



American Recycler

NewsVoice of Salvage, Waste and Recycling

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Recycled plastics rebounds after recession

by MIKE BRESLIN

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PHOTO BY DANIEL RAJSZCZAK | DREAMSTIME

The segregation of plastic shows the increasing pressures to recover plastic material for processing.

During the financial crisis of 2008, recycled polyethylene terephthalate (rPET) bottles, the most highly recycled resin, suffered along with all other recycled commodities. In January of 2008, East coast rPET baled prices ranged from \$.18 to \$.24 per pound, but by December of that year, it plummeted to \$.02 to \$.04 cents per pound. Current United States prices for baled rPET are in the \$.16 to \$.19 per pound range. Late this summer, for the first time in European market history rPET hit record high price levels actually reaching parity with virgin PET resin and in some instances, exceeding them.

Matt Coz, vice president of recycling services at Waste Management, Inc. (WM), provided a broad overview of what has been happening in recycled plastics over the past few years. WM and its subsidiaries provide waste collection, transfer, recycling and resource recovery, and disposal services. WM's sites include 273 landfills, 345 transfer stations, over 120 beneficial-use landfill gas projects and 16 waste-to-energy plants.

WM also operates about 100 recycling facilities in the United States, of which 33 are single stream recycling facilities where the company captures and sorts materials from a commingled stream. In the case of plastics, WM sorts by resin types, typically the two largest

volume grades recovered are PET and high density polyethylene (HDPE), the number 2 recycled category, or in a shrinking percentage of its plants it makes mixed bales of plastic. Most all of WM's recycled plastics production is sold domestically.

"What we saw in plastics moving through our facilities leading up to and going through the economic crisis was very comparable to what we saw in other grades of materials," said Coz. "Overall, we saw volumes go down on the inbound side of the plastic equation as volumes in general declined. We did not

see any drastic relative percentage changes between PET and HDPE running through the plants. We naturally saw some sizeable price swings because of the economic crisis. PET and HDPE trended the way the rest of the commodity world did."

Coz reported that recently he has seen volumes on the plastic recycling side pick up somewhat, but it has been erratic. "We have seen some gains in volume from the depths of the economic crisis and we are hopeful that as the economy improves we are going to see additional gains."

For the most part, WM trades in bales of PET and HDPE. "Over the past 6 to 12 months prices have been relatively good. I think one of the interesting things overall has been that commodities coming out of the recession have fared reasonably well in the face of an admittedly slow recovery. So overall we are feeling pretty comfortable about the way the prices have reacted. A lot of what will ultimately drive recycled plastics pricing is predicated upon what's happening in the petroleum marketplace coupled with the supply demand balance. As it starts to rise we are likely to see increases on bale prices."

Mike Schedler, director of technology for the National Association for PET Container Resources (NAPCOR), commented on the demand for PET, "Supply has always been tight. Now there's a demand for more and more content, particularly in packages, water bottles especially. There's just not enough material to go around and next year we are going to have more rPET processing plants coming on line."

The demand for PET is high for both dirty product (unprocessed bales) and PET that has been sized reduced and washed into clean flake or pelletized to make food-grade bottles. "There's neither enough supply of the clean product that converters are buying to make fiber, sheet, bottles and strapping, nor enough supply of bales for the reclaimers to be

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Survey finds hotels ignorant about recycling electronics

The hotel industry is failing to educate owners and managers on how to recycle television sets, or often that television sets need to be recycled by state and local requirements. This is the key finding of a new survey conducted by The Refinishing Touch, a specialist in re-upholstery, on site furniture refinishing and armoire modification services.

The Refinishing Touch polled 103 hotel managers, operators and owners. It found that despite guidance, and in some

cases state laws, to reduce e-waste, such as television sets ending up in landfills, two-thirds weren't aware of what the requirements were for safe disposal. Twenty six percent of respondents were completely unaware of any requirements about television disposal.

Of the respondents, 13 percent were responsible for more than one hotel as part of a chain or brand, and each respondent was responsible for between 15 to

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Common sense trumps bag bans



Focus Section Cover, Page B1

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The Carpet Recyclers opens first two facilities

The Carpet Recyclers has opened its first two carpet recycling facilities in Oakland and La Mirada California to serve Northern and Southern California. The company will utilize state-of-the-art carpet recovery equipment which recycles both residential and commercial carpet with zero waste going to landfills.



1.3 billion pounds of old carpet now goes into California landfills, comprising 3.2 percent of all waste disposed in the State. Governor Schwarzenegger recently signed a California carpet recovery bill which established the nation's first comprehensive carpet recycling law.

The 1.3 billion pounds of old carpet presently going to California landfills comprises 3.2 percent of all waste disposed in the state. As most carpet is made from petroleum, recycling carpet not only reduces landfill disposal, it also saves oil. The Carpet Recyclers initial operations will have the capacity to recycle 400,000 pounds of carpet per day.

