of e-waste regulation in California is the Electronic Waste Recycling Act of 2003, mentioned above. Among other provisions, the act provided a funding mechanism to offset the average net costs of collecting and processing certain “covered electronic devices,” which is a video display device containing a screen greater than four inches.

“Minnesota was a leader in e-waste recycling legislature, passing a landfill ban in 2007. Industry members saw the program as a success for many years, with challenges arising once the amount manufacturers paid decreased,” said Amanda LaGrange, chief executive officer of Tech Dump. “While Minnesota’s program was used to create many similar programs across the

USA, several other states have recently struggled as well to ensure that consumers have a reasonably priced option for responsibly recycling their items.”

The Minnesota e-waste statute was updated in 2016, with the intention of closing the gap between the amounts of consumer electronics collected in the state and the amount of weight manufacturers subsidize.

“While the revision made some progress, as the third largest collector of electronics in the state – based on annual weights provided by the MPCA – we barely saw an impact to our business,” LaGrange said. “Consumers read articles about the revision thinking CRT TVs would be free to recycle, which unfortunately wasn’t the case as we still pay significant expense to ensure they are properly recycled here domestically, not illegally exporting to countries with lower safety regulations and cheaper labor.”

In 2007, Texas passed a law requiring manufacturers that sell new computer equipment in or into Texas to offer consumers a free recycling program. Likewise, Wisconsin’s electronics recycling law, passed in 2009, covers electronics sold to/used by Wisconsin households, K-12 public schools and Parental Choice Program schools. While businesses, institutions and oth-

See E-WASTE, Page B2

E-waste

■Continued from Page B1

ers not included in these groups may see some benefits from the new electronics-recycling infrastructure in Wisconsin, they cannot recycle electronics through the E-Cycle Wisconsin program.

Interestingly, the 2011 electronic waste recycling law in Utah differs from other state laws because it doesn't mandate recycling or require manufacturers to fund recycling programs. Rather manufacturers must establish and implement an education program for the general public to help them learn how to recycle electronic devices.

From an international perspective, electronic waste recycling is also a key concern. The Basel Convention of the United Nations was established to prevent developed countries from illegally dumping hazardous waste in developing countries.

When e-waste is sent to developing countries for recycling, dangerous material extraction practices expose workers to harmful chemicals such as lead, mercury, and arsenic. Many of those workers are children who do not wear protective equipment.

The U.S. is the only nation in the developed world that has signed, but not ratified, the Basel Convention; which means it is technically allowed to ship electronic waste to foreign countries.

Another initiative to address the e-waste issue is the latest Right to Repair legislation. As LaGrange explained, this legislation requires manufacturers to release repair information and sell

spare parts to owners and independent repair shops. If passed, the legislation would give consumers more options than just the manufacturer for repair.

"This would create not only environmental benefits – repairing and allowing for longer life of our gadgets – but also stand up for local jobs – local repair shops, refurbished electronic companies/nonprofits, and others," LaGrange said. "Specific to Tech Dump, we see this increased repair information as creating more job opportunities for our adults facing barriers to employment and providing more affordable technology for our retail store customers."

Given the sharp decline in commodity values in 2015, reuse and repair are seen by some as critical parts to e-waste processing.

"A business model of 100 percent recycling is almost impossible without shortcuts or environmental grants of some sort," LaGrange said. "The amount of e-waste is also growing exponentially and if we don't extend the life of our electronics we will continue to damage our environment."

E-waste legislation efforts push more responsibility to the manufacturers, but manufacturers continue to make products with low-quality components – causing planned obsolescence and using glue, which makes disassembly to reclaim previous metals inside nearly impossible.

"As one member of the electronics recycling industry, I do not believe the solution comes from legislation, but from consumers demanding more from the manufacturers," LaGrange said. "Look at Patagonia – they charge a pre-

mium price for goods that are made to last, with a strong repair plan in place if something happens. We should expect this of Apple, Samsung, LG and others."

LaGrange's hope is that consumers will begin to pressure manufacturers to make electronics that are built to last beyond 18 months, are easier to repair, and use materials that aren't toxic to the environment.

"Our addiction to electronics is harming people and their neighborhoods around the world, but because it's happening 'over there,' society doesn't connect it when they buy the latest and greatest smartphone and add their last one to the junk drawer, or adding it to an ever-growing heap in the basement or garage, not quite knowing what to do with old items," LaGrange said. "We call this the 'pile of denial.' Responsibly creating, purchasing, repairing, and recycling are all key components to closing the loop, for positive financial and environmental impact."

E-Waste Volume Statistics

According to Brian Morris, representative of Flipsy.com, a firm that helps eliminate e-waste by putting technology into people's hands instead of landfills, the following statistics speak volumes to the e-waste situation facing the U.S.

- In 2017, more than 50 million tons of e-waste are expected to be generated globally.

- Only 16 percent of global e-waste is properly recycled via regulated, government-sanctioned recycling programs.

- Worldwide, 80 percent of e-waste ends up in landfills, where it cannot be recovered.

- In the U.S., more than 416,000 mobile phones are disposed of daily.

- Global e-waste is expected to grow by 8 percent per year – and grew by 20 percent in the U.S. between 2015 and 2017.

- The U.S. accounts for more e-waste than any other country in the world: approximately 9.4 million tons annually.

- The average U.S. household owns 28 consumer electronics.

- Between 2007 and 2017, more than 7 billion smartphones were produced globally.

- Nearly 80 percent of smartphone sales correspond to consumers replacing their phones – even though they're still

in working order.

- Exporting discarded electronics to developing nations offers opportunities for repair and reuse; however, only 25 percent of e-waste shipped overseas is reused.

Battery Recycling

The evolution to smaller, lighter electronic devices has put pressure on manufacturers to dramatically shrink the size and increase the performance of rechargeable batteries such as those in laptops, tablets and cellphones. Along the way, the batteries have gone from being external to being integrated into the physical design of cellphones, laptops, tablets and wearable technologies such as fitness monitors.

What does this mean for the recycling movement? As Carl Smith, chief executive officer and president of Call2Recycle, a product stewardship organization that collects and recycles batteries, although the volume of electronics being recycled is increasing, the percentage of batteries being separately recycled may actually be on the decline. This is for a couple reasons.

"Many product manufacturers are designing the battery as an integrated component of the product," Smith said. "The cellphone battery that a consumer could previously remove to recycle has been replaced with an integrated battery that can only be replaced by taking the phone apart with tools and some considerable expertise."

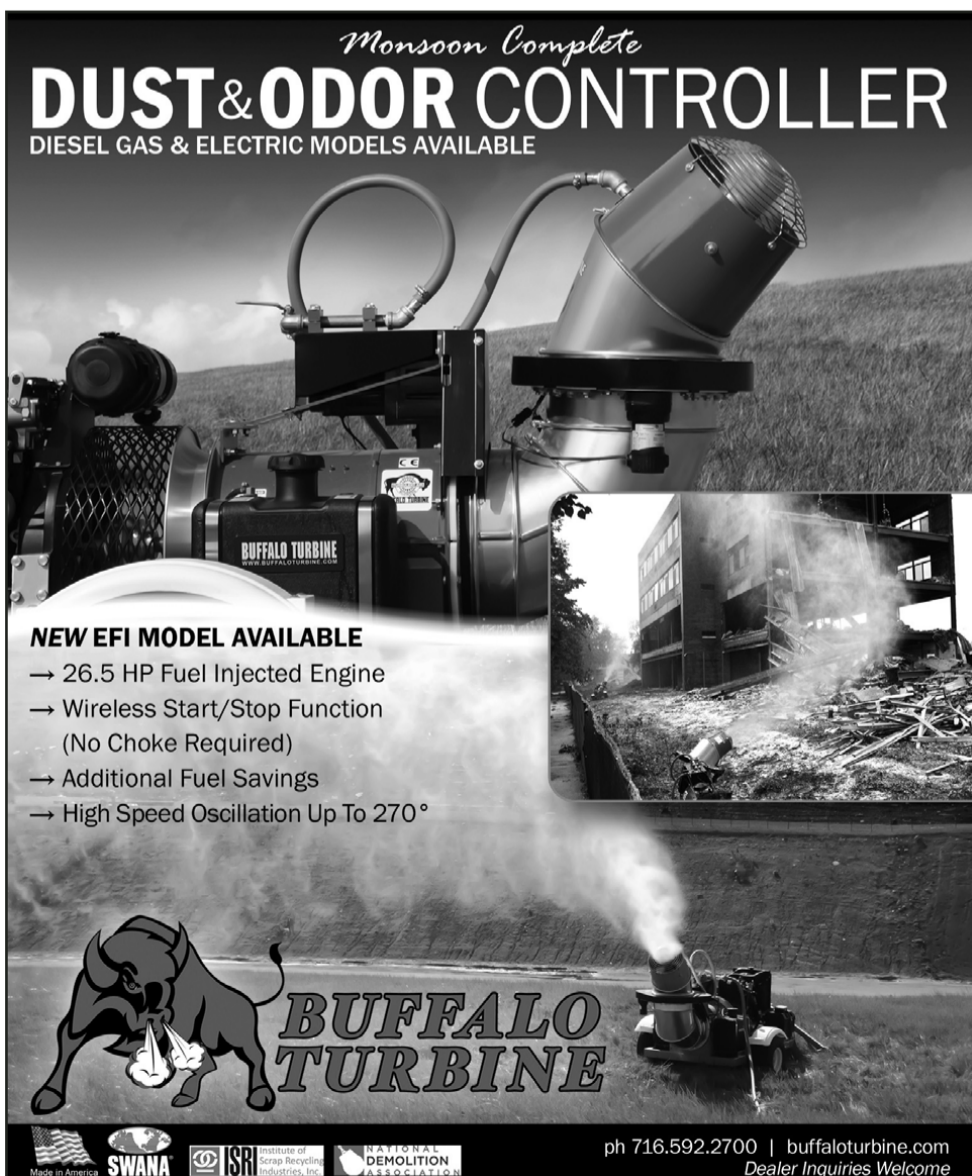
For many products, the cost to extract the battery is too high for an industry like recycling, where profit margins are razor thin. Thus, recyclers may be extracting some materials from electronics for re-use, but are not extracting the batteries because of the complexity and difficulty of the process. Thus, the value of the batteries is never fully realized.

Call2Recycle was founded by 5 battery manufacturers more than 20 years ago to voluntarily keep batteries out of the landfills and find ways to repurpose their materials. "While the types of batteries, especially in the rechargeable category, have evolved, the recycling industry has been able to make a profit in recycling," Smith said. "The next few years pose a considerable challenge to recycling in finding ways to embrace recycling both e-waste and batteries."

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AR EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

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

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

Association offers e-waste programs that give back

The Electronic Recycling Association (ERA) disclosed a new program that offers a safe and secure option for unwanted computer equipment with a strong focus on giving back to the community through technology donations. They are seeking new partnerships with charitable organizations who are in need of computer equipment and companies who are in need of secure and socially responsible e-waste management.

"We are thrilled to be up and running in the Toronto area, and have already started making a difference in the community with tech donations, volunteering and fundraising opportunities," said Bojan Paduh, founder and president of ERA.

"We've developed a strong data security program as well, and work in partnership with various law enforcement agencies to make sure the public is aware of and has access to recycling

options that guarantee the safety of their personal information. This month we have already hosted free public events in partnership with the Calgary Police and the North Vancouver Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and plan to bring similar events to the Toronto area in the future."

ERA accepts donations of unwanted computer hardware and related equipment from companies and individuals for responsible and secure reuse or recycling. They refurbish what they can and provide local charities, non-profits, care facilities and educational intuitions with refurbished equipment donations. For individuals looking for an alternative, ERA also has a volunteer program that allows members of the public to earn a computer by volunteering their time. ERA also has an e-waste fundraising program, which allows participants to raise money for charitable causes by collecting e-waste.

Webinar provided to increase glass recycling via partnerships

Public-private partnerships are becoming an effective solution to resolve infrastructure funding issues for recycling. A recent webinar attracting 214 attendees, co-hosted by the Glass Recycling Coalition (GRC) and Northeast Recycling Council (NERC), offered a deeper understanding of successful public-private partnerships that have strengthened local glass recycling markets.

"Public-private partnerships are what makes Ohio EPA's glass recycling grant initiative work," said Terrie TerMeer, chief of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. "To best use public funds, we worked with recycling facilities, both large and small, to provide grants for upgrades to their recycling systems to improve glass recycling in Ohio," said TerMeer.

TerMeer co-presented with Ben Pedigo, Rumpke Waste & Recycling, on the public-private partnership that helped to increase options for glass recycling in Ohio. Last year, the City of Dayton and the Ohio EPA partnered with Rumpke for a \$50,000 grant as part of a \$1 million upgrade to its mixed glass recycling center in Dayton.

"Glass bottles and jars are integral components to recycling programs,"

said Pedigo. "It is important to us and to Ohio EPA to recycle the glass we use."

In 2015, matching grant funds from the Ohio EPA also helped to fund \$80,000 in processing technology at one material recovery facility in rural Logan County, Ohio.

The "Partnerships to Make Glass Recycling Work" webinar provided examples of solutions for urban programs using funding and resources from partnerships. For example, Kansas City-based Ripple Glass was founded thanks in part to a public-private partnership with a solid waste district and a craft brewer that sought options for recycling the bottles they produced.

Partnerships to Make Glass Recycling Work Key Takeaways:

- Public-private partnerships in communities are a way to strengthen glass recycling.

- Glass should be included in curbside programs, as well as options for drop-off.

- Some MRFs and secondary processors are taking steps to further clean glass to recover more.

- Many local/state governments have found success by committing to fund grants for glass processing.

State Electronics Challenge awarded

The Green Electronics Council, managers of the EPEAT ecolabel, recently honored the State Electronics Challenge – a program of the Northeast Recycling Council – with its 2017 Sustainable Purchasing Visionary Award.

The EPEAT Purchaser Award and Sustainable Purchasing Visionary Award winners were sponsored by the Information Technology Industry Council, the advocacy and policy organization.

The State Electronics Challenge was awarded the Sustainable Purchasing Visionary Award for its achievements spanning almost 10 years. Since 2008, the State Electronics Challenge has enabled state, tribal, regional, and local governments, including schools and other public entities, to purchase and manage IT products in an environmentally sound manner.

Currently, the program has 167 partner organizations.

Pennsylvania DEP denies Nulife Glass application for storage of discarded CRTs

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) disclosed the denial of a request for a variance submitted by Nulife Glass NY from classifying as a solid waste millions of pounds of processed or used cathode ray tubes (CRT) currently stored at warehouses in Pennsylvania.

CRT materials include the vacuum tubes and associated materials found in older model televisions and computer monitors. These materials contain high lead content and exhibit toxic characteristics.

Since May 2014, Nulife transported approximately 17 million pounds of CRT materials to Pennsylvania warehouses while it was in the process of obtaining a permit from the New York Department of Conservation to construct and operate a lead smelter to recycle the CRT glass in Dunkirk, New York. Since that time, PA DEP has been informed that Nulife will cease its lead smelting operations at the Dunkirk facility and surrender its Title V Air Permit.

CRT glass is being stored in five warehouses in northwest Pennsylvania: two in the City of Erie, and one each in Girard, Lake City and Grove City.

PA DEP denied the variance request because Nulife failed to ade-

quately address the criteria for a variance under the Federal CRT Rule, including:

- The manner of recycling the CRT materials.

- When the material would be recycled.

- The reason the stored CRT material had accumulated without being recycled.

Nulife also failed to provide adequate assurances of its financial ability to properly dispose of the speculatively accumulated CRT materials.

In conjunction with the denial of the variance request, the PA DEP issued an order that requires Nulife to remove all 17 million pounds of stored CRT materials from all 5 warehouses within a year, by removing a minimum of 5 million pounds of CRT materials by June 30, 2017 and continuing to remove CRT materials within a designated time until all CRT materials are removed by no later than February 28, 2018.

"PA DEP has an obligation to prevent pollution and to protect the health and safety of its citizens," said Jim Miller, regional director of Northwest PA DEP. "While we encourage new industries and technologies to address the recycling of older televisions and computers, those entities must do so within the rules and regulations established to protect Pennsylvanians."

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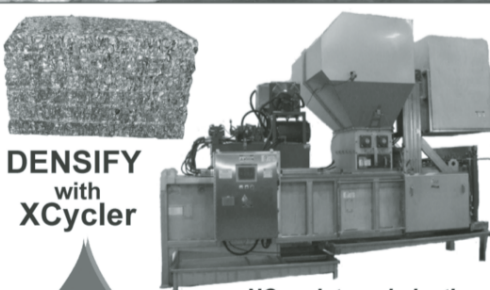
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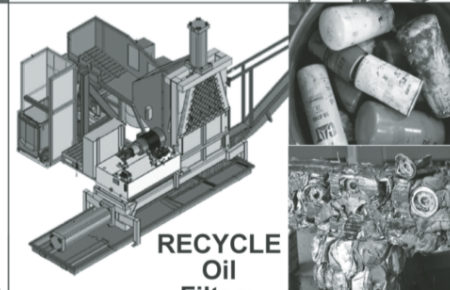
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EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

Primary Reduction

by MARY M. COX

maryc@americanrecycler.com

Slow speed, high torque machines are helpful in the primary reduction of a variety of materials from an array of industries. This equipment is not only useful as a first step in processing, but as an aid in minimizing the use of landfills.

BCA Industries has long been known as the leader in portable and mobile high torque shredding equipment as well as complex stationary systems built here in the US. "We have built reduction and separation systems for the largest battery recycling plant in the world to the smallest start-ups. Our shredder sizes range from 10 hp to 800 hp, from 1 ton per hour to 40 tons per hour," John Neuens, sales and marketing director, said. BCA serves recycling companies in glass, electronics, paper, cardboard, ferrous metals, copper, tires, MSW, construction demolition, auto fluff, plastic, batteries both NiCad and Li-Ion, and even the largest clothes hanger recycler in the world.

Neuens explained, "Our markets favor equipment that experience low downtime. Companies looking for shredders have long told us that the major concerns are catastrophic part costs and downtime. At BCA, we start all of our system and shredder designs aimed at avoiding those issues, in mind. Our redundant systems like the proprietary BCA hydraulic cluster drive system, keeps part costs and downtime to a fraction of what has been typical in the industry. Longer life knives using the newest hard face technology and simpler head rebuild methods keep operating costs lower and downtime minimal. We've found these are the features that owners value most over time. We've been able



Granutech-Systems, Inc.

applications around the world. For the most part, twin shaft shredders are applied as the primary reduction process for electronics recycling. The twin shaft shredder can process a wide variety of materials, from small, home-type printers to large commercial copiers, and most items in between. Frequently a quad shaft shredder follows the initial primary shredder to achieve greater separation of the commodity grade materials." Saturn generally applies their shredders to higher capacity applications, those from 3 tons per hour up to 20 tons per hour. Recent applications include Saturn installations in the U.S. and China.

Hinsey expressed that "shredders in general are generally used to process the mid to low value electronic stream. Processing of higher value components, such as desktop computers, servers, switches, and power supplies will likely follow a mechanical separation process where the highest value commodities or hazardous materials are hand separated. Frequent shredding applications include printers, scanners, and copiers, household electrical materials, and related products. Shredders are also applied for hard drive data destruction for higher volume processors where electronic wiping of the drives is not practical."

He also mentioned how "the most significant challenge for shredding electronic scrap is the need to keep hazardous materials out of the shredder feed. Operators must avoid batteries, LCD monitors, CRT devices, and mercury products – some of the most common items to cause problems. Due to the high value of some items, processors will recover CPU, RAM, processor chips, and similar items by hand dismantling for reuse or resale. Shredding smaller, more compact 'smart' devices such as phones, tablets, and newer generation laptops is unwise and likely unsafe. Hand dismantling of such devices is likely a better option."

Hinsey warned that processors new to the industry should be diligent and construct a comprehensive business plan, as unpredictable commodity pricing can swing the value of shredding from profitable to not, in a very short time. "They must know they have a flow of material to feed a shredder line and know the steps necessary for preparation prior to shredding – for example, removal of paper from printers, removal and recovery of inkjet and toner cartridges, and possibly removal of glass from scanners.



BCA Industries

to meet these challenges while keeping all the engineering and production at our plant in here in Milwaukee."

BCA Industries has experienced growth in the electronic recycling and separation markets as well as in the copper wire markets. "The trend is in smaller particle size and a greater emphasis on cost control per ton. In copper processing, we've had greater demand for systems that can handle whole bales utilizing independent shaft drive and PLC programmability to handle such tough feedstock," stated Neuens.

According to Mike Hinsey, international vice president, Granutech-Saturn Systems, "The Saturn shredder line features 40 years of experience in some of the most difficult

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Continued on Page B7

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Computers and laptops needed for local charities

Bojan Paduh, founder and president of the Electronic Recycling Association (ERA), released a statement asking the public to consider donating their unwanted or retiring computer equipment to ERA so it may be refurbished for donation to numerous Canadian charities in need of computers.

"It has been a unique several months," said Paduh. "Requests for computer donations are coming in as usual but we aren't receiving the same amount of retiring corporate equipment, so we can't keep up," he added.

Low income individuals who cannot afford computers or laptops can volunteer their time at the ERA warehouses Canada-wide to earn a computer or laptop. Canadian charities and non profits get them at no charge.

Corporate pickups can be booked online or by contacting ERA at www.era.ca.

Re-Gen Waste executes long term agreement with High 5 Recycling Group

Now 95 percent of glass collected is processed 'back to bottle'

Re-Gen Waste Ltd., a recycling and waste management company based in Northern Ireland, has signed a \$12.5 million contract that will see the Northern Ireland based waste management solutions company provide all of its collected glass to the Belgian glass recycling specialists High 5 Recycling Group.

The long-term deal, which guarantees an end market for all glass gathered in the UK and Northern Ireland by Re-Gen Waste's commingled waste streams, provides a secure end market for all glass collected as part of the comingled collection.

Joseph Doherty, managing director of Re-Gen said: "This new contract means that Re-Gen can continue to offer a glass processing service to all our customers. Dealing with glass that is mixed together with other dry recy-

clable waste is one of the biggest issues facing materials-sorting facilities today. The majority are incapable of recycling glass due to breakage, which ultimately means glass ends up in landfill. In its unprocessed form, materials recovery facility (MRF) glass is comprised of small shards of glass mixed with contaminants of paper labels, plastic caps and general dirt, which is of little or no commercial value. Separating recoverable glass from these contaminants and washing it produces a visually cleaner glass product and yields an added value product for resale."

Re-Gen has recently invested heavily in a state of the art glass screening plant at their headquarters in Newry to improve the screening and cleaning of recycled glass, so rather than send it to landfill they can recover 95 per cent of the glass for recycling. The waste man-

agement solutions company is therefore uniquely positioned to accept and sort materials commingled with glass for customers and councils across Northern Ireland and the UK.

Alexandre Halbrecq, director at High 5 Recycling said: "We have been extremely impressed to date with the quality of MRF glass that Re-Gen has supplied to us, no doubt attributable to the significant investment in their on-site, high tech glass screening plant. High 5 Recycling has developed a technology to allow the separation of this glass by color. One of the end products is an added value glass colored midway between amber and green called 'dead leaf'. The glass possesses interesting chemical properties of use to industrialists."

JN Phillips Auto Glass invests in service expansion project

JN Phillips Auto Glass, a New England owned company and a provider of auto glass services to New England drivers and businesses, disclosed a major investment initiative for servicing auto glass customers across Northern New England, including New Hampshire, Maine, and Vermont.

JN Phillips Auto Glass plans to open 8 auto glass service centers across the region during the next 36 months. The company will also expand its

mobile fleet and establish a major auto glass distribution center with the widest array of OE quality auto glass parts in the region to supply its service centers and mobile service vans.

According to JN Phillips managing director Maureen Confalone, "This expansion is a natural extension of the services we currently provide to our customers in southern New Hampshire and southern Maine, to whom we have been providing mobile auto glass serv-

ice for many years. Having convenient drive-in facilities and a large inventory on hand and close by will allow us to best fulfil our convenience promise and to respond to the demand for fast-response, high quality, affordable auto glass service in these markets."

The company expects to enter the Vermont market through its newly developed licensing program, which benefits consumers when existing auto glass companies become part of the JN

Phillips Auto Glass technology and service system.

In addition to windshield replacements and repairs, the scope of services provided includes handling auto insurance claims for customers, the first windshield recycling program in the country, and state-of-the-art calibration expertise required when servicing cameras on "smart windshields" that are central to Advanced Driver Assistance Systems.

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INDUSTRY PROFILE

A Closer Look

by Donna Currie

Warren & Baerg

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Warren & Baerg got its start in 1966, according to Randy Baerg, the company's president. Baerg's father, Bob, started the company and Randy came onboard full time in 1979, "although I was here welding, while attending high school," he said.

Bob Baerg had a partner when he started, thus the company name, but the partner retired and the Baergs bought him out. Since the company had a good reputation, they decided not to change the name. In the beginning, they bought and operated cubers made by John Deere.

At that time, the John Deere company owned the patent for making the cubing machines. Baerg explained that cubers are like pellets, but larger. At that time, cubing machines were targeted towards the animal feed industry, for animals like horses and cattle. While cubed feed is convenient, Baerg explained that the material has to be very dry. Most feed needs to be below 14 percent moisture content and alfalfa needs to be below 12 percent. Every percentage point above the minimums means there's a greater chance that mold will develop or that the material would begin to heat up on its own and could even start a fire.

During the off season, Warren & Baerg did repairs on cubers "which led to making replacement parts," Baerg said. The John Deere company took notice of this – in a good way.

When the John Deere company realized that cubers weren't going to sell at a volume they desired, they approached Warren & Baerg with a deal – John Deere would quit making cubers and allow Warren & Baerg to have the patent, as long as Warren & Baerg would supply replacement parts to John Deere. The deal was struck and Warren & Baerg went from using and repairing machines to building them.

Warren & Baerg continued to make machines for the animal feed industry, but in the early 1980s, when fuel prices were increasing, they realized the cubers could be used for making fuel by densifying materials like wood, plastic film, and other waste materials that could be burned as an alternative fuel product.

When fuel prices dropped again, "the interest in the U.S. disappeared," but sales were still good overseas, partially because of the high cost of sending materials to landfills in Europe and Asia. Because it cost so much to landfill the materials, "that made the alternative fuel option attractive," Baerg said.

Slowly, the use of alternative fuels has increased in the U.S., and the cubers are again being sold for that purpose. Along with cubers, the company also manufactures dust-free grinding equipment for de-baling materials that will be cubed, as well as conveyors that are part of the cubing systems.

Baerg said that compared to when they started selling machines for alternative fuel use, the materials being cubed are much cleaner than before. The company often does a test run of a new machine, using the customer's own materials to make sure it meets the customer's needs. Years ago, the material would have a lot of metal that would need to be removed. "We've gone from pretty primitive to unbelievably accurate as far as material sorting. Metal is not a big issue in the test run," Baerg said.

While clean materials make it easier for the cubers to work, Baerg said that the company is always "looking at what we do and making what we do better."

Part of that betterment is the company's goal of making equipment that is less seasonal and less reliant on things like fuel or landfill prices. While conveyors have been part of the company's lineup for some time, they had focused on conveyors that fit with the machines they made. Now, they're making conveyors for customers who are not using cubers at all. They've also branched out into making bins and hoppers.

Because they've broadened the customer base, their employment levels have remained steady, but in the recent past, they've had from 24 to 48 employees, depending on customer orders and market conditions.

While the company has been doing more business with alternative fuel producers, they are still manufacturing machines for the agricultural industry. Baerg estimated that about half of their machines are sold for agricultural uses and the other half is for the waste and biomass industries.

When it comes to biomass, Baerg said that the biggest challenge in selling to that market is that it tends to be cheaper in the U.S. to landfill the material than to process it for use as an alternative fuel. It also takes more work, and it takes a machine to do the required processing.

However, Baerg anticipates that there will be more growth in the fuel sector as companies embrace gasification or pyrolysis of the materials and people in the biomass industry begin making higher value fuels, like jet fuel. "That's a lot more value," Baerg said.

Baerg is in an industry involving many high tech methods. Referrals from existing customers speaks to the company's reputation and the quality of their machines. "We stand behind what we make," Baerg said.

Clean Earth acquires AERC Recycling Solutions

Compass Diversified Holdings, an owner of middle market businesses, announced that its subsidiary, Clean Earth, Inc., has acquired AERC Recycling Solutions.

Headquartered in Allentown, Pennsylvania, AERC is a nationally regulated and permitted universal waste and electronic waste recycling company serving over 2,500 commercial and industrial customers across the U.S. AERC processes fluorescent and mercury lamps, batteries, ballasts, retort and other forms of commonly produced hazardous wastes. In addition, AERC provides comprehensive electronic waste recycling services, specializing in asset recovery, disassembly and secure information destruction. Founded in 1990, AERC owns and operates processing facilities in Allentown, Pennsylvania, Richmond, Virginia, West Melbourne, Florida, and Hayward, California, as well as a transfer station in Bolingbroke, Georgia.

AERC's universal waste facility in Allentown has a RCRA Part B permit.

For the trailing 12 months ended December 31, 2016, AERC reported net revenue of approximately \$13 million. CODI funded the purchase price through available cash on its balance sheet.

Commenting on the transaction, Alan Offenber, chief executive officer of CODI, said, "The acquisition of AERC makes this our fourth accretive add-on acquisition since acquiring Clean Earth in 2014. This addition will expand Clean Earth's service offering to include universal and electronic waste processing capabilities, while creating new cross-selling opportunities for Clean Earth. The acquisition will enhance Clean Earth's presence in the Eastern U.S., while giving the company coast-to-coast coverage via AERC's California-based facilities. Utilizing CODI's considerable financial resources, we will continue to pursue add-on and platform acquisitions of attractive middle market companies to generate long-term shareholder value."

Sims Recycling achieves R2:2013 Certification at UK site

E-waste recycling site in Stalybridge, UK is now Responsible Recycling R2:2013 certified

Sims Recycling Solutions (SRS), a global provider of electronics recycling and IT asset disposition services, has achieved the Responsible Recycling (R2:2013) certification at the electronic waste (WEEE) recycling site in Stalybridge, U.K. This R2 certification is accredited by a third-party certification body and checks if companies' processes are set up with high regard for the environment, health and safety, and downstream processors due diligence.

"Achieving the R2 certification at our Stalybridge electronic waste recycling site raises the bar for WEEE-treatment companies in the U.K., and shows our commitment to recycling end-of-life electronic equipment in the

U.K. market," stated Steve Skurnac, president of SRS.

With R2:2013 certification customers can have confidence that used and end-of-life electronic equipment are appropriately managed in a manner that is,

- Environmentally responsible,
- Protective of the health and safety of workers, and the public, and
- Data-secure for all data stored on media devices.

The R2:2013 standards require sites to obtain one or more generally accepted environmental, and health and safety management systems.

SRS in Stalybridge is also accredited for the ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001 certification programs.

*A guy walked into a bar and ordered a fruit punch.
The bartender said, "Pal, if you want a punch you'll have to stand in line."
The guy looked around, but there was no punch line.*



Testimonial



I received your publication by mail. I can confirm I have never seen it before in its hard copy version. I like the layout and it is very informative, in a league of its own in terms of quality information. No wonder it is the only recycling publication quoted on Lumistar's blog. I look forward to upcoming issues.

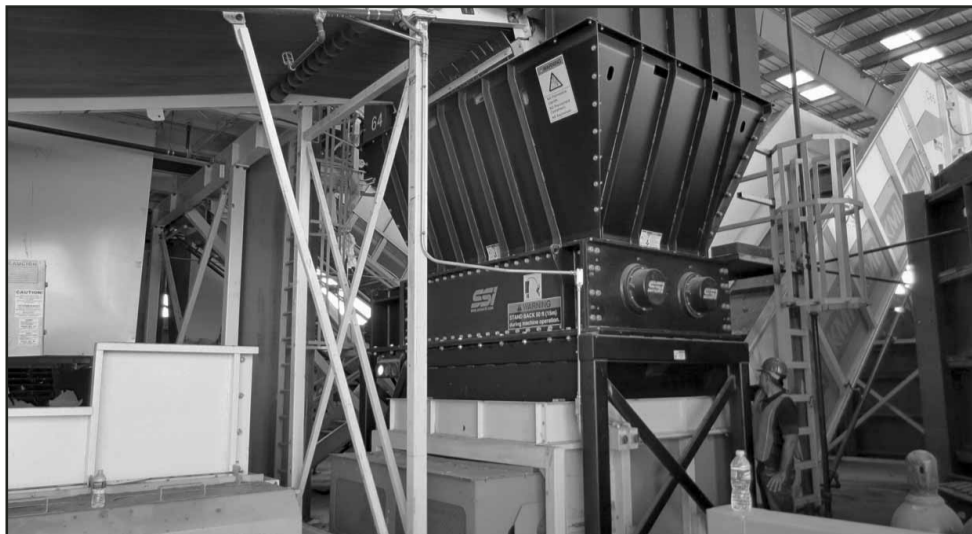


I have read issues of your publication in the past by accessing digital archives at one of two libraries I am a member of. Your website is also fantastic.

—Paul Angel, LUMISTAR CORPORATION

Primary reduction equipment

■Continued from Page B4



SSI shredding Systems, Inc.

Failing to do so can result in lost revenue and dilution of your commodity stream," he said.

In the electronics industry, SSI Primax® primary reducers are employed as a pre-shredder, tasked with breaking down bulky or hard-cased electronics for further processing. Primax reducers are often the first step in an integrated system. SSI designed this shredder to have an open cutting table which increases processing capacity. The two independently driven shafts come equipped with two-way cutters designed to grab, rip, puncture, and break materials into roughly the size of the table openings.

The material output size is based on the number of cutters and related parts in the Primax. Most processors choose a size range of 12" to 20", which proves to be large enough to allow high-value circuit boards and thick metal items, like counter balancers and motors, to pass through mostly intact. This makes the process of removing them from the stream much easier.

"Our customers have found that employing this technology on the front of their shredding and commodity recovery systems reduces operating costs and increases efficiencies enough to justify the purchase very quickly. In large volume applications, Primax machinery can replace de-manufacturing staff. SSI has hundreds of customers processing electronics scrap worldwide. We offer solutions for people looking to process anything from a few hundred thousand pounds per month to more than 15 million pounds per month," said Dave Fleming, sales manager.

He noted that volume is the main challenge facing the electronic scrap industry. Many companies do not process the quantity of e-scrap to justify buying a piece of capital equip-

MANUFACTURER LIST Continued

SSI Shredding Systems, Inc.
Dave Fleming
800-537-4733
www.ssiworld.com

Untha America
Charles Hildebrand
603-601-2304
www.untha-america.com

Vecoplan LLC
Kim James
877-738-3241
www.vecoplanllc.com

Weima America, Inc.
Madison Burt
803-802-7170
www.weimaamerica.com

ment like a primary reducer. Manual processing creates a pinch point in a company's capacity and limits their growth. "Fortunately, Primax reducers and other shredder technologies alleviate that bottleneck, increasing productivity and efficiency. Also, if processors offer destruction certification services to their customers, shredding and automation make more sense than manual de-manufacturing and data wiping," Fleming said.

He added, "In the electronic scrap industry, more people want to process large commercial scrap such as copy machines and home appliances. Primax technology is ideally suited for this type of application. The Primax can process materials, difficult to process in conventional shredding machinery, with very little wear and tear. Low power requirements and operating costs combined with a highly customizable machine, capable of being adapted over time, prove to be a great step forward for customers who wish to shred and separate complex electronic scrap."

second husband?"

"He ate poisonous mushrooms, too, and died."

"Oh, how terrible! I'm almost afraid to ask you about your third husband."

"He died of a broken neck."

"A broken neck?"

"Yes, he refused to eat the mushrooms."

A woman announced to her friend that she was getting married for the fourth time.

"How wonderful! But I hope you don't mind me asking what happened to your first husband?"

"He ate poisonous mushrooms and died."

"Oh, how tragic! What about your

Big Lots Stores ordered to pay \$3.5 million to settle hazardous waste civil lawsuit

Riverside County District Attorney Mike Hestrin, along with 34 District Attorney's Offices and two City Attorney's Offices across California, disclosed that a judge has ordered Ohio-based Big Lots Stores, Inc., and its subsidiary corporations, to pay \$3.5 million in civil penalties and costs for environmental violations.

The judgement in the civil lawsuit filed in San Bernardino County Superior Court is the result of an investigation into the unlawful disposal of hazardous waste by Big Lots Stores at its distribution center and its 206 California stores over several years.

There were 13 Big Lots stores in Riverside County during the time period of the violations and the investigation. Riverside County will receive \$40,500 in civil penalties, which will go to the county's consumer protection prosecution fund.

The lawsuit alleges that, instead of transporting hazardous waste to authorized hazardous waste facilities, Big Lots illegally disposed of the waste in the trash and illegally transported it to local landfills not permitted to receive such waste. The hazardous waste included ignitable and corrosive liquids, toxic

materials, batteries, and waste from electronic devices. Some of the waste was the result of spills, damaged containers, or customer returns.

Once prosecutors alerted Big Lots of the violations, the company cooperated during the subsequent investigation.

Big Lots has now adopted and implemented new policies and procedures, as well as new training programs to properly manage and dispose of hazardous waste. Big Lots hazardous waste is now collected by state-registered haulers to transport it to authorized disposal facilities and is now being properly documented.

Under the settlement, Big Lots must pay \$2,017,500 in civil penalties and \$336,250 to reimburse costs of the investigation. Another \$350,000 will go to fund environmental projects that further environmental enforcement and consumer protection in California. Big Lots also will fund hazardous waste minimization and enhanced compliance projects valued at \$803,750.

The final judgement in this case was signed on April 21, 2017, by San Bernardino County Superior Court Judge Bryan F. Foster.

City Of Los Angeles partners with ERI for mail back program



LA Sanitation, (LASAN) has officially launched the City of Los Angeles' Electronics Recycling Mail Back Program, an online electronics recycling program in partnership with ERI, a recycler of electronic waste and a security focused hardware destruction company.

The new online program enables Los Angeles County customers to conveniently mail back unwanted consumer electronic items directly to ERI for a reasonable fee. This program is geared toward residents, businesses and other organizations seeking convenience.

Specially designed boxes, available in multiple sizes, are available at <https://lasan.eridirect.com> website. The price of the box is all inclusive, allow-

ing customers to include as many devices as can fit in each box, provided the maximum weight is not exceeded.

The flat rate of the official "Electronics Recycling Boxes" is \$30, \$65 or \$90, depending on size. The price of each box includes:

- Delivery of new, empty box;
- Return shipping to ERI's processing facility;
- Highest environmental certifications;
- NAID certified secure data destruction
- An official certificate of recycling.

The program goal is to make electronics recycling as easy as possible for LA County customers, and those unable to transport unwanted electronics to recycling centers themselves.

*What do the movies Titanic and the Sixth Sense have in common?
Icy dead people.*

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