



# American Recycler

NewsVoice of Salvage, Waste and Recycling

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## Massive amounts of storm debris recycled

by MIKE BRESLIN

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This spring delivered a whirlwind of devastating tornados that brought death, injuries and heartbreak to thousands of people across the Southeast, Midwest and even into Massachusetts.

Recovery, as difficult as it is, has begun. The twisted buildings, downed trees, mangled vehicles and infrastructure rubble is being cleared away before reconstruction can be started. The bulk of the debris is being landfilled, but more and more is being recycled in safe, responsible ways.

On Saturday, April 16 in Raleigh, North Carolina, a total of 28 confirmed tornados ripped through central North Carolina killing 24 people, injured hundreds, destroying or damaging thousands of homes and commercial buildings, and knocking down trees and power lines. Five of the tornados were listed as EF3, with wind speeds of 136 to 165 mph – the worst tornados the state has seen in more than 20 years.

The area in and around Raleigh was one of the hardest hit. As the state capital and second largest city in North Carolina, it has a population just over 400,000 and is known as “The City of Oaks.” The tornados killed or damaged many of the city’s famed oak trees.

“These tornados were pretty bad. So far we have removed over 200,000 cubic yards of debris from fallen trees from the streets,” said Chris McGee, street superin-



EPA contractors pick up white goods left curbside for collection in the aftermath of Joplin storms.

tendent for the City of Raleigh, Department of Public Works. He explained how Raleigh prepared for, and then handled the event after the tornados passed through.

“During the first 72 hours, city forces go through the streets and we do cut and shove. We are cutting debris out of the way and shoving it over out of the street to get roads back open for emergency vehicles

and allow people to get in and out of their homes. We just deal with the streets and don’t deal with any of the construction debris. That is left up to the property owner and their insurance company.”

McGee has responsibility for approximately 1,050 centerline miles of streets. The North Carolina Department of Transportation maintains another 250

miles of streets within the city limits, but relies on Raleigh to clear storm damages.

City crews worked night and day and had most everything shoved off to the side of the streets in 48 to 72 hours. “It’s chain saws, trucks, backhoes, front-end loaders and excavators – pretty  
**See STORM DEBRIS, Page 6**

## Thermoelectric power may soon hit automotive sector

Up to 60 percent of each gallon of gasoline in a vehicle is wasted, lost as heat that pours out of the exhaust pipe. Technology to collect that heat and convert it back into electricity that can recharge the battery, power the lights, wipers, power steering, and even the electric motor in a hybrid vehicle is now a work in progress.

The solution lies in thermoelectric devices, and engineers at the A. James Clark School of Engineering, University of Maryland, are challenging previous

assumptions about the behavior of the nanoscale materials used to build them. Create better materials, they say, and cars will make much better use of that expensive fossil fuel.

But contrary to the common assumption in nanotechnology, “better” in this case may not always mean “smaller.” That realization may change the way engineers develop future thermoelectric devices.

A material whose response to a change in temperature generates electric potential,  
**See THERMOELECTRIC, Page 4**

## Innovation is redefining the humble dumpster



■ Focus Section Cover, Page B1

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WHAT'S INSIDE		
Scrap Metals MarketWatch.....	14	■ California Supreme Court upholds ban on plastic bags. Page A3
Salvaging Millions .....	16	■ Indiana prosecutor dismisses all OmniSource charges. Page A15
Business Briefs.....	18	■ Wind energy from First Wind's Mars Hill Project providing affordable power. Page A9
Events Calendar.....	18	■ Investors are enthusiastic about organic waste recycling. Page B3
New Product Showcase .....	19	■ Finished steel import permits up 15 percent. Page A11
AR Classifieds.....	20	■ Nuclear Metals Superfund site slated for remediation. Page B6
Focus Section.....	B1	
Equipment Spotlight.....	B4	
A Closer Look.....	B6	

# Equipment manufacturers aid in flood relief

High-performance equipment from aggregate, construction and recycling equipment manufacturers KPI-JCI and Astec Mobile Screens played an important role in recent flood relief efforts during an extensive sandbagging operation in Dakota Dunes, South Dakota.

The South Dakota National Guard used a Series 271 Screening Plant, which was engineered and manufactured at KPI-JCI in Yankton, South Dakota, to fill sandbags that were carried by a UH60 Blackhawk helicopter in an attempt to raise and reinforce levees along the Missouri River. The 271K Screening Plant is owned by Harold Goeden of First Rate Excavate, Inc., in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and was set up by Dean Stalheim, sales representative for General Equipment, a KPI-JCI and Astec Mobile Screens authorized dealer.

The 271K Screening Plant is a simple-to-use, highly reliable screening plant capable of processing sand and gravel, topsoil, slag, crushed stone and recycled materials.



Service members from South Dakota's National Guard use a Series 271 Screening Plant, which was engineered and manufactured at KPI-JCI in Yankton, South Dakota, to fill sandbags during recent flood relief efforts in Dakota Dunes.

Company president Joe Vig said it was rewarding to see KPI-JCI equipment used in such an important disaster relief measure. "The Series 271 Screening Plant was designed and manufactured

right here in Yankton," he said. "The plant can process up to 250 tons per hour of feed material, making it an optimal machine to use during this operation."

# 2011 Crane Innovation of the Year awarded by AIST

AIST presented the 2011 Crane Innovation of the Year Award to John U. Austin, mobile maintenance manager, Gerdau Petersburg, for his paper entitled, "Improvement in Operating Efficiencies Through Scrap Handling Devices."

Austin was hired by Chaparral Steel, now Gerdau Petersburg, in 1999 as a maintenance electrician, and in 2001 he was promoted to meltshop shift maintenance foreman. In 2005, he was given a project to improve reliability of meltshop cranes, and this opportunity evolved into

the creation of the Cranes maintenance group, when Austin assumed responsibility for all cranes in the facility. Then in 2010, Austin was promoted to mobile maintenance manager of all mobile equipment at the facility: cranes, trains, loaders, forklifts and automobiles.

# New organics program diverts green material

In its first quarter of operation, the sustainable organics program undertaken by Houweling's Nurseries and Agromin has diverted 2,156 tons of organic material from Houweling's greenhouse operations in Camarillo, California to Agromin's renewable organics center in Oxnard where it was recycled into compost, mulch and soil amendments.

From January 1 through March 31, 2011, Agromin processed leaves, vines, coco fiber and tomatoes from Houweling's, which produces hydroponically-grown, handpicked "tomatoes on the vine," beefsteak tomatoes, other specialty tomato varieties, as well as seedless cucumbers. Houweling's grows its tomatoes and cucumbers hydroponically in greenhouses on more than 124 acres.

The 2,156 tons of waste would have otherwise found its way into landfills. By processing the materials into soil amendments that are then used locally by farmers, landscapers and gardeners, 367 tons of methane were kept from entering the atmosphere.

The sustainable organics program is part of Houweling's efforts to become a zero waste company. In addition to repurposing its organic materials, the company uses solar energy and thermal heat collecting to provide sustainable energy and heat. Its water recirculation system recaptures, filters and re-circulates its water.

# Educational award granted to Miami-Dade County

The Miami-Dade County Department of Solid Waste Management (DSWM) recently won the 2011 Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo). The award was won by DSWM for its Ongoing Curbside Recycling Education Campaign.

The DSWM began to transition from its old dual-stream recycling program to the new, streamlined, single-stream program in June 2008. The transition was completed by the end of 2008. In the first fiscal year of the new recycling program, the DSWM collected nearly double the tonnage of recyclable materials as it had done the last fiscal year of the old program (31,778 tons in FY 2007-08 versus 59,616 in FY 2008-09). In FY 2009-10, Miami-Dade curbside recycling customers recycled 60,808 tons of glass, plastic, aluminum, steel and paper.

The DSWM's curbside recycling education program involves several components and is done in three languages – English, Spanish and Creole. Print and electronic advertisements, campaign literature, news articles, presentations, e-mail alerts, educational videos and the internet are all some of the tools used to educate and inform residents about the DSWM's single-stream recycling program.

The DSWM provides curbside recycling service to 348,000 single family households in the unincorporated areas of Miami-Dade County as well as all residences in 21 participating municipalities.

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# California Supreme Court upholds ban on plastic bags

The California Supreme Court ruled that the City of Manhattan Beach can enforce a local ordinance banning plastic bags in that city. The ruling ends a challenge funded by plastic bag manufacturers and paves the way for local governments to move immediately to adopt ordinances banning plastic bags.

The court's unanimous decision in the Save the Plastic Bag Coalition (STPBC) vs. City of Manhattan Beach denies the industry's claim that a city must undertake a costly Environmental Impact Report (EIR) prior to adopting ordinances with obvious environmental benefits.

With efforts to ban plastic bags statewide temporarily stalled, the court's decision will open the opportunity to local governments in California to take on plastic bags.

In the published opinion written by Justice Carol Corrigan, the court states, "Substantial evidence and common sense support the city's determination that its ordinance would have no significant environmental effect. Therefore, a negative declaration was sufficient to comply with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act."

The City of Manhattan Beach passed its ordinance in 2008 but has been delayed by litigation in trial and appellate courts.

This victory for plastic bag bans means that local governments no longer have to spend unnecessary time and money on EIRs to deal with plastic bag litter for fear of being sued on the grounds of inadequate environmental review.

Over the last several years, more than a dozen California cities and counties have adopted bans on plastic bags, including: San Francisco, San Jose, Santa Monica, as well as Los Angeles and Santa Clara Counties. Long Beach, Oakland, Palo Alto and Marin County have adopted ordinances which have been challenged by STPBC, a plastic industry front group.

Several local governments are in the process of moving forward or may move forward with their own plastic bag bans now that the Supreme Court has ruled in favor of Manhattan Beach, including:

- Alameda County
- Santa Cruz County
- San Luis Obispo County
- City of Monterey
- City of Sunnyvale
- City of San Rafael
- City of Novato
- City of San Anselmo
- City of Sausalito
- City of Mill Valley
- City of Tiburon

*There was a knock at the door. It was a young boy, about six years old. Something of his had found its way into my garage, he said, and he wanted it back. Upon opening the garage door, I noticed two things: a baseball and a broken window with a baseball-sized*

*hole. "How do you suppose this ball got in here?" I asked the boy. Taking one look at the ball, one look at the window and one look at me, the boy exclaimed, "Wow! I must have thrown it right through that hole!"*

# PepsiCo sponsors 2,500 bins in Chicago Parks

PepsiCo's Dream Machine recycling initiative is the official sponsor of 2,500 Free Green Cans that will be placed throughout the Chicago Park District, including 16 miles of downtown lakefront, effectively increasing public access to recycling bins in the Park District by 125 percent. Free Green Cans are dual purpose recycle/trash bins that provide residents and visitors with a convenient and rewarding way to recycle their plastic bottles and aluminum cans while on-the-go.

The more bottles and cans people recycle in a Dream Machine-sponsored Free Green Can in Chicago – and in Dream Machine bins and kiosks across the nation – the more support PepsiCo will provide to the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities (EBV), a national program offering free experiential training in entrepreneurship and small business management to post-9/11 veterans with disabilities.

According to Keep America Beautiful, only 12 percent of public spaces are equipped with recycling receptacles – indicating a clear need for greater public access to recycling bins. Through the



broader, national Dream Machine program PepsiCo aims to create strategic partnerships, such as the sponsorship of Free Green Cans in Chicago, to help increase the beverage container recycling rate to 50 percent by 2018.

# Recycling plant fire costs \$2 million

A fire at Republic Services' North Las Vegas recycling plant in June caused an estimated \$2 million in damages according to officials.

The smoke from the fire was visible across the entire Las Vegas valley.

Fire department spokesperson, Cedric Williams, said flames were

shooting approximately 50 feet into the air. When firefighters arrived, they found large bales of plastic had caught fire.

Employees were able to vacate the facility and no one was injured.

The fire was ruled accidental.

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# Empire State Building's retrofit program achieves 2010 ENERGY STAR certification

The energy efficiency work at the Empire State Building, the world's most famous office building, has achieved another milestone on its journey for sustainability leadership in the commercial real estate community by receiving its second ENERGY STAR certification from the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The certification signifies that the property's energy performance is part of a select group of commercial office buildings, new and old, across the nation that have received this accolade. ENERGY STAR recogni-

tion was a stated objective in the iconic property's overall sustainability retrofit initiative launched in April 2009.

At that time, ESB, alongside President Bill Clinton and New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, announced details of the groundbreaking \$20 million sustainability retrofit aimed at reducing energy consumption, operating costs and carbon emissions.

The replicable program will reduce energy usage by more than 38 percent and save the building over \$4.4 million annually.

Key initiatives include refurbishment of the building's existing 6,514 windows, added insulation behind radiators to reduce heat loss, and the introduction of tenant energy management systems to allow for efficient control of power usage.

In addition to Energy Star certification, the work at the Empire State Building would qualify under current standards for LEED-EB Gold certification from the United States Green Building Council.

## Thermoelectric

■Continued from Page 1

or vice versa, exhibits what is known as the thermoelectric effect. Thermoelectric devices can generate electricity when heated by an external source, or quickly cool or heat their environment when powered with electricity.

"The reason thermoelectric devices have so far been limited to niche markets is that their efficiency is still too low," explained graduate student Jane Cornett,

Department of Materials Science and Engineering. "The goal of our work is to design thermoelectric materials that convert energy from one form to another more efficiently so we can promote the widespread use of products that recycle waste heat and effectively reduce our consumption of fossil fuels."

For example, cars manufactured or retrofitted with a thermoelectric device placed around the exhaust pipe can use waste heat to generate electricity, improving their overall miles per gallon, especially with a power-draining system like air conditioning. If the device is too bulky and inefficient, however, it will consume more energy than it contributes.

To tackle the problem, Cornett and her advisor, Professor Oded Rabin, Department of Materials Science and Engineering and Institute for Research in Electronics and Applied Physics, had to challenge some popular theories.

"Previous models told us that the use of nanomaterials at small dimensions would lead to an improvement in power generation efficiency," said Cornett. "The models also predicted that the smaller the nanostructure, the more significant the improvement would be. In practice, people weren't seeing the gains they thought they should when they designed thermoelectric devices with nanoscale components, which indicated to us that there might be an issue with the interpretation of the original models."

Cornett and Rabin have presented a revised thermoelectric performance model that confirms that smaller is not always better.

Using advanced computer modeling to investigate the potential of thermoelectric nanowires only 100 to 1000 atoms thick (about 1,000 times smaller than a human hair), they demonstrate that in the set of the tiniest nanowires, measuring 17 nanometers or less in radius, decreasing their radii does result in the increased thermoelectric performance previous models predict. In nanowires above 17 nanometers in radius, however, an improvement is seen as the radius increases.


"The surprising behavior in the larger size range demonstrates that a different physical mechanism, which was overlooked in previous models, is dominant," said Cornett.

"People were looking for solutions in the wrong places," said Rabin. "We've created a better understanding of how to search for the best new materials."


Thermoelectric devices are currently used in a few consumer products, including refrigerators and CPU coolers in computers. They could eliminate the need for fluorocarbon refrigerants, giving rise to fluid and compressor-free cooling systems that pose fewer health and environmental hazards.

Cornett and Rabin's research is supported in part by the Minta Martin Foundation and the ARCS Foundation.

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# EPA takes action on Puerto Rico battery recycling facility

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reached an agreement with The Battery Recycling Company, Inc. in Arecibo, Puerto Rico requiring the company to prevent lead contamination from leaving the facility on the work clothes and vehicles of company employees and clean up an adjacent property. The Battery Recycling Company recycles used motor vehicle batteries and produces approximately 30 tons of lead per day. Among approximately 150 children tested who may have been exposed to lead from the Battery Recycling facility, 20 percent have lead in their blood above levels considered a problem among health professionals.

The agreement is the latest in a series of actions EPA has taken since becoming aware of extensive lead contamination in the cars and homes of workers at the Battery Recycling Company. EPA is working closely with the United States National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, the United States Centers for Disease Control, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, the Puerto Rico Department of Health, the Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board (EQB), and the Puerto Rico Occupational Safety and Health Administration to address health and environmental concerns related to lead contamination from the facility. Operations at Battery Recycling

are being investigated under multiple environmental laws.

The EPA agreement requires multiple preventative and cleanup actions by the company to prevent lead from being transported to employees' vehicles and homes from the facility. EPA has hired an expert to review facility operations and provide recommendations to the company on methods to keep lead from leaving the property. In the short term, workers will have access to a clean area for changing clothes and lockers to prevent them from bringing lead into their homes and cars. The company will install a temporary decontamination station for vehicles entering and leaving facility processing areas. Battery Recycling will also clean lead-contaminated vehicles and homes of current and former employees and EPA will take samples after the cleaning to ensure that the lead has been removed. Rental cars will be provided and employees and their families will be temporarily relocated while the cleaning takes place.

In addition, Battery Recycling will excavate and remove lead-contaminated soil from a cattle pasture adjacent to the facility, backfill or restore the land, and dispose of any contaminated materials at a licensed disposal facility. The agreement also requires the company to reimburse EPA for the costs of overseeing the cleanup work.

*For our daughter's 6th birthday, we bought her a fish. We couldn't help laughing when she announced, "The fish's name is Sparingly." "How did you decide that?" "Look," she responded, "It says: Feed Sparingly 3 Times Daily."*

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# Storm debris

■Continued from Page 1

much anything you can use to push, pull or cut what we have out there," said McGee.

By the end of the second day, 99 percent of the streets were cleared. By the third day most everything was passable, although a few streets took several days to open because of power line issues.

"After the first 72 hours we call in our pre-positioned contractor, Phillips & Jordan, a debris management company based in western North Carolina. We put out an RFP two years ago, got bids and structured a contract based on that. Basically, the contract says that if we have an event, the contractor guarantees they will be here within 24 hours of us giving him a phone call. They have to roll in with a certain number of forces and start removing debris at a certain rate over a certain number of days."

Contract crews work 12 hour days, 6 days per week removing the cut and shove material because it is not safe to cut and load at night. "For the first 70 hours FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) will pay us 100 percent for the cut and shove operation and we work around the clock. After that the only way we get a 100 percent recoup of our funds is if we do it by contract. During the first 70 hours if my guys go out and do the pickup, FEMA won't reimburse me 100 percent, whereas if Phillips & Jordan picks up the material we get 100 percent reimbursement from FEMA," McGee explained.

Raleigh uses a temporary, permitted dumpsite to receive vegetative debris. There the debris is ground up and shipped out to be further processed into bagged

mulch, or sent to local co-generation plants to make electricity.

The most destructive tornado of the year struck Joplin on May 22. The EF-5 rated tornado with wind speeds exceeding 200 mph tore through the city of 50,000 to become among the deadliest in the nation's history.

Recently, two more names were added to the list bringing the death toll to 153. About one-third of the city was either severely damaged or completely destroyed. News estimates say that at least 75 percent of the city has been damaged to some extent.

David Bryan, spokesman for United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 described the aftermath from the Joplin mobile command center, "With the volume of materials that we are going to have to deal with from this particular event, there's been quite a bit of interest. We are talking about a tornado path of 8 to 10 miles of almost a half mile across of just absolute destruction."

EPA Region 7 personnel, including project coordinators, technical experts and other support personnel are on site and involved in several disaster response efforts in the Joplin area being coordinated by FEMA.

EPA and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) recently began tornado debris collections. All construction and demolition debris (C&D) and vegetative material being removed by USACE contractors is being kept separate from household hazardous waste, white goods and electronic equipment, which are being handled by the EPA.

Due to Joplin's proximity to southeast Kansas landfills, they are the preferred sites over ones in Missouri to handle the vegetative and C&D debris. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment

(KDHE) estimates that landfills in Cherokee and Crawford counties will receive between two to three million cubic yards of C&D waste from Joplin. KDHE is working with the Army Corps and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to ensure proper disposal of C&D waste, which includes wood, insulation, electrical wiring, rebar, concrete and bricks. Vegetative waste is being managed at a site in Missouri where chipping is being used and material recycled.



A local propane company handled the reuse of the large number of propane tanks, such as those used for barbecue grills, that the EPA recovered.

USACE intends to haul several hundreds of loads of debris per day to Kansas landfills with expectations of completing most debris removal and disposal by mid-August. To ensure safe disposal of C&D waste, KDHE's Bureau of Waste Management is monitoring landfill operations. Landfills receiving C&D waste are following enhanced waste screening procedures to ensure that unauthorized waste is not disposed.

"The collaboration by state agencies, local government officials, the Army Corps and landfill owners has yielded creative solutions to help maximize the use of Kansas resources in helping the cleanup efforts in Joplin," said Bill Bider, KDHE's director of waste.

Bryan reported on the EPA cleanup effort, "We are not doing construction debris or vegetative matter, that's the Army Corps. One of the normal disaster responses for EPA is handling household hazardous wastes, white goods and electronics."

"When we have fertilizers, pesticides and things like that, we turn those over to a company that handles those types of hazardous materials for dis-

posal. These are regulated materials so there are certain ways they have to be handled. We use certified contractors who take those materials. For any types of oils, gasoline and inflammable liquids we actually supply to bulk handlers who sell that as waste oil or other properties that can be used for their BTU effect. There are probably a half dozen more ways that that we are tracking hazardous waste trying to make sure that things are either recycled, remanufactured or reused."

"With most of the appliances we get, we work with a company that handles these goods. When we come into a situation like Joplin we find a company that does remanufacturing and will take this on. EPA contractors remove oils, refrigerants and the like and we do what we can to make sure they are reused. Remanufacturers will also take damaged refrigerators, washers, dryers, stoves and take them completely apart for the copper and other metals."

"For the electronic goods we make sure they are recycled with the rules associated for computers and TVs and things like that. We want to make sure that we have a certified contractor that is either going to remanufacture, or dispose in the proper way." MRC Recycling, a Missouri state certified recycling contractor picked up the first two truckloads of electronic goods on June 13 for delivery to their processing plant in Park Hills, Missouri.

"In most cases it's a benefit because contractors will take materials off our hands, sometimes for freight charges; sometimes they come and get it. So there's a trade-off. They get the materials and we get proper disposal. It's a give and take system involving different aspects of what we recover and what we recycle. We want to make sure that everything we get has been properly reused, recycled or remanufactured. We've had good cooperation from our contractors," Bryan concluded.

These are the type of recycling jobs that no one expected nor wanted, but government agencies, volunteer groups and private recyclers are working hard to clean up these cities in an environmentally responsible way.

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## ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

### TVA expands renewables with solar and landfill gas

A solar power facility in Tennessee and a landfill gas-to-energy site in Mississippi have joined the Tennessee Valley Authority's (TVA) growing initiative for mid-size renewable energy generators supplying green power to TVA.

Sharp Manufacturing Co. of America's solar site in Memphis and Waste Management Renewable Energy's landfill gas facility in Houston, Mississippi are TVA's latest Renewable Standard Offer projects.

Started last fall, TVA's Renewable Standard Offer pays renewable energy generators based on the time of day the power is produced and the demand on the TVA system. The initiative is open to generators with a capacity of up to 20 megawatts using biomass, methane recovery, wind or solar energy sources. No single technology can exceed more than 50 percent of the program's total capacity of 100 megawatts.

The Renewable Standard Offer complements TVA's Generation Partners program, which purchases power from smaller generators with a capacity of up to 200 kilowatts at varied rates.

The Sharp solar project in Memphis, with a capacity of 201 kilowatts, or 0.2 megawatts, began producing electricity in June. The power will connect to the TVA system through Memphis Light Gas and Water. Sharp also is a TVA Generation Partner and operates other solar generation facilities at its Memphis plant site.

Waste Management's landfill gas facility will provide 1.6 megawatts of capacity from methane produced at the company's Prairie Bluff Renewable Energy Facility. Generation at the site is scheduled to begin in March 2012. The power distributor is Natchez Trace Electric Power Association.

The Houston, Mississippi, project is Waste Management's second Renewable Standard Offer site and the third overall in the TVA program. The company's 4.8 megawatt-capacity landfill gas facility in Camden, Tennessee, became TVA's first program participant in January. It is scheduled to begin delivering power in September through Benton County Electric System in Camden.

### Waste Management opens first public CNG fueling station in New Jersey

Waste Management of New Jersey celebrated the grand opening of the first public-access compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling station in Camden and announced plans to convert its regional fleet to this clean-burning, environmentally-friendly fuel.

The new "Clean N' Green Fuel" public fueling station, to be operated by PetroCard, is the first such facility in Camden County and will sell CNG to commercial fleets as well as individuals with CNG-equipped vehicles, at prices typically one-third below the cost of gasoline and diesel. In addition to cost savings, the Department of Energy estimates that the use of CNG reduces particulate matter emissions by 86 percent, carbon monoxide emissions by 80 percent, nitrogen oxide emissions by up to 32 percent, and greenhouse emissions by 25 percent. As an additional benefit, CNG trucks run 50 percent quieter than diesel trucks.

Waste Management of New Jersey recently acquired 14 CNG collection trucks and expects to have 45 CNG vehicles in service by the end of the summer, representing nearly half its Camden-based fleet and covering routes in Camden, Burlington and Gloucester Counties.

Deploying these vehicles will help Waste Management achieve its sustainability goal of reducing fleet emissions by 15 percent and increasing fuel efficiency by 15 percent by 2020. Waste Management currently operates the largest fleet of CNG recycling and waste collection trucks in North America.

CNG is sold in gasoline gallon equivalents (GGEs), with each GGE having the same energy content as a gallon of gasoline. Vehicles using CNG typically have similar or better fuel economy ratings than standard gasoline or diesel vehicles. Current pricing at the Camden "Clean N' Green Fuel" station is in the range of \$1.759/GGE. The self-service station will be open 24/7 and will accept major credit cards as well as PetroCard fleet cards.

Diesel and gasoline have jumped 40 percent in price over the past year despite flat demand. In comparison, CNG is a domestically sourced fuel with stable supplies and more predictable long-term pricing.

The Camden CNG fueling facility was built by Clean Energy. Construction was funded by Waste Management and PetroCard with financial assistance from the New Jersey Clean Cities Coalition.

### Bids sought for largest solar installation

Already the nation's largest municipally owned user of wind energy, San Antonio's CPS Energy signaled its intent to build what would be the largest solar installation in the United States, notifying bidders that an originally proposed

50 megawatt project has been expanded to potentially 400 megawatts.

The project would be 4 times larger than what is currently the largest solar installation in the world, a 97 megawatt project in Ontario, Canada.

*Used to being the center of attention, Robbie was a little more than jealous of his new baby sister. The parents sat him down and said now that she was getting older, the house was too small and they'd have to move. "It's no use," Robbie said, "She's crawling good now and she'd probably just follow us."*



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## ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

# Wind energy from First Wind's Mars Hill Project providing affordable power

First Wind announced a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with New Brunswick Power to sell all of the energy from First Wind's Mars Hill wind farm site. The four year deal replaces the PPA set to expire in December of this year. Mars Hill's energy output will stay local and be distributed to homes and businesses in Northern Maine by New Brunswick Power, which won the opportunity earlier this year to provide standard offer service to all customer classes in Northern Maine. At the time, the Maine Public Utilities Commission called the 10-21 percent price decreases under NB Power's standard offer supply a "sharp reduction" in electricity prices.

"Ratepayers and businesses in Maine will be the direct beneficiaries of this deal. Northern Maine consumers have seen their

electric bills go down, and locally-produced wind power is one of the energy sources being used," said Michael Alvarez, president and CFO of First Wind.

Mars Hill Wind, which features 28 turbines with the capacity to generate up to 1.5 Megawatts (MW) each, was the first utility-scale wind energy project in New England. The 42 MW project was commissioned on March 27, 2007. The prior PPA entailed the power being sold to New Brunswick Power, and then to ISO-New England, where it was distributed to New England homes and businesses.

The new arrangement will distribute the power directly to local ratepayers in Northern Maine. The transmission fees that First Wind has been paying – \$1 million per year since 2007 – will continue to be paid under this new arrangement.

# Partnership formed to turn recycled plastics to oil

Greenstar Recycling, Houston, Texas, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding to form a joint venture with Vadxx Energy, LLC, Cleveland, Ohio, to convert recovered plastic into synthetic crude oil. Through this joint venture, Greenstar and Vadxx will work to provide a domestic fuel while repurposing recovered plastic.

"Vadxx will help us recover plastics from the material stream and repurpose them as feedstock for the production of oil," said Matt Delnick, Greenstar chief executive officer. "This joint venture will increase recovery rates by pulling more plastics out of landfills."

Using proprietary processes, Vadxx manufactures synthetic crude oil and natural gas by using raw material feedstock consisting of petroleum-based plastics in a process called thermal depolymerization. Greenstar chose Vadxx as its partner in plastics to energy because of Vadxx's potential to scale to commercial size and capacity based on Vadxx's continuous feed process, flexible design and expandable system.

Greenstar and Vadxx expect that the joint venture will begin producing crude oil in mid-2012 with the target location for the project in Ohio.

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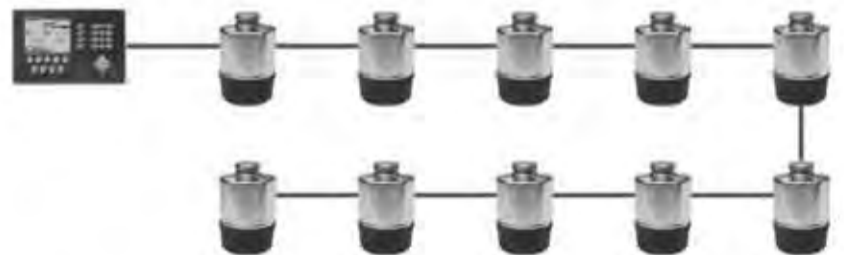
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## PAPER

# AF&PA May 2011 United States paper reports

The American Forest & Paper Association released its May 2011 United States paper reports. Containerboard production rose when compared to April 2011, with month over month average daily production up 0.3 percent. The containerboard operating rate for May 2011 was down 1.5 points over May 2010 to 93.8 percent.

Additional key findings from the report include:

- Linerboard production decreases over last year.
- Medium production rose slightly over May 2010.

The paperboard report indicated that total boxboard production decreased

by 1.5 percent compared to May 2010, but increased 1.0 percent from last month.

Additional key findings in the paperboard report:

- Unbleached Kraft Folding production increased over the same month last year, and increased over last month.
- Solid Bleached Boxboard and Liner production decreased over May 2010.
- The production of Recycled Folding decreased compared to May 2010, but increased when compared to last month.
- Inventory of Solid Bleached Kraft Paperboard fell in May.

## RockTenn closes three plants

RockTenn will close three former Smurfit-Stone corrugated container plants in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2011. The plants are located in Birmingham, Alabama, Jonesboro, Arkansas and Santa

Fe Springs, California. Existing business will be transitioned to nearby RockTenn facilities.

"This action is a necessary first step in realigning the box plant system of RockTenn following the acquisition of Smurfit-Stone. We plan to take many actions in the next year to maximize the efficiency of our manufacturing processes as well as to reduce costs and eliminate redundancies throughout our operations as we move forward to achieve the operating synergy that we anticipate from the Smurfit-Stone acquisition," stated Jim Rubright, chairman and chief executive officer.

## RUBBER

# Tire International to build South Carolina tire recycling facility

South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley, the South Carolina Department of Commerce, Berkeley County and the Charleston Regional Development Alliance said that Tire International, a tire recycler and maker of rubber products, is establishing a new recycling and manufacturing facility in Berkeley County. The \$25 million investment is expected to generate 150 new jobs.

Tire International has established a third-generation recycling and manufacturing operation in Moncks Corner. The company is currently in the process of upgrading its facility there to prepare for full operations. The company previously based its tire recycling and rubber manufacturing work in China, but now is bringing all of those operations to Berkeley County.

Gov. Nikki Haley said, "Tire International's \$25 million job-creating investment in the Lowcountry – that is expected to generate as many as 1,000 jobs – is something we're going to celebrate."

At the plant, Tire International will recycle tires by breaking them down into raw materials and will produce finished consumer products including environmentally responsible and high quality commercial and residential flooring, artificial fields, playgrounds, landscaping materials and rubberized asphalt.

Tire International will be ramping up during the summer and fall and expects to have the plant fully operational by the end of the year. The company plans to begin hiring for the new positions at the end of September and will work with readySC during the hiring process.

## Nebraska awards over \$1 million for tire collection and clean up

Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) director Mike Linder said that the state is awarding \$1.15 million to support 63 tire recycling and clean up projects across the state.

"Nebraskans pay a \$1 fee for every new tire they purchase," said Linder. "These grants put that money into use locally to help manage scrap tires."

Nebraskans generate over one and a half million scrap tires each year, about

one tire for every person in the state. The grants awarded will reimburse individuals and organizations for crumb rubber and equipment purchases, and will help prevent public health and environmental problems by eliminating tire piles, Linder said.

The grants are part of the Waste Reduction and Recycling Grants program, which is administered by NDEQ. The grants support both the collection of scrap tires and the purchase of new tire-derived products. 2011 grant recipients include:

- Sidney High School – \$28,968 to pay 25 percent of the cost of an athletic running track surface.
- Lincoln Pius X High School – \$74,123 to pay 25 percent of the cost of an artificial turf football field.

For a complete list of recipients, view this article on [www.AmericanRecycler.com](http://www.AmericanRecycler.com).

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**METALS**

**Finished steel import permits up 15 percent**

Based on the Commerce Department's most recent Steel Import Monitoring and Analysis (SIMA) data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that steel import permit applications for the month of June totaled 2,734,000 net tons (NT).

This was a 3 percent decrease from the 2,807,000 permit tons recorded in May and a 2 percent increase from the May preliminary imports total of 2,692,000 NT. Import permit tonnage for finished steel in June was 2,109,000 NT, up 15 percent from the preliminary imports total of 1,838,000 NT in May. The estimated finished steel import market share in June was 23 percent, and the year-to-date share increased to 22 percent.

In June, the largest finished steel import permit applications for offshore countries were for Korea (318,000 NT, up 49 percent from May), China (154,000 NT, up 29 percent), Japan (141,000 NT, up 8 percent), Russia (100,000 NT, up 102 percent) and Turkey (94,000 NT, up 36 percent).

Finished steel import permits for major products that registered increases in June versus the May preliminary include sheet and strip – all other metallic coated (up 90 percent), reinforcing bar (up 64 percent), cut length plates (up 40 percent), line pipe (up 24 percent), cold rolled sheets (up 22 percent), oil country goods (up 17 percent) and plates in coils (up 17 percent).

In commenting on the June 2011 SIMA data, Thomas J. Gibson, AISI president and CEO, stated that, "Finished steel imports were at their highest level in 2011, as China increased its market presence and became the second largest offshore supplier behind Korea."

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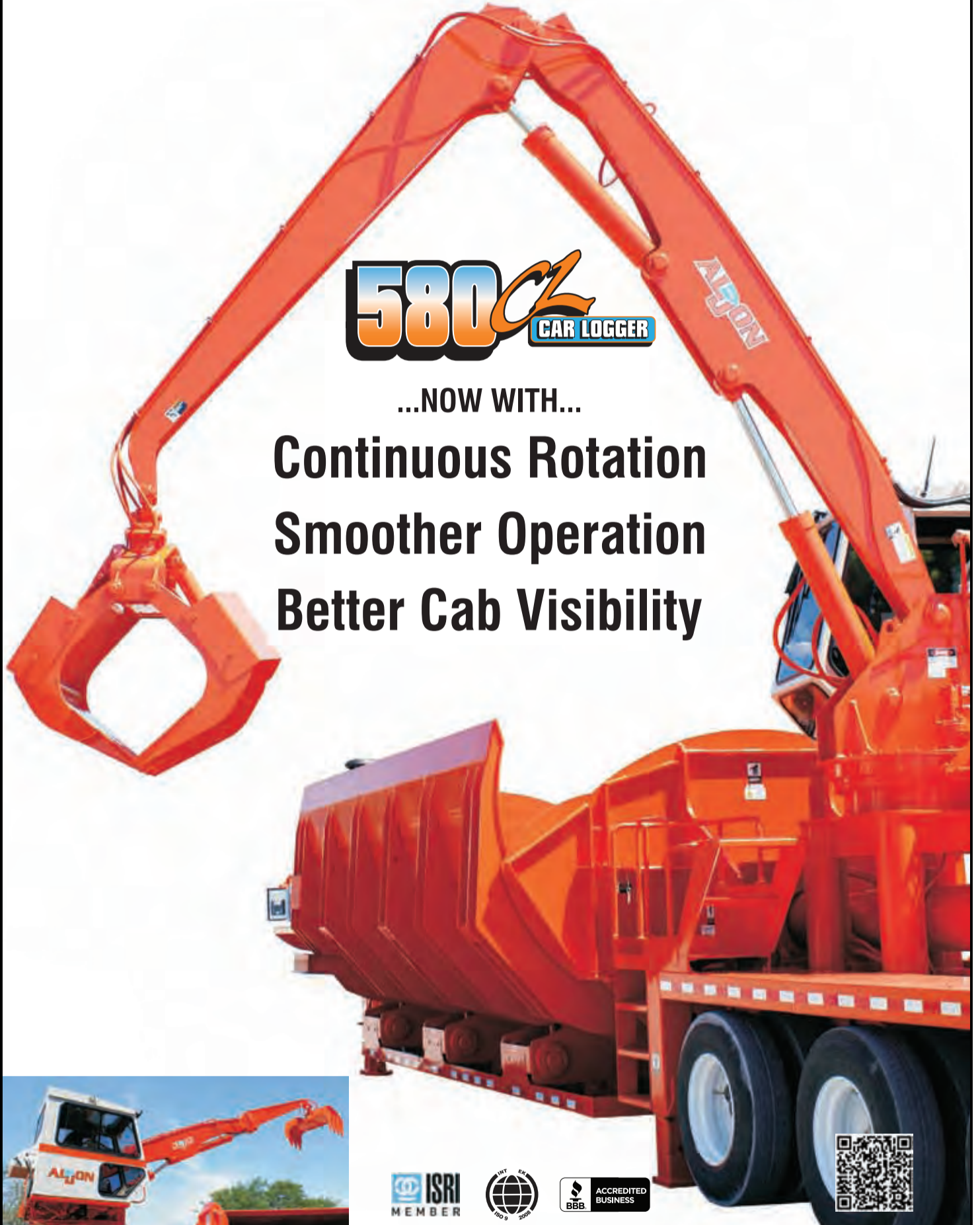


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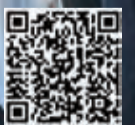
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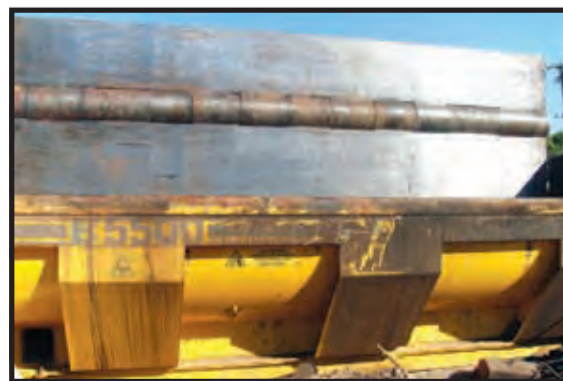
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**METALS**

**Aluminum can recycling rate reaches highest level in more than a decade**

The United States recycling rate for aluminum beverage cans has reached its highest level in a decade, with 58.1 percent of all cans recycled last year – a rate that is nearly double that of any other beverage container, according to the Aluminum Association, Can Manufacturers Institute (CMI) and Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI).

Nearly 56 billion aluminum cans were recycled in 2010, leading to a used beverage container (UBC) recycling rate of 58.1 percent — the highest in 11 years. Because it takes 95 percent less energy to produce a can from recycled material, the high recycling rate also resulted in significant energy savings. The amount of energy saved just from recycling cans in 2010 is equal to the energy equivalent of 17 million barrels of crude oil, or nearly two days of all United States oil imports.

“There’s a huge difference between what’s recyclable and what’s actually recycled,” said CMI president Robert Budway. “Not only are cans infinitely recyclable back into new cans, they actu-

ally are being recycled at a rate nearly twice that of every other beverage package. This, coupled with the fact that aluminum cans have the highest recycled content and provide the longest shelf life of any beverage package, underscores why the can truly is the sustainable solution for twenty-first century packaging.”

“As the first link in the manufacturing supply chain, the scrap recycling industry provides vital feedstock material sought after by industrial customers around the world, including more than 4.6 million metric tons of aluminum scrap processed in the United States and shipped throughout the United States and more than 50 countries in 2010,” said Robin Wiener, president of the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries.

In 2008, the Aluminum Association adopted a goal of recycling 75 percent of aluminum cans by 2015. The recycling rate at that time was 54.2 percent, and it has been gradually climbing upward since then; the 2009 UBC recycling rate was 57.4 percent.

**April 2011 steel shipments down 9.3 percent from March 2011**

The American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that for the month of April 2011, United States steel mills shipped 7,258,534 net tons, a 9.3 percent decrease from the 8,006,016 net tons shipped in the previous month, March 2011, and a 2.8 percent increase from the 7,057,660 net tons shipped in April 2010.

Shipments year-to-date in 2011 are 29,760,685 a 7.8 percent increase vs. 2010 shipments of 27,575,482 for four months.

A month-to-month comparison of shipments shows the following changes: hot dipped galvanized sheet and strip, down 6 percent, hot rolled sheet, down 11 percent, and cold rolled sheet, down 15 percent.

**AR Scrap Metals MarketWatch**



Commodity		Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5
#1 Bushelings	per gross ton	\$367.00	\$364.00	\$382.00	\$442.00	\$498.00
#1 Bundles	per gross ton	357.00	362.00	379.00	437.00	463.00
Plate and Structural	per gross ton	418.00	392.00	411.00	418.00	428.00
#1 & 2 Mixed Steel	per gross ton	413.00	369.00	380.00	397.00	404.00
Shredder Bundles (tin)	per gross ton	348.00	300.00	315.00	323.00	325.00
Crushed Auto Bodies	per gross ton	348.00	300.00	315.00	323.00	340.00
Steel Turnings	per pound	125.00	199.00	259.00	290.00	315.00
#1 Copper	per pound	3.59	3.62	3.95	4.02	3.95
#2 Copper	per pound	3.49	3.50	3.70	3.86	3.81
Aluminum Cans	per pound	.93	.80	.80	.86	.90
Auto Radiators	per pound	2.10	2.30	2.29	2.35	2.24
Aluminum Core Radiators	per pound	.62	.63	.66	.80	.79
Heater Cores	per pound	1.28	1.85	1.88	1.98	1.97
Stainless Steel	per pound	.74	.79	.85	.99	.82

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

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

## METALS

# Indiana prosecutor dismisses all OmniSource charges

The Marion County Prosecutor's Office (MCPO) has dismissed all criminal charges and resolution of civil lawsuits pending against OmniSource Corporation.

Marion County Prosecutor Terry Curry said, "The judge in the pending criminal case has ruled that OmniSource was improperly charged as a corrupt business enterprise under Indiana's law. Having now carefully reviewed the case, which was initiated by Grand Jury indictment under my predecessor, I can say that the evidence does not support those allegations. There is simply insufficient evidence that OmniSource or its employees knowingly engaged in any unlawful transactions. This office, therefore, will dismiss all pending litigation, and all money seized from OmniSource by criminal

investigators will be returned to OmniSource; subject to the terms of the agreement below."

OmniSource and the MCPO will, instead, work cooperatively together, building upon OmniSource's training and internal anti-theft programs and procedures, to see mutually beneficial ways to enhance the detection, identification and prosecution of metal thieves in Marion County, Indiana, and to develop a more effective means, through enhanced law enforcement, local scrap dealer training and advocating for various legislative and local ordinance initiatives, to deprive metal thieves in our county of a market for their ill-gotten goods. This might include such things as state law or local ordinance strengthening regarding possible bans on

purchasing certain items, such as automobile catalytic converters, clearer definitions of what constitutes a "vehicle" requiring the presentation of a title, and requiring that transactions above a certain dollar amount be paid for other than in cash.

"I also want to make clear," continued Curry, "that there is no evidence that any of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department officers who worked part-time for OmniSource at its retail facilities as part of its anti-theft program were involved in any kind of criminal activity. During their service, dozens of arrests were made and police reports filed. There is no evidence that officers either condoned or facilitated the sale of stolen goods." Subject to current guidelines and

the approval of the Department of Public Safety, OmniSource will resume their part-time off-duty scrap theft interdiction positions with OmniSource.

OmniSource and the MCPO will also jointly train scrap company employees throughout Marion County, as well as law enforcement officers and property crime prosecutors in how to spot potentially problematic materials offered for sale, how to properly question the would-be sellers as to the circumstances surrounding their possession of such goods, how to make responsible purchase determinations, and how to properly preserve potential evidence, including a record of who the seller was, should it turn out that purchased materials were in fact stolen.

## Olympic Steel acquires Chicago Tube and Iron

Olympic Steel, Inc. completed the acquisition of all of the outstanding shares of Chicago Tube and Iron Company (CTI).

The acquisition purchase price was \$150 million in cash, plus the assumption of approximately \$6 million of indebtedness. The purchase price is subject to a cash and working capital adjustment.

Concurrent with the acquisition, Olympic Steel entered into a new 5-year, \$335 million amended and restated loan agreement dated July 1, 2011, with Bank of America as agent.

## Nucor's steel challenge grand prize winner chosen

Nucor Corporation recently concluded its Strength of Steel Challenge with an awards ceremony in Charlotte.

The Nucor Strength of Steel Challenge launched on February 22, 2011, during National Engineers Week. The Challenge is an effort to encourage middle and high school students to consider STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) disciplines as a course of study and career choice.

Currently, students in the United States perform below students from other industrialized countries on international tests of math and science. This presents serious challenges to future economic growth and employment since jobs requir-

ing STEM degrees are projected to increase four times as fast as overall job growth. Nucor recognizes the need for STEM curriculum and associated skills in order to build the talent required to rebuild America's manufacturing base.

The competition invited middle and high school students ages 12 through 18 from Alabama, Arkansas, Indiana, Nebraska, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, and Utah to participate. Entrants worked in teams of two to four to create a structure out of recycled steel that could be used to support another object or objects in the home, school or vehicle.

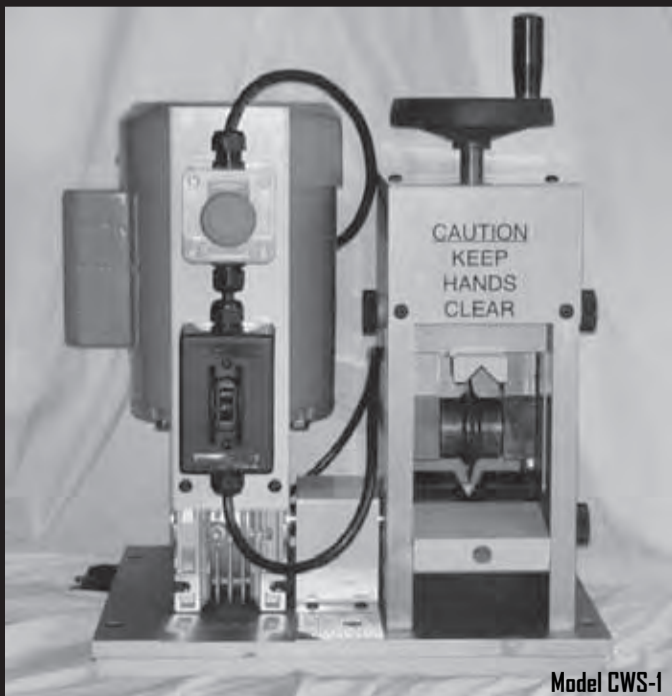
Eight semi-finalist teams were flown to Nucor's headquarters in Charlotte,

North Carolina, where they presented their inventions to Nucor executives in June. The winning team – Jared Knobbe and Steven Fish from Imperial, Nebraska – received the \$3,000 Nucor Future Engineers Champion Award. Their teacher, Kim Wilson from Chase County School, was awarded \$250.

Nucor worked with By Kids For Kids Co., a leader in youth innovation programs, to develop educational in-school activities for science teachers to inspire their students to learn about steel and its importance in our lives. To learn more about the semi-finalist teams, their inventions and the program, visit [www.strengthofsteelchallenge.com](http://www.strengthofsteelchallenge.com).

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# SALVAGING Millions

by Ron Sturgeon  
Autosalvageconsultant.com

## Business Plan Basics

This is the third in a continuing series, co-authored by Ron Sturgeon and Greg Morse, founder and president of Worthington National Bank.

Give your banker what they want.

**Ron:** I always tell entrepreneurs that they have to be prepared to lift the kimono a bit. This means letting the banker look in. They need to be prepared to explain to [the banker] what's under there.

**Greg:** Entrepreneurs get concerned about doing that, but banks have rules that prohibit them from telling others what they have seen under your kimono. Bankers can be fired very easily for having loose lips.

**Ron:** The banker doesn't want to hear SWAGs or WAGs. A SWAG is a Scientific Wild-Ass Guess and a WAG is a Wild-Ass Guess.

The banker doesn't want to hear that someone needs a loan because the economy is bad or they're getting a divorce or the weather's been bad. The banker needs to hear legitimate reasons why business is down or off – along with solutions.

In a declining market, the businessperson has to figure out how to work harder or smarter to keep the business going. Most business owners keep doing what they've been doing, so they keep getting what they've been getting or worse.

**Greg:** That's a good point. Do not go into a bank whining about the economy. A banker should know if the economy is bad; but when a customer comes in and is all gloom and doom, the banker doesn't want to hear it. If there's a problem, I want to know about it, but don't come in just to tell me how bad the economy is.

I also want to know that customers are beating the street. I want them to have an air of confidence about their plans. That's going to go a long way. And don't confuse confidence with arrogance.

**Ron:** You want them to come in with solutions, not problems! My old boss at Ford Motor Co., Dixon Thayer, liked to say he was positively dissatisfied with results. He was all about positive energy, but knew we could do more.

**Greg:** Exactly. Show me the baby, not the labor pains. That's what I want to see.

**Ron:** The banker also likes to see business owners who surround them-

selves with people who are smarter or better than the business owner is. The smart people on your team are there to do things that you can't, won't or shouldn't be doing. If you aren't good at financials, get help from someone that is. It's important to show that there are good people on your team. I cannot emphasize the importance of this enough!

For example, there was a time when I realized (after much hand wringing, as I was so frugal) I should quit paying a bookkeeper and spend the extra money to hire a controller. I went from paying a bookkeeper \$40,000 a year to paying a controller \$75,000 a year, but our company made the entire \$35,000 back in less than 60 days because he isolated and identified expenses we could cut.

Every good business plan should include:

- Name of business
- Executive summary
- Location
- Ownership information/brief history of the business/target markets
- Information on the product/services
- Competition/environment
- Goals/strategies
- Financial summary for three years and the latest quarter
- Budgets or pro formas
- Metrics highlights
- Information on the owners and operators, including their track records

What's a pro forma financial statement?

It's a hypothetical or projected, or recast financial statement based on forecasted or estimated numbers. Forecasting can be so hard.

Ron says that if you figure in twice as much time and twice as much money as you think you will need, you might be safe. But entrepreneurs seem to always "breathe their own exhaust," and they become infatuated with their own ideas.

That's why it's so important to have someone else that is capable and objective to review your plans. You need someone who is willing to tell you how it is (and not what you want to hear).

**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.*

# INTERNATIONAL

## UK can expect tremendous growth opportunities for waste recycling companies

With gradual decommissioning of landfills, and strict incineration legislation, the recycling industry is expected to grow steadily as the EU shifts towards being a recycling society. The percentage of municipal wastes being recycled needs to increase sharply to overcome the burden of excessive waste generation. In addition, there is a growing need for innovative and cost effective treatment of waste in newly joined EU member states. According to Frost & Sullivan, all these factors ensure that legislative momentum provides immense opportunities for the major recycling and waste treatment firms of Europe.

An environmentally conscious Europe is moving away from conventional municipal solid waste management strategies like landfill dumping and is committed to developing new greener strategies.

The link established between municipal waste and greenhouse gases has made recycling a priority across the EU.

In the UK, the waste management market is currently relatively small. A combination of low prices due to competitive pricing and low volumes of MSW being recycled in the UK account for the relatively low market size of \$0.71 billion in 2009.

Frost & Sullivan Research Manager Suchitra Padmanabhan confirmed, "The waste recycling market in the UK is geared towards making a shift to an effective recycling society in the EU. Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) are making an important contribution to meeting the challenging EU recycling and landfill diversion targets."

## Green EnviroTech Holdings Corp. expands Hong Kong facility

Green EnviroTech Holdings Corp., a waste plastics recovery and recycling company, announced that CEO and chairman Gary De Laurentiis has travelled to Hong Kong to work on integrating the recently acquired Magic Bright Ltd. into the company. Magic Bright Ltd. is a Hong Kong-based plastics recycling and trading company with long term distribution contracts in mainland China.

Meetings held in Hong Kong focused on expansion plans to increase revenue from its newly acquired subsidiary.

The transaction in which Green Envirotech Holdings Corp. acquired Magic Bright Ltd. was valued at \$6 million and was financed with cash and stock. As well as a steady revenue stream, the acquisition gives Green EnviroTech immediate access to a large and expanding market.

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# ELECTRONICS

## E-Waste export bill to stop global e-waste dumping

United States Representatives Gene Green (D-TX) and Mike Thompson (D-CA) introduced new legislation – the Responsible Electronics Recycling Act - to stop sham United States recyclers from dumping electronic waste on developing countries and to promote recycling jobs at home. The bill is supported by environmental groups as well as electronic manufacturers, all of which already have policies that prohibit the export of e-waste to developing nations. The bill also has bipartisan support, including sponsors Reps. Steven LaTourette (R-OH) and Lee Terry (R-NE).

The bill addresses the toxic exposures caused by e-waste dumping and primitive recycling operations in countries like China, India, Nigeria and Ghana, which have been the subject of recent media exposés, and a scathing report by the United States Governmental Accountability Office (GAO).

Twenty five states have passed e-waste recycling legislation, but these laws do not ban e-waste exports, which is an international trade issue, and not the constitutional jurisdiction of the states. Only Congress has the authority to legislate this much needed restriction.

Currently, electronic waste is exported to developing countries by many companies that claim to be recyclers, to be bashed, burned, flushed with acids, and melted down in unsafe conditions in developing countries. Eighty percent of children in Guiyu, China, a region where many

“recycled” electronics wind up, have elevated levels of lead in their blood, due to the toxins in those electronics, much of which originates in the United States. The plastics in the imported electronics are typically burned outdoors, which can emit deadly dioxin or furans, which are breathed in by workers and nearby residents.

The bill establishes a new category of “restricted electronic waste” which cannot be exported from the United States to developing nations. Used equipment can still be exported for reuse as long as it’s been tested and is fully functional. Non-hazardous parts or materials are also not restricted. Other exemptions from the restrictions are:

- Products under warranty being returned to the manufacturer for warranty repairs;
- Products or parts being recalled; and
- Crushed cathode ray tube (CRT) glass cullet that is cleaned and fully prepared as feedstock into CRT glass manufacturing facilities.

Similar legislation was introduced in the House in September of 2010, but it was too late in the Congressional session for the bill to advance. This time, the bill has added a provision for research into recycling and recovery of Rare Earth Metals from electronics. Export of electronics scrap to crude recycling operations in developing countries also prevents proper collection and recycling of precious and strategic metals.

## Vermont adopts lamp producer responsibility law

Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin signed into law a bill requiring manufacturers of mercury-containing lamps to establish and finance a recycling program for spent bulbs from residents and small businesses. Vermont became the third state in the country to establish such an extended producer responsibility (EPR) program.

The Governor said the new law is an important environmental measure, key in helping protect Vermont’s waterways and natural environment from the problems associated with mercury pollution. Under the new law, recycling costs will be paid by the manufacturer, consistent with other product stewardship legislation enacted in Vermont and around the country.

Mercury-containing lamps, such as compact fluorescent bulbs, have significant benefits in terms of energy efficiency and cost-savings.

However, these bulbs also contain small amounts of mercury – a known neurotoxin – which makes proper recycling of the lamps critically important.

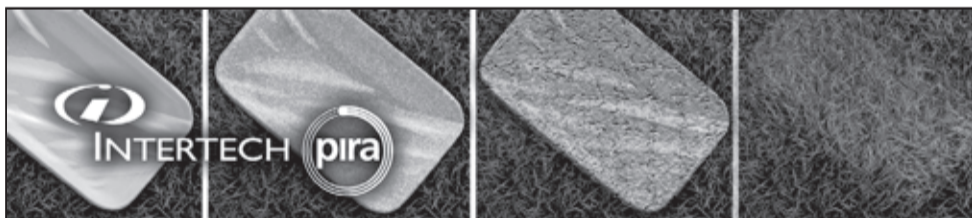
Along with earlier laws passed in Maine and Washington, the approach taken in Vermont provides a financially sustainable means of preventing the release of mercury into the environment by recycling lamps and keeping them out of landfills and incinerators. This industry funded approach will be increasingly important as state and local agencies around the country face growing budget cuts, while anticipating increased use of CFLs under new federal lighting efficiency standards, scheduled to take effect in 2012.

There are more than 60 state producer responsibility laws around the country that require product manufacturers to provide for the collection and recycling of electronics, mercury thermostats, mercury auto switches, and other products that cause unintended environmental impacts if not properly managed. Additionally, like Vermont’s new law, laws requiring mercury content standards have been adopted in California and Maine, modeled after new standards recently adopted by the European Union.

## TV TakeBack bill signed in Texas

Governor Rick Perry signed Senate Bill 329 into law – unlike in 2009, when Perry vetoed a similar bill. Advocates count this as one of the rare environmental victories during the 2011 Texas Legislative Session.

SB 329, sponsored by Senator Kirk Watson (D-Austin) and Representative Warren Chisum (R-Pampa), requires manufacturers selling TVs in Texas to offer free, convenient recycling programs for Texas residents.



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## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Swisher Hygiene to acquire waste businesses in Florida

■ Swisher Hygiene Inc. has entered into an agreement to acquire Central Carting Disposal, Inc. and its sister company CCI Hauling, Inc.

Central/CCI serves over 26,000 customers throughout Central Florida. Angelo Verrelli started the companies in 1997 with one truck, and built the companies to become one of the largest private haulers in Florida. He brings over 40 years of experience in the Central Florida waste industry to the Swisher Hygiene team.

Total consideration paid by Swisher Hygiene in connection with the acquisitions includes up to \$15,000,000 in cash.

### Fisher-Barton Group acquires Zenith Cutter Co.

■ The Fisher-Barton Group has acquired Zenith Cutter Co. Operating as an independent division of the Fisher-Barton Group of companies, Zenith Cutter is positioned as one of the leading providers of industrial knives and accessories to the converting and recycling markets. With manufacturing and distribution facilities located in Loves Park, Illinois, and Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, Zenith provides products for processing equipment utilized in the converting, corrugated, plastics, recycling, textile, tire, tree care, roofing and wood industries.

### Boston Group continues recycling expansion

■ Boston Group recently added an east coast headquarters in Boston, Massachusetts, as part of its ongoing global growth strategy. In coordination with Boston Group's west coast headquarters in Los Angeles and its affiliated offices and partners across the globe, the new Boston office will enhance Boston Group's ability to provide exceptional service and value to its fast-growing, national and international client base.

To support its expansion, Boston Group has added two new members to its executive team. Robert Heffernan joins Boston Group as senior vice president in the Boston office. Heffernan's vast background in waste and recycling includes 31 years with the Newark Group as vice president and general manager of the Northeast Region, Recycled Fibers Division and, most recently, managing and operating an organic compost facility. Suzanne Whitney joins Boston Group as a senior trader in the Tustin, California, office. Whitney has 20 years' experience working in sales, brokerage and national accounts for Weyerhaeuser Company and, most recently, Smurfit-Stone Container Corporation.

### Bandit welcomes dealers in Indiana, Louisiana

■ Bandit Industries had added three new dealers to the company's authorized dealership network.

Tri-County Equipment in Evansville, Indiana, Arrow Tool Rental Corporation in Indianapolis, and Emery Equipment Sales & Rentals, Inc. in Baton Rouge, Louisiana join more than 150 dealers offering Bandit equipment.

Arrow Tool Rental Corp. will now offer Bandit's full line of hand-fed wood chippers and stump grinders for sale, while also continuing to rent Bandit equipment.

Tri-County Equipment operates two locations in Evansville and Poseyville, Indiana and is also online at [tri-countyequip.com](http://tri-countyequip.com).

Emery Equipment Sales & Rentals has been a staple of southern Louisiana since 1966. Based in Baton Rouge, the company will sell Bandit's line of hand-fed chippers and stump grinders alongside their stock of new and used Bobcat machinery and King Kutter attachments.

## Events Calendar

### August 23rd-25th

**WASTECON 2011.** Gaylord Opryland, Nashville, Tennessee.  
240-494-2237 • [www.wastecon.org](http://www.wastecon.org)

### September 19th-21st

**Arkansas Recycling Coalition Conference & Expo.** Best Western Inn of the Ozarks & Convention Center, Eureka Springs, Arkansas.  
866-290-1429 • [www.recycleark.org](http://www.recycleark.org)

### September 21st

**Upper Peninsula Recycling Coalition Meeting.** Bay College West Campus, Iron Mountain, Michigan.  
906-786-9212 • [www.uprecycles.com](http://www.uprecycles.com)

### September 21st-23rd

**16th International Congress for Battery Recycling (ICBR 2011).** Grand Hotel Excelsior, Venice, Italy.  
+41 62 785 10 00 • [www.icm.ch](http://www.icm.ch)

### September 26th-28th

**Biomaterials Symposium.** Brown Palace Hotel & Spa, Denver, Colorado.  
207-807-5749 • [www.biopolymersummit.com](http://www.biopolymersummit.com)

### October 11th-14th

**Automotive Recyclers Association Convention and Trade Show.** Westin Charlotte and Charlotte Convention Center, Charlotte, North Carolina.  
571-208-0428 • [www.a-r-a.org](http://www.a-r-a.org)

### October 25th-26th

**NERC Fall Conference 2011.** Hotel Northampton, Northampton, Massachusetts.  
802-254-3636 • [www.nerc.org](http://www.nerc.org)

### October 27th-28th

**5th Shingle Recycling Forum.** Doubletree Hotel near the Galleria, Dallas, Texas.  
303-779-7910 • [www.shinglerecycling.org](http://www.shinglerecycling.org)

### October 31st - November 3rd

**Landfill Symposium and Fall Training Center.** Orlando, Florida.  
800-467-9262 • [www.swana.org](http://www.swana.org)

### November 1st-3rd

**Global Clean Energy Congress & Exhibition.** Stampede Park, Calgary AB Canada  
[www.globalcleanenergycongress.com](http://www.globalcleanenergycongress.com)

### November 6th-8th

**2011 Educational Conference on Litter Control and Solid Waste Management.** Glade Springs Resort, West Virginia.  
304-292-3801 • [www.awvswa.com](http://www.awvswa.com)

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### RockTenn to open second recycling facility in Seattle

RockTenn will open a second recycling facility in the Seattle, Washington area. The new facility will help accommodate growth in the Seattle market and reinforces the company's commitment to growing its presence in the Northwest.

The new facility is inside city limits, 12 miles from RockTenn's recycling facility in Renton, Washington.

### Terex adds CLM Equipment as new dealer

CLM Equipment Company Inc. now distributes the full line of Terex® Fuchs material handling machines built for scrap, demolition and portside applications in Louisiana and southeast Texas.

CLM Equipment currently operates in three locations – Lafayette, Louisiana, Lake Charles, Louisiana and Baytown, Texas, with another location opening in Louisiana in the summer of 2011.

For more than 44 years, CLM Equipment has served customers in the Gulf Coast region, focusing on the unique needs of the scrap and demolition markets.

### Atlas Copco appoints new product manager

Ray Kranzusch has been appointed to the position of product manager, oil and gas drills, for Atlas Copco Construction & Mining effective immediately. In his new role, Kranzusch will report directly to Scott Slater, business line manager for Geotechnical Drilling and Exploration (GDE) and Atlas Copco Drilling Solutions – Oil and Gas.

Most recently, Kranzusch served Atlas Copco's Western Region in technical support for water well and oil and gas products. He brings 27 years of experience from working in the drilling industry to his new position.

Kranzusch will be involved in sales support, technical training, the product development and engineering process, and new product launches.

In addition, Kranzusch will assist in sales efforts in the Western territory until a salesperson is permanently assigned to that area. He will be based out of Atlas Copco's Sacramento, California location.

### Cascade promotes Jo-Anne Perkins to VP

Cascade Engineering has promoted Jo-Anne Perkins to corporate vice president.

In her new position, Perkins will assume an increased leadership role within the Cascade Engineering family of companies and maintain strategic oversight for Cascade Cart Solutions, a flagship Cascade business unit focused on providing innovative solid waste and recycling solutions for municipalities, private waste haulers and consumers. Perkins will continue to report directly to chairman and chief executive officer, Fred Keller.

Perkins has played a key role in driving the Container Group's growth since she joined the company in 2001. Following a successful, two-decade career as a self-employed entrepreneur in the municipal solid waste industry, Perkins came to Cascade as a regional sales manager with responsibility for expanding the company's markets in Canada and the Northeast United States. The following year, she was promoted to municipal sales director. Perkins was subsequently named national sales director, with responsibility for all of the business unit's sales targets and personnel.

In 2005, Perkins was appointed general manager for Cascade's solid waste business.

### Eriez promotes Heubel to sales director position

Eriez announced the promotion of Dave Heubel to the newly-created position of director – North American sales.

This promotion came on the heels of the company combining its United States and Canadian sales organizations into a consolidated North American sales team.

Most recently, Heubel served as national sales manager for the United States light and heavy industry markets.

## NEW PRODUCT SHOWCASE



### CASE LAUNCHES B SERIES MOTOR GRADERS

Case Construction Equipment launched the 865B VHP motor grader. The 865B features a Case 6.7-liter engine with triple horsepower ranges to match the power requirements of various applications and deliver optimum fuel efficiency.

The motor grader features a forward-mounted articulation joint and rear-mounted cab. The cab offers improved control layout, while maintaining the traditional 9-lever motor grader controls preferred by most operators.

The 865B operates across a range of 178 to 205 net hp. It has an operating weight of 35,993 lbs. and a standard 13' wide moldboard.

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### KOBELCO INTRODUCES 55SRX COMPACT EXCAVATOR

Kobelco Construction Machinery America introduced the 55SRx compact excavator. A short-radius excavator, the 55SRx delivers the productivity of a larger machine while working in a footprint close to zero tail swing models.

The 55SRx includes high performance hydraulics and an efficient powertrain – delivering speed, force and fuel efficiency. It also uses structural components found on larger machines, such as a cast center swing foot and heavy-duty reinforced boom and arm.

With its compact size and a cab height of 8' 4", the 55SRx is easy to transport between jobsites.

**Kobelco Construction Machinery America**  
621 State Street  
Racine, WI 53402  
888-562-5201  
www.kobelcoamerica.com



### MARATHON LAUNCHES ECO-SAFE DIGESTER

The Marathon Eco-Safe Digester is a food waste decomposition system that diverts waste from landfills while delivering multiple environmental benefits and measurable cost savings. Using a formula of microorganisms, it breaks down organic waste into a liquid that can be safely flushed down the drain, enabling the effluent to return to the ecosystem as water. Within 24 hours, the Eco-Safe Digester can safely and quickly decompose virtually all organic food waste including, but not limited to, meat, poultry, fish, grains, dairy products, fruits and vegetables.

**Marathon Equipment Co.**  
PO Box 1798  
Vernon, AL 35592  
800-633-8974  
www.marathonequipment.com



### NEW HOLLAND LAUNCHES THREE NEW COMPACT TRACK LOADERS

New Holland Construction introduced three compact track loaders in the 200 Series. The new machines feature best-in-class forward dump height and reach.

The New Holland C232 and C238 feature the vertical lift Super Boom® design, delivering the industry's best forward dump height and reach. The self-leveling bucket on each model also allows attachments to maintain the pre-set location throughout the lift cycle.

The overall width is just 79" on C232 and C238 models equipped with the 18" tracks, to make it easier to transport these machines on a standard trailer.

**New Holland Construction**  
245 E North Avenue  
Carol Stream, IL 60188  
888-365-6423  
www.newholland.com



### PACIFIC CREST OFFERS RELIABLE SPSU SOLAR TRANSFORMER

Pacific Crest Transformers announces it offers the SPSU photovoltaic solar converter step-up transformer, ideal for connecting solar farms to the electricity grid at large-scale solar power installations. Reliable and efficient, PCT's step-up transformer is uniquely designed for the additional loading associated with non sinusoidal harmonic frequencies often found in inverter-driven transformers. An innovative system of multiple windings reduces transformer costs and minimizes transformer footprint by combining the step-up function to fewer transformers than other systems.

**Pacific Crest Transformers**  
300 W Antelope Road  
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www.pacificcresttrans.com

## ADVERTISER INDEX

PAGE	ADVERTISER
A11	Al-jon, Inc.
A8	Aluminum King
A5	American Baler
A9	ARPI
A17	Biopolymers Symposium
B3	Bomac Carts
B3	Buffalo Turbine
A10	Call Shaughnessy
A11	Caster Ranch
A8	CIF Industries
A17	ClearSpan
A15	Copper Wire Stripper
A13,B8	DADE Capital
A2	Duratech
B1	Excel Manufacturing
A23	Government Liquidation
A14	Granutech-Saturn Systems
A10	Henry A. Wiltschek, Inc.
A7	Iron Ax, Inc.
A3	Langston Companies, Inc.
A5	Maurer Manufacturing
A9	Mettler Toledo
A4	Moley Magnetics
A3	Nationwide Industrial Supply
B5	NCM Odor Control
A10	Nussbaum Equipment
A24	OverBuilt, Inc.
B4	Poynette Iron Works
A15	Recycling Services Intl.
A12	RM Johnson
A6	S3 Software Solutions
A16	SetWest • HJA
A18	Sierra
A6	SSI Shredding Systems, Inc.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Morbark expands network with six new dealers

■ Morbark continues to expand its dealer network, adding six new dealers since late 2010, as well as expanding the territories of several existing dealers.

Morbark dealers signed in the past year, and the territories they serve, include:

- Columbus Equipment Company, Ohio (tree care products).
- Bartlett Manufacturing, eastern Michigan (tree care products).
- White Star Machinery, Oklahoma (tree care products).
- Fabick Caterpillar, eastern Missouri and southern Illinois (tree care, forestry and recycling products).
- Schmidt Equipment, Massachusetts and Rhode Island (tree care, forestry and recycling products).
- Elliott and Frantz, Maryland and Delaware (tree care, forestry and recycling products).

Current full-line dealer, Doggett Machinery Services, recently expanded its territory to include the state of Texas (with the exception of Bowie and Cass counties). The expansion added Texas to an already established territory of the state of Louisiana.

In addition, Newtown Power, long-time Morbark tree care products dealer in certain Connecticut counties, expanded their territory to cover the entire state of Connecticut.

*"I am," is reportedly the shortest sentence in the English language. Could it be that "I do" is the longest sentence?*

### Veolia ES Solid Waste completes acquisition

■ Veolia ES Solid Waste, Inc. has acquired all the business assets of Parker Sanitation, based in Panama City, Florida.

The acquisition introduces Veolia ES Solid Waste, Inc.'s hauling operations to Bay County including Panama City and surrounding areas where it will serve both residential customers and commercial customers.

The agreement includes the acquisition of all assets including vehicles, containers and hauling equipment. "The acquisition of Parker Sanitation allows us to expand our operations and break into the Panama City market," said Jim Long, president and chief executive officer of Veolia ES Solid Waste, Inc.

Details of the transaction were not disclosed.

### Vecoplan hires Mike LaGoe as project engineer

■ Mike LaGoe has joined Vecoplan, LLC as a project engineer/manager. LaGoe, formerly engineering manager at a manufacturer of air pollution control systems, brings 12 years of practical experience to his new position at Vecoplan.

LaGoe's responsibilities will include coordinating the design and development of large scale, turnkey systems for the processing and production of alternative fuels from biomass and waste, as well as general waste treatment systems.

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### Businesses

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**28 INDUSTRIAL ACRES:** NY at Exit 26 NYS Thruway. 1 mile long, 200 to 400 ft. wide, bordered by CSX and Guilford Railroad. Currently an operating parts yard. Phase I done, II in process. Visit <https://sites.google.com/site/sunenterprizes/> for more detailed information. Government incentives possible. \$850k excepting offers. 518-887-2330

**Crystal Auto Parts:** family-owned business, located in Dearborn, Michigan since 1956; holds only recycling license in city, facility on approximately 5.5 acres; well-established wholesale/retail truck parts business and scrap processing operation. Easy access to I-75 and I-94. Owner can remain on staff to assist with transition, \$750,000. Call 800-336-3348.

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- 2005 M322C MH (Rubber) 41' Reach, Hyd Cab, Gen, Grapple \$229,000
- 2005 M322C MH (Rubber) 41' Reach, Hyd Cab, Gen, Grapple \$179,000
- 2008 M325D LMH (Rubber) 51' Reach, Hyd Cab, 20KW Gen, Grapple \$325,000
- 2008 M325D LMH (Rubber) 51' Reach, Hyd Cab, 20KW Gen, Grapple \$315,000
- 2007 M325D LMH (Rubber) 51' Reach, Hyd Cab, 20KW Gen, Grapple \$299,000
- 2006 M325C LMH (Rubber) 51' Reach, Hyd Cab, 20KW Gen, Grapple \$279,000
- 2005 M325C LMH (Rubber) 51' Reach, Hyd Cab, 20KW Gen, Grapple \$229,000
- 2006 M325D MH (Rubber) 47' Reach, Hyd Cab, 20KW Gen, Grapple \$274,000
- 2005 M325C MH (Rubber) 47' Reach, Hyd Cab, 15KW Gen, Grapple \$239,000

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- 1997 A902 (Rubber) 38' Reach, 4' Elev Cab, 9.5KW Gen, Grapple \$119,000
- 2005 A904C HD (Rubber) 38' Reach, Hyd Cab, 10KW Gen, Grapple \$179,000
- 2002 A924B (Rubber) 42' Reach, Hyd Cab, 15KW Gen, Grapple \$159,000
- 2008 A934C HD (Rubber) 48' Reach, Hyd Cab, 20KW Gen, Grapple \$369,000
- 2006 A934B (Rubber) 48' Reach, Hyd Cab, 20KW Gen, Grapple \$229,000
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- 2005 A934B (Rubber) 48' Reach, Hyd Cab, 20KW Gen, Grapple \$219,000
- 2003 R934B (Rubber) 48' Reach, Hyd Cab, Gen, Grapple \$189,000
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- 2002 M318 (rubber), 36' reach, A/C, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.

#### FUCHS

- 2008 MHL 360 (rubber), 59' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2006 & 2007 MHL350D (rubber), 52' reach, A/C hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2005 MHL 350 (rubber), 50' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2003 & 2006 MHL331 (rubber), 34' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2001 MHL360 REBUILT (rubber), 59' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2001 MHL320 (rubber), 31' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set, new 36" magnet and grapple.
- 1995 MHL 350 REBUILT (rubber), 50' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.

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- 2005 A934C-HD (rubber) 52' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2004 R954EW (crawler), 59' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 1999 R934EW REBUILT (crawler), 50' reach, 4' cab riser, gen-set and grapple.
- 1999 A924 (rubber), 41' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 1994 A932 REBUILT (rubber), hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.

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- 2008 830M (rubber), 50' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
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- 2006 821M (rubber), 36' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2005 835M REBUILT (rubber), 55' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
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- 2000 830M REBUILT (rubber), 50' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.

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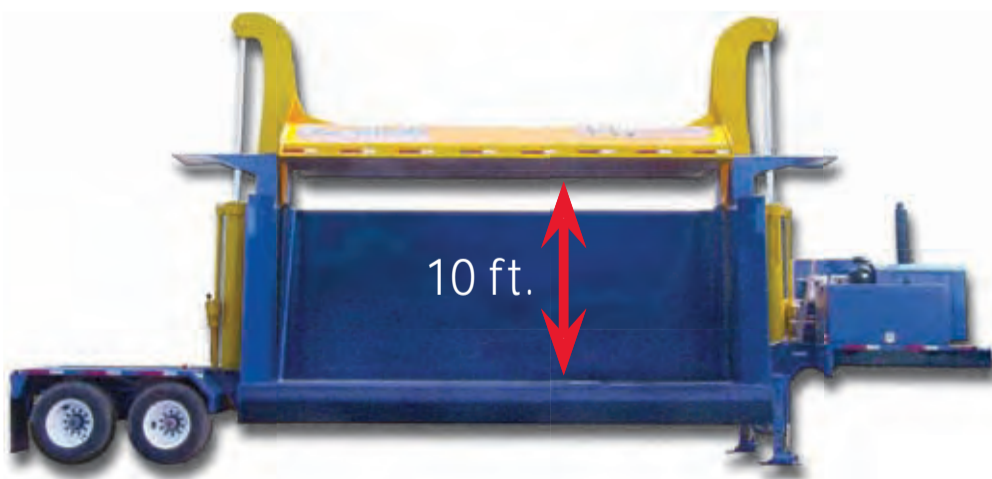
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# Innovation is redefining the humble dumpster

by MIKE BRESLIN

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The word “dumpster” has evolved to mean different things to different people. For our purposes let us understand it as a broad, generic term for an ever expanding universe of large trash receptacles lifted by mechanical means and dumped into vehicles. The word dumpster originated from the Dempster-Dumpster system of mechanically loading standard containers onto garbage trucks. It was patented by Dempster Brothers in 1937.

Today, a dumpster can refer to capacities of less than a cubic yard up to roll-off containers exceeding 100 cubic yards. They come in shapes and sizes only limited by the imaginations of their designers.

The more trash generated the more dumpsters we need and we apparently always need more. In 1960, the per capita generation of waste was 2.68 pounds per person per day, but by 2009 it grew to 4.34 pounds per person per day. 2010 per capita data waste volume has not yet been posted by EPA, but industry experts believe volume has flattened and somewhat decreased.

Waste Management, Inc. (WM) the largest solid waste collection company in North America, for example, reported its 2010 internal revenue growth from volume was negative 2.6 percent, although revenues increased by 6.1 percent.

The lingering recession is partially responsible for some volume fall off, but

much of the reduction is due to more waste being transformed into useful or money-making commodities. “What we’ve seen is more of a move towards diversion. The amount of waste volume currently going to landfill has declined simply because there is more diversion going on,” said Wes Muir, spokesman for WM. “Whether or not it’s because of regulations, or because a company recognizes waste as a resource and wants to divert the material and cut down on disposal costs, it’s all coming under the label of eco-efficiency.”

Guy Senkowski, the owner of Poynette Iron Works in Poynette, Wisconsin, a manufacturer of a wide variety of dumpsters and related waste containers, and his two brothers started the business in 1996 in a 2,400 sq. ft. building refurbishing old dumpsters to extend their useful life. Today, Poynette has annual sales of \$16 million, 70,000 sq. ft. of manufacturing space on a 13 acre complex, employs 68 and offers a menu of over 40 different product categories with hundreds of individual items. Poynette has built dumpsters as small as quarter-yard hoppers to as large as a 107 yard roll-off trailers. The company serves all types of customers – residential and commercial haulers, municipalities, specialized industrial applications and small and large retailers.

“The recession really did not affect us. A little bit of a slowdown but nothing of concern. We got darn lucky there. Since 1996 we’ve just seen a ton of



Dumpsters themselves are becoming disposable. Waste Management is now selling Bagsters – a disposable dumpster for do-it-yourselfers that the company will pick up and dispose of once full.

growth, about a million dollars a year,” said Senkowski.

Senkowski attributed their continued growth through a tough economy to his company’s products and customer service. But major cultural and environmental developments have undoubtedly helped. Over the past two decades there

has been a strong national demand for diversified dumpster types for segregating various recyclables to attain a finer, cleaner granulation at the collection point.

“Everybody always needs to get rid of garbage, but there’s more and more  
See DUMPSTERS, Page 7

# New Jersey company indicted for illegal dumping

The owner of a New Jersey solid waste management company and three of his associates were arrested on federal charges that they conspired to transport and dump thousands of tons of asbestos-contaminated debris at an upstate New York farm containing wetlands, announced Ignacia S. Moreno, assistant attorney general for the Justice Department’s Environment and Natural Resources Division and Richard S. Hartunian, United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York.

Julius DeSimone, Donald Torriero, Cross Nicastro II and Dominick Mazza

were arrested for the illegal dumping in Frankfort in 2006, as detailed in the

*The obstruction of justice and wire fraud counts of the indictment each carry a maximum potential term of incarceration of 20 years.*

seven count indictment. Dominick Mazza’s New Jersey-based company, Mazza & Sons Inc., was also indicted.

Arrests were made at residences in New York, New Jersey and Florida. The defendants made their initial appearances in federal courts in the Northern District of New York, Southern District of Florida, and District of New Jersey.

The indictment described a scheme to illegally dump thousands of tons of asbestos-contaminated, pulverized construction and demolition debris that was processed at Eagle Recycling’s and Mazza & Sons Inc.’s, New Jersey-based solid waste management facilities. That asbestos-contaminated debris was then transported to and dumped at Cross

Nicastro II’s farm in Frankfort – much of which contained federally-regulated wetlands. Dumping and excavating operations were managed on-site by Julius DeSimone.

According to court documents, Donald Torriero and other conspirators concealed the illegal dumping by fabricating a New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) permit and forging the name of a DEC official on the fraudulent permit. Once the conspirators learned that they were under investigation, they began a sys-

See WETLANDS, Page 2

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## A Letter from the Editor

Readers,

Nobody looks twice at a dumpster. That's a shame because the dumpsters that so many take for granted are actually smartly-engineered products that are designed to accomplish a multitude of objectives. This month, author Mike Breslin does a dumpster double-take and dives into how manufacturers have been improving and refining their products. His article will have you examining where you place your company's waste, and pondering ways to make it better.

If the cover story inspires you update your community's waste receptacles to better suit its needs, you might consider reading over this month's Equipment Spotlight. There, author Mary Cox interviews several receptacle manufacturers to discover what makes their products stand out. From bear-proofing to cardboard reducing to automatic compaction with electronic notification, dumpsters have evolved into something more than simple holders of garbage.

Unlike the underappreciated dumpster, other segments of the waste industry seem to be receiving quite a bit of attention. Organic waste processing – such as that done by Harvest Power – is attracting the interest and investment dollars of blue chip backers. On page 3, Harvest Power talks about the developing field of organic waste handling, and how they've managed to draw investors in an economy where venture capital is scarce.

Next month, American Recycler turns its focus on the automotive recycling industry. If you have a story idea, or are a manufacturer of rollbacks who wants to be featured in the Equipment Spotlight, we'd love to hear from you.

I hope that everyone managed to endure the incredible heat of the past couple of weeks. Hopefully August will bring cooler weather and better business for all of our readers. As September marks the beginning of the autumn season, we'll soon be longing for those warm summer days again.

Until next month,



Dave Fournier  
Focus Section Editor  
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# GM landfill-free initiative gains steam

PHOTO COURTESY OF GENERAL MOTORS

General Motors' efforts to eliminate the shipment of plant waste to landfills is spreading to its non-manufacturing sites, 10 of which now reuse, recycle or convert to energy all waste from normal operations.

*With the help of some new technology, the Burton, Michigan facility now generates \$20,000 per month from recycling its cardboard.*

"Our non-manufacturing facilities see the importance of being waste-reduction leaders, and they know their customers value it as well," said John Bradburn, manager of GM's waste-reduction efforts. "Being landfill-free has become a point of pride for our people and we hope even more facilities achieve the goal this year."

Converting non-manufacturing facilities meant rethinking packaging such as cardboard – a significant waste stream due to volume. GM engineers work to create designs with recyclable attributes intended for disassembly. Technical specifications that can be followed on a global basis are being developed.

A landfill-free customer care and aftersales facility in Burton, Michigan is using environmentally friendly, bio-based packaging foam from supplier Landaal Packaging Systems that blocks and braces products like sheet metal to ensure safe arrival. Made from extruded cornstarch, the foam is both biodegradable and compostable.



An employee uses equipment that shears and separates cardboard boxes attached to wood pallets at the General Motors Customer Care and Aftersales facility in Burton, Michigan.

At the same facility, a supplier helped GM engineers solve a waste challenge with a patented technology that shears and separates cardboard boxes attached to wood pallets. The separation is necessary to manage each material with the least environmental impact and gain significant financial value. The technology not only enabled it to earn landfill-free status this year, but the facility now generates \$20,000 per month from recycling its cardboard.

"We believe GM has more landfill-free facilities than any other automaker," said Mike Robinson, GM vice president of Environment, Energy and Safety Policy. "Our engineers and suppliers are finding ways to reduce challenging

waste streams, eliminate scrap, and design for the environment."

The non-manufacturing facilities are in addition to GM's 76 landfill-free manufacturing facilities. The automaker remains focused on converting more of its manufacturing plants, and has a goal of adding 10 facilities by the end of 2011. Last year, it surpassed a global operations commitment to make half of its 145 plants landfill-free. Manufacturing is at the company's core, so converting plants produces the largest environmental benefits.

In 2010, all of GM's worldwide facilities combined – including regular and landfill-free plants – recycled 92 percent of the waste they generated.

## AR Upcoming Section B editorial focus topics

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## Wetlands

Continued from Page 1

tematic pattern of document concealment, alteration and destruction by destroying and secreting documents responsive to grand jury subpoenas and falsifying and submitting environmental sampling to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The indictment charges the defendants with conspiracy to defraud the United States, violate the Clean Water Act and Superfund laws, and commit wire fraud. Donald Torriero is also charged with wire fraud associated with his fabrication and transmission of the fake permit the conspirators used to conceal the dumping. Mazza & Sons Inc., and its owner, Dominick Mazza, are charged with violating the Superfund law's requirement to report the release of toxic materials and obstruction of justice. Dominick Mazza and Julius DeSimone are charged with making false statements to EPA special agents. This indictment is related to the guilty pleas entered by Jonathan Deck and Eagle Recycling on September 3, 2009 and April 11, 2011 respectively.

The conspiracy and substantive Clean Water Act, Superfund, and false statements counts of the indictment each carry a maximum possible term of incarceration of 5 years and a fine of \$250,000, twice the gross gain to the defendants, or twice the gross loss to a victim. The obstruction of justice and wire fraud counts of the indictment each carry a maximum possible term of incarceration of 20 years and similar fines.

An indictment is a mere accusation and all defendants are presumed innocent until and unless convicted in a court of law.

This case was investigated by criminal investigators with the New York State Environmental Conservation Police, Bureau of Environmental Crimes; special agents from the EPA's Criminal Investigation Division and the Internal Revenue Service; investigators from the New Jersey State Police, Office of Business Integrity Unit; the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection; and the Ohio Department of Environmental Protection.

*Why is it that when you transport something by car, it's called a shipment, but when you transport something by ship, it's called cargo?*

# Investors are enthusiastic about organic waste recycling

by MIKE BRESLIN

mbreslin@americanrecycler.com

While many sectors of the American economy struggle to attract investment capital, it appears that investors – particularly the new breed of sustainable investment funds – are enthusiastic about the future of recycling organic waste. This vast commodity stream is largely untapped and promises healthy returns with the right business model and technologies.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that we produce approximately 246 million tons of municipal solid waste (MSW) per year, of which nearly 60 percent, or 160 million tons can be roughly categorized as organic waste – wood, food scraps, vegetative debris, paper and cardboard. In food scraps alone, the EPA estimates that over 97 percent goes to landfills.

For decades recyclers have been realizing profits from paper and cardboard, but there is a wealth of other carbon-rich organic material waiting to be profitably turned into renewable energy, soils and fertilizers.

One company pioneering organics recycling on a large scale is Harvest Power, a North American producer of renewable energy and fertilizers from organic waste. Since its founding in late 2008 as a privately held company, it has been able to attract a number of blue chip investors and is beginning to reap returns.

In an interview with Paul Sellev, Harvest's chief executive officer, he had this to say:

## How much capital have you developed since your founding?

"We've used a combination of debt, equity and grants approaching \$200 million dollars."

## Why are investors interested in organic recycling?

"I think they view it as a resource that is under-utilized in our society in a resource-constrained world. It makes sense to maximize the value of these waste streams/resources through an approach such as we are bringing to the market."

## What type of investors are you attracting?

"Along with our management team, our first investor was Kleiner Perkins out of Menlo Park, California. We have also attracted significant investment from European investors including Munich Venture Partners, Generation Investment Management and Rabobank, an international Dutch bank. Then we have a strategic investor as well with Waste Management."

## Are you a technology and process developer, or a market developer?

"We are basically an owner and operator of organics processing facilities. Our approach is to maximize the value of organic waste streams. That's a combination of producing renewable energy from them and then using the residual from our renewable energy technology to further process it into pelletized organic fertilizers or a compost based soil amendment product."

## What type of customer is interested in your processes?

"Generators of organic wastes – municipalities, food processors, retail grocery stores, large generators of food waste either at the commercial or industrial level and certainly at the municipal level. Right now the vast majority of states and communities are separating out yard waste, leaves, grass and brush. Food waste is now where yard waste was 15 years ago, meaning it is at the beginning of being separated out of the MSW stream. Those two streams, yard waste and food waste, are principle feedstocks for our process."

## How many projects have you developed to date?

"We have built the largest composting and organics processing facility in Canada, outside of Vancouver in Richmond, British Columbia. There we will operate North America's largest high solids anaerobic digestion facility which is also going to be producing megawatts of renewable energy integrated into our composting operation. Under construction is our bioenergy facility in London, Ontario which will be operational by the end of this year or by the beginning of next year. We own and operate a composting operation in Tulare County, California, and we also operate a facility in Tullytown, Pennsylvania in partnership with Waste Management. There will be a number of other opportunities that we will be announcing shortly."

## How are organics developing?

"We are going into areas where the organic waste is being separated out. We are now composting yard and food waste and then where we have sufficient food waste we are building our

renewable energy facilities – right now we have the two largest in North America under construction. The energy component of our story is basically a new model that Harvest is bringing into North America. We anticipate that the model that we are creating will be duplicated and there are enormous growth opportunities. You just have to look back and see the growth of the American composting industry over the last 15 to 20 years. There are close to 5,000 composting facilities of various sizes operating today. When I got involved in this business 25 years ago there were only a few hundred. I think that food waste, which ironically is produced in about equal quantities to yard waste, is going to follow the same pattern. There's a large scale infrastructure build-out story here around reprocessing food waste."

## What revenues have you generated and what do projections look like?

"We are a company that has about 150 employees and we have been producing about \$30 million in revenues per year. We are profitable. This year we anticipate finishing the year at over \$100 million in revenue."

## What is the future of organic recycling?

"I'm bullish. In a way it's like saying we've just discovered a new natural gas field, or a new oil field. Through technology we are releasing the energy potential of organics and unlike solar and wind which is dependent on the sun shining or the wind blowing we are producing power on a 24/7/365 basis, base-load power...the best kind."

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# EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

## Waste Receptacles

by MARY M. COX

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"A waste receptacle, as a stand-alone collection option, is no longer the dominant force in the collection container industry. Rather, it is now most desirable for the waste receptacle to be paired with a recycling option to prove effective. This trend will continue as an integral part of every collection program across North America," stated Chris McBrien, marketing manager at Busch Systems. Busch manufactures a line of recycling, waste and compost containers.

McBrien said, "All of our products contain a minimum of 35 percent recycled content and are proudly made in North America. Busch Systems develops more molded recycling, waste and compost containers than all of the other manufacturers combined. Our recycling receptacles are specifically manufactured to be clear, easy to use, to prevent contamination and to generate the cleanest possible stream of recyclables."



Busch Systems International

The Waste Watcher and Super Sorter are two Busch products that can be used in multiple collection streams within a single unit. "Our product line addresses the end user need to consolidate their collection program. By unifying collection of diverse items, we believe collection becomes easier. When that happens participation rates increase and contamination rates reduce. That is the key to a successful recycling program. Busch Systems will

continue to design products with this fundamental concept in mind," McBrien said.

Durabac was originally only a manufacturer of metal waste receptacles. Then the company received a special customer request for a polyethylene bin. That was 15 years ago. After evaluation and R&D, the first container was designed for a very demanding application – rendering, or swine collection. "These poly containers were dragged, pushed, and dropped in farmer's fields and also subject to serious wear when dead pigs were dropped into the bins, throughout all weather conditions. Today, this same product design is in use, in countless settings. A polyethylene container requires no maintenance and has 2 or 3 times the life expectancy over a metal container, making the poly container the best investment. We offer a complete line of polyethylene containers for all waste and recycling needs," said Penny Lamarre of Durabac sales and marketing.

Lamarre pointed out that not all poly containers are the same, however. "Over the years and through extensive product testing, Durabac's Duraplast division has developed the finest polyethylene recipe and manufacturing process available. Our products are best suited to withstand the most forceful impact, hot and cold temperature variations and our products offer the best resistance to liquids, oils and chemicals. To achieve these goals, a 100 percent virgin, unique resin is used in our manufacturing process. No recycled resin is used.

"When fabricating a container with recycled resin, the polyethylene molecule properties are greatly affected by the loss of strength and resistance. Duraplast containers are roto-molded, not injection molded. This process was chosen to achieve greater product flexibility while increasing product life expectancy. For a container to last a long time, factors such as wall thickness, container structural design, UV stabilization and powder electro-coated metal components must be taken

into consideration," said Lamarre.

She added, "The waste and recycling industry is moving toward a zero waste goal. Being green is the way to go. Now, we see the need for collection of food waste and yard clippings. The polyethylene container is also best suited for these applications. The Duraplast commercial organic collection container is available in 2, 3 and 4 cubic yard sizes, with a special lid design, as this container is usually emptied by a front-load truck or a rendering truck."

Shawn Kruse, commercial container business manager at Rehrig Pacific Company said the company's commercial containers are a third lighter than comparable metal containers, yet are extremely tough and will last for the long-haul. "Our containers are made with a high-impact, UV-stabilized polyethylene resin that won't rust or corrode like metal and our products clean easily. Pockets and hinge supports are integrally molded, not fastened-on, while top rims are heavily reinforced to add strength where it's needed most. Front-load containers have replaceable pocket sleeves that add sidewall thickness and protection against puncturing by fork tines. Both models have molded-in floor beams that provide support and stepped sidewalls provide stiffness to avoid bottom sagging and sidewall bowing. Lids are crowned so they won't collect water and will remain rigid. Fiberglass hinge rods are substantially supported over their entire length, providing long-life and smooth lid operation. All containers are dent resistant and easily repairable," Kruse said.

After noting those product durability features, Kruse commented about how the recession has resulted in a user focus on reducing costs and managing assets. "Customers constantly look for different ways to reduce operating costs. Purchasing a container that is durable and doesn't require painting or welding can save hundreds of dollars over the life of that container. Containers that can nest inside one another can save room and free up valuable yard space for additional revenue-generating



Durabac

equipment. Because of the plastic container's lighter weight and easier maneuverability, some customers have been able to change from using a two-man truck collection method to using

See SPOTLIGHT, Page 5

### Manufacturer List

**A-Solutions, Inc.**  
Lydia Davidson  
502-228-2901  
www.a-solutionsinc.com

**Busch Systems International**  
Chris McBrien  
705-722-0806  
www.buschsystems.com

**Durabac**  
Penny Lamere  
800-565-1723  
www.durabac.com

**Nedland Industries**  
Dave Nedland  
800-447-4925  
www.nedland.com

**Poynette Iron Works, Inc.**  
Guy Senkowski  
800-572-2487  
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## EPA fines metal plater \$100,000 for hazardous waste violations

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) fined TMW Corporation \$100,000 for violations of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

The violations were discovered at the company's facility, Crown Chrome Plating, a Division of TMW Corporation, during an inspection conducted by EPA in April 2009. The facility primarily does metal plating for the aerospace industry.

"The toxic wastes and sludges at the Crown Chrome facility have the potential to pose a danger to employees, the surrounding community and the environment," said Jared Blumenfeld, the EPA's Regional Administrator for the Pacific Southwest.

TMW Corporation generated multiple hazardous wastes including, paint wastes, alkaline and acidic corrosive liquids, and sludges containing heavy metals such as chromium and lead. These hazardous wastes, and the waste handling violations associated with them, are typical of those produced by metal plating shops, which are often the target of EPA enforcement actions.

The federal hazardous waste regulations require companies to properly manage hazardous waste to prevent harm to human health and the environment. EPA discovered the following violations at TMW Corporation's facility:

- Storage of hazardous waste for over 90 days without a permit;

- Failure to conduct required inspections;

- Failure to train personnel or maintain training records;

- Failure to maintain required emergency communications equipment; and,

- Failure to make a hazardous waste determination.

As a result of this enforcement action, TMW Corporation has returned to compliance with federal law and will pay a fine of \$100,000.

EPA's hazardous waste rules require facilities to properly store, label and close hazardous waste containers. Facilities must also have properly trained staff, as improperly stored hazardous waste can spill and pose a risk to workers and the environment.

Federal, state and local regulatory agencies have formed a Los Angeles Enforcement Collaborative to focus resources over a multi-year effort to ensure that businesses and industries in this area are complying with environmental laws. EPA is partnering with several state and local agencies under this collaborative including Cal/EPA, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the California Air Resources Board as well as local non-profit organizations to improve environmental and public health conditions in Los Angeles communities.

that are outfitted with RFID readers and GPS systems. Every time a container with a RFID tag is used, the truck reader records that action with a date, time, and location. By incorporating that data into a software solution, like Rehrig's C.A.R.T.S (Container Asset Recovery Tracking System), you can efficiently manage your container assets by knowing exactly where every container is located. Every day, containers are used at locations that are either in default or not in the billing system at all. By comparing data collected on a route with billing records, one can easily identify thousands of dollars in revenue that would otherwise go uncollected," Kruse commented.

Rehrig commercial containers include recessed lid-grip areas on the top rim for protected access to the lid. Kruse said, "They're also ideal for quiet pick-up and disposal, environmentally friendly, 100 percent recyclable, are offered in eight standard colors that won't fade (custom colors are available) and offer large smooth areas for stickers or branded logos and slogans.

"Optional in-mold labels allow for intricate multi-color graphics and messages and graffiti can be wiped off using simple cleaners. Rehrig containers maneuver easily and with less noise on their standard 6" polyolefin wheels. Molded-in caster rings speed caster plate installation without bolts perforating the container floor. Each caster installs quickly and easily in the field because there is only one bolt to fasten. There is a choice of fixed or swivel casters. Optional lockable casters are also available."

## Spotlight

■Continued from Page 4

just a single driver. This has reduced labor costs, and it provides manpower for other activities a waste business may offer," he said.

"Also, RFID technology is increasingly used in waste containers and trucks

### A&R EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

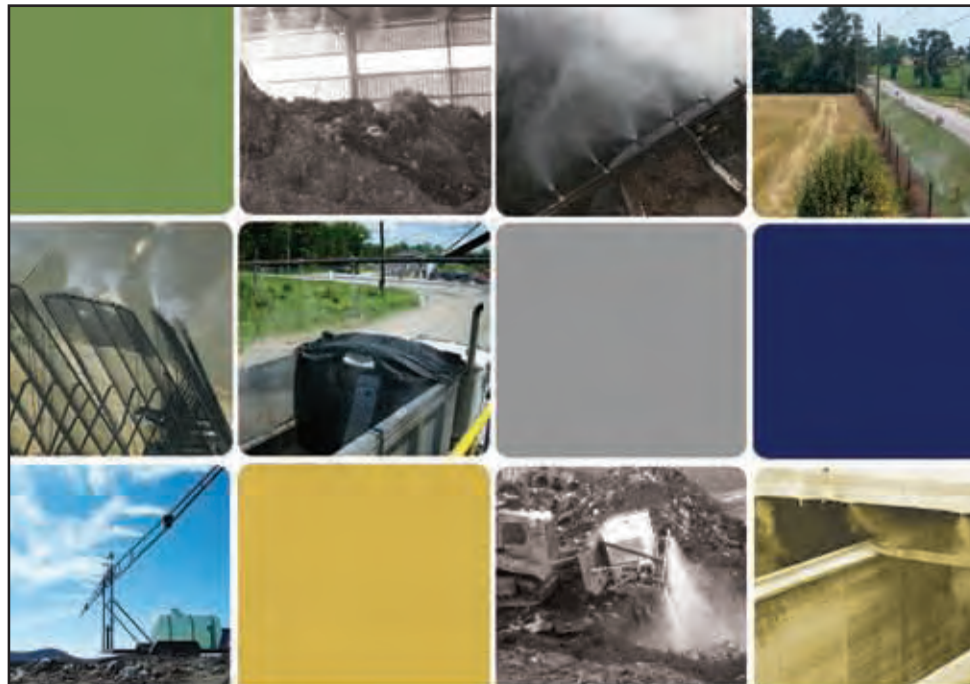
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## A Closer Look

by Donna Currie

### D&C Solid Waste Services

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—Dan, Cindy, Tony and Heidi of D&C Waste

Cindy Neuroth is the “C” in D&C Solid Waste Services. Co-owner with her husband Dan, Cindy said that “it depends on when you catch me, what title I have at the time.”

The Neuroths have had their residential garbage and recycling business in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, for 23 years, but Dan grew up in the industry. His father had his own waste hauling business, and Dan worked there as he was growing up. Later, he worked for one of his brothers who had started his own waste business.

Finally, he and his wife founded D&C. Cindy said, “At one time, there were six family members in the garbage business.”

In the early years, the business was a little easier because “there were a lot less rules, less regulations,” according to Cindy. At that time, they also had two small children who went along on the routes with them, and when they got into school, the parents would stop by with the garbage truck to drop them off or pick them up when needed. If there were school events, they’d park the trucks, attend the events, and get back to work again.

The recycling part of the business started out with a triple-sort system, but went to single-stream about two years ago. “We take it to a recycling center in town and they process it,” Cindy explained. “We pick it up – we do the collecting.”

Besides the regular trash and recycling pickups, D&C will make special pickups for white goods that go to a landfill where they are processed to remove the Freon and then recycled. They also make separate pick-ups for tires that initially go to a landfill and are picked up from there by a contractor. Yard waste is also a separate item.

D&C has five trucks and six employees – four of whom are family. “I do a route and I do roll-offs. I help change the oil and help repair trucks,” Cindy said. “I kind of enjoy being on the road. Customers like that it’s a woman and also an owner – so they can talk to an owner.” She said that being on the truck meant that “you’re busy all the time – from the time you start until the end of the day.”

“We used to be twice a week,” Cindy said of the residential pickups, “and now we’re once a week.” The twice-weekly pickups stopped in 1995, when recycling started. “Ninety-five percent of our customers participate in recycling,” Cindy said. “That’s the highest percentage in Sioux Falls for recycling” among the 35 companies that offer the service. “We educate our customers and send out information twice a year. We were one of the first ones to offer single-stream in Sioux Falls.”

Cindy is pleased that her kids are taking interest in the family business. At first the kids were just going along for the ride, and later they helped out with billing, or putting addresses on envelopes. “When my daughter was in high school, she got her license,” Cindy said, explaining that 14 was the legal age to get a license in South Dakota. As soon as her daughter got her license, she drove a truck while her younger brother helped out. “Because it’s family, insurance was easier,” she added.

Now, they’re both working for the company. “They came to us for jobs,” Cindy said. Her daughter works in the office, but can drive a truck if one needs to be picked up or dropped off for repairs. Her son drives a route.

While Cindy likes having her kids nearby, and it’s great to have two very dependable employees, there’s another benefit. “Customers remember the kids from when they were little. They like that.”

## Nuclear Metals Superfund site slated for remediation

A new agreement will set the stage for more work to occur at a Concord, Massachusetts Superfund site, including the demolition of contaminated buildings which are unsound and need to be removed.

The agreement, an Administrative Settlement Agreement between Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Army, U.S. Department of Energy, Textron, Inc. and Whittaker Corporation, outlines responsibilities for \$70 million for performance of a non-time critical removal action at the Nuclear Metals, Inc. Superfund site.

From 1958 to the present, various owners and operators used the Concord site for research and specialized metals manufacturing, and were licensed to possess low-level radioactive substances. Between 1958 and 1985, the owner/operators disposed of waste, contaminated with depleted uranium, copper and nitric acid, into an unlined holding basin located at the site. Other areas of the site were also used for the disposal of manufacturing wastes.

Starmet operated under the company name Nuclear Metals from 1972 until 1997, when it changed its name to Starmet Corporation. While no longer permitted to use radioactive materials in manufacturing, Starmet continues to maintain a license to possess radioactive materials at the site. Starmet and a related company continue to employ a small staff at the site, and provide site security and building maintenance. It is anticipated that Starmet will perma-

nently vacate the facility in the near future.

The site currently includes multiple structures with a combined footprint of approximately 185,000 square feet, including a two-story, five-section interconnected building, several tank houses, storage huts and storage buildings. The buildings, nearly 50 years old and in poor condition, are deteriorating and have multiple leaks, and are contaminated with high levels of depleted uranium.

Demolition of the buildings will occur down to their slab foundation, with placement of a temporary cap over the remaining slab. Construction debris will either be disposed off-site at an appropriately-licensed disposal facility or potentially on-site, if EPA determines that such debris does not contain hazardous substances.

With ongoing attention and work, EPA and Mass DEP have significantly reduced the threat of release of hazardous substances posed by the facility and the site. EPA has performed two time-critical removal actions: first in 2002, EPA covered the holding basin and an old landfill on site, and erected a fence around the site; the second in 2008, removed containers of hazardous and flammable materials from the facility buildings. Mass DEP, with U.S. Army Funding, removed more than 3,800 drums of depleted uranium in 2006. EPA expects to issue a Record of Decision for the site within the next 16 months.

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# Dumpsters

■Continued from Page 1

recycling going on everyday. People are always looking for different ways to recycle. That's where we come in. If you can scribble it on a napkin, we can build it," Senkowski related.

Apparently there has been a lot of creative scribbling at Poynette. Diversion of waste into marketable commodities has spurred a whole new generation of dumpsters dedicated to source sorting with better security.

"A big part of our growth has been in recycling containers, separating out cardboard, paper, glass, plastics, metals and organics. It seems like you cannot just take your garbage and throw it away anymore, everything needs to be separated nowadays, even behind your local bar," said Senkowski. "Organic waste is a big thing for us and we do a lot of organic containers. They're not throwing food waste away and landfilling it, but turning it into energy, feeding livestock or making compost or mulch. You can make money on garbage by recycling with the right dumpsters."

Poynette has seen a marked increase for dumpsters in several areas – divided units to accommodate multiple recyclables; locked containers for cardboard with slots that force the user to collapse boxes to increase container capacity; dumpsters with false bottoms containing liquid collection tanks to prevent ground contamination; more integral units to keep out insects and animals; and better security to prevent unauthorized dumping, pilfering and reduce liability for the owner.

Nearly every dumpster Poynette makes these days has plastic tops that decrease overall weight and reduce the danger of lids coming down and hurting people. Poynette still builds a few dumpsters with steel lids for applications such as containing fires near buildings.

"We are doing more and more tightly sealed containers that help contain liquids and prevent infestations of rodents, bees and bears. The scrap industry uses dumpsters that hold metals for weeks or months at a time and we build



At the Poynette Iron Works, Inc. manufacturing facility in Poynette, Wisconsin, the company has seen a marked increase in demand for specialty dumpsters such as divided units, locking cardboard containers, dumpsters with liquid collection tanks and units designed to keep out insects and animals.

containers that prevent rusty water leaching into the ground water. People are stealing more scrap metals and other recyclables, so we are using more locks and sealed lids."

A design collaboration with a customer led to Poynette developing a new line of wheeled front and rear load plastic dumpsters with up to 4 cubic yard capacity. "More people are bumping containers up and down curbs and want more lightweight containers. That's how we came up with our new, stronger, lighter weight plastic container line, of which we've been selling quite a few." Poynette buys tubs from a plastics manufacturer and fabricates steel frames with casters that hold the tubs. "A crucial element in the success of our plastic dumpsters was developing a rugged lid. We worked very closely with the Scott Lemajeur, owner of Impact Plastics to develop a thick, durable hinge line. Scott was a great help getting our plastic dumpsters on the street. Without a great lid you do not have a great box."

Plastic has further invaded the traditional world of the steel dumpster with

the Bagster bag, the first disposable dumpster in a bag now being sold all over North America by Waste Management. Scott Rhodes, co-founder of the WM Bagster and managing director of organic growth at WM, an internal venture capital development group said "WM acquired our business in June of 2009. When they bought us we were in 10 states. Now we are in over 40 states and most parts of Canada," said Rhodes.

The Bagster bag is WM's first retail product and designed to serve do-it-yourselfers and small contractors, but is also quickly finding other niche markets. "Where we see a really big pick up in the use of Bagster bags, unfortunately, which we never considered, is in disaster relief, flooding, hurricanes and tornados where people are cleaning up and need to source separate," Muir commented.

Bagsters can be purchased at home improvement and hardware stores, including Home Depot, Lowe's, Ace Hardware, True Value and Do-It-Best.

They are flexible, reinforced polyethylene dumpsters that are porous to allow rainwater to drain. In the store, it comes folded in 1.5' x 2.5' package weighing approximately 5 pounds. When unfolded, it can hold up to 3 cubic yards or 3,300 pounds. WM claims that the woven material will not tear if punctured. It can hold sheets of 4 x 8 foot plywood and items as large as a bathtub. When full, WM boom trucks pick up the bags using straps.

"The suggested retail price is \$29.95 and our retailers do a nice job of adhering to that," said Rhodes. "The collection fee varies by market ranging from \$79 to \$159 depending on the area. It's a fixed collection fee within a metropolitan area. If you are in Boston, it's the same fee in that New England area. And it's a fixed collection charge no matter if you are putting in leaves or steel rebar. The collection rate varies across metropolitan markets. Boston is at the high end of our range at \$139. In the majority

of our markets it's \$99 per bag. Generally, that cost is 50 to 70 percent less than the smallest dumpster you can rent. When we came up with the idea we were definitely trying to fill a void for projects that were too big for the garbage can but not big enough to justify a dumpster. If you live in an area where the smallest dumpster you can rent is 10 yards and you don't need that size, this is a perfect solution."

Unlike a traditional dumpster, there is no delivery cost involved with a Bagster bag and no rental time limit. A do-it-yourselfer can do a project over several weekends and call for a pickup when done.

Wes Muir, a spokesman for WM explained collections, "People can call or go on-line for a pickup and we collect within three business days. We have a computer program that shows where the pickups are, the addresses and how many pickups are being made. Every month we are increasing the amount of pickups, seeing a lot of multiple bag pickups and just saw one household that had four at the curb. It's taken off and become very popular. It's a cost effective means to collect this material. Each boom truck holds 12 to 14 fully loaded bags. The benefit to us is being able to pick up 12 to 14 bags on one run and avoid the delivery and pickup of traditional dumpsters. The savings in operating costs are just tremendous and obviously from an environmental point of view our carbon footprint is significantly reduced because of the efficiencies as opposed to one bag per load."

Muir added, "At this point Bagster bags are single-use. They are recyclable and we are looking at recycling them. A lot of the materials we collect are deposited at transfer stations so we are looking at ways to tip the bag and have it recycled. We have a number of pilot projects where we are separating some of those materials."



Clever animals have forced dumpster manufacturers to innovate – Veolia now manufactures bear-proof containers.

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