Recycling carpet in California also has the potential to eliminate over nine million metric tons of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. Products made from carpet recycling include new carpet, carpet padding, a wide range of building products and high energy fuel. Governor Schwarzenegger recently signed a California carpet recovery bill which established the nation's first comprehensive, industry-financed and supported mandatory carpet recycling program.

A man and his wife were arguing, then gave each other the silent treatment.

Suddenly, the man realized that he would need his wife to wake him at 5:00 am for an early morning business flight the next day.

Not wanting to be the first to break the silence (and LOSE), he wrote on a piece of paper, "Please wake me at 5:00 am." He left it where he knew she'd find it.

The next morning, the man woke up, only to discover it was 9:00 am and he had missed his flight. Furious, he was about to go and see why his wife hadn't wake him, when he noticed a piece of paper by the bed.

It said, "It is 5:00 am. Wake up."

New Jersey honors recycling leaders

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) honored some of the most notable recycling leaders during the state's annual Recycling Symposium and Awards Luncheon.

The Garden State has been an established leader in recycling since the passage of the "New Jersey Statewide Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act" in 1987. New Jersey was the first state to require recycling because the state faced a shortage of landfill space at that time. Since its inception, the Recycling Act requires the state's 21 counties to develop recycling plans, mandating the recycling of at least three designated materials, in addition to leaves.

The DEP has since developed policies to boost recycling rates and adapt recycling strategies to match current lifestyles. The State requires counties to achieve recycling tonnage targets, promote public participation and enforce recycling mandates.

Awards were presented during the 30th New Jersey Recycling Symposium and Awards Luncheon in Eatontown. This annual event is co-sponsored by the DEP and Association of New Jersey Recyclers. Also recognized were fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grade students honored for writing poems about recycling.

2010 recycling awards

•Franz Adler, Recycling Coordinator – Margate Franz Adler co-authored and instituted six new recycling ordinances for Margate, including one for carpet recycling, making Margate only the third municipality in the state to have mandatory carpet recycling. He also led the city's initiative to require biodegradable paper bags for yard waste collection.

Republic Services' summer safety program a success

Republic Services, Inc. realized an 18 percent reduction in total accidents and injuries during the 2010 Summer Safety program compared to the same time last year. The company launched its 101 Days of Summer Safety campaign in June to raise the level of awareness toward safety from Memorial Day to Labor Day, a time when the industry has historically seen an increase in accidents and injuries.

Each Republic division developed a division-specific summer safety plan and tracked their progress by displaying a 101 Days of Summer Safety banner that counted down the days of summer safety.

The company also saw a 39 percent reduction in the Focus 6 accidents during the program over same period last year. Republic's Focus 6 initiative spotlights real life accidents, which can have very tragic results. During the 101 Days of Summer Safety in 2009, Republic achieved an 18 percent reduction in total accidents and injuries and a 32 percent reduction in the Focus 6 accidents.

•Medford Lakes Cub Scout Pack #48 – The Medford Lakes Cub Scout Pack #48 collected 36,500 plastic twist-off bottle caps weighing a total of 205 pounds. The campaign is in association with Clean Ocean Action's "Flip Your Lids" contest. The scouts set up drop-off bins for the bottle caps at two elementary schools, the borough office and the community recreation office.

•New Jersey State Fair – Managers for the Sussex County-based New Jersey State Fair designed a recycling program that identified easy materials to recycle – cardboard from the vendors and drink containers from the fairgoers. They chose a receptacle shaped like a soda bottle so visitors could easily identify it as a recycling container. Fair managers purchased additional containers and used them throughout the year, offering them as sponsorship opportunities to vendors and local businesses. They also recycled 95 percent of waste from construction of a new conservatory for the fairgrounds.

•Hunterdon Medical Center – Flemington-based Hunterdon Medical Center utilizes an aggressive marketing and education campaign to divert more material from the waste stream than the law requires. The staff recycles electronics, compostable food, wood, furniture, and grease as well as more traditional materials. Last year, the medical center recycled nearly 55 tons more than it recycled in 2008.

•John Haas, Recycling Coordinator Ocean County After 35 years of public service, John Haas is retiring from his post as coordinator of the Ocean County

recycling program. Haas has been with the program since its inception as a mandatory program in the late 1980s. Under his leadership, Ocean County successfully implemented recycling mini-grants for municipalities and school districts, paper shredding programs and paint management programs.

•Elizabeth-based CarpetCycle has invested over \$500,000 in a new carpet-shearing line with the help of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority that enabled the company to get more value from separated carpet components. The new process has increased the number of tons of carpet the company processes by an average of 25 percent. CarpetCycle has been collecting discarded carpets from stores throughout New Jersey for more than 11 years.

Poetry contest awards

Fourth grade – Jamie Avena, St. Cassian School, Upper Montclair; Megan Peropat, St. Catharine School, Spring Lake; Catina Schneck, St. Rose Grammar School, Belmar; Andrew Mester, Gerrard Berman Day School, Oakland.

Fifth grade – Logan Lazarczyk, St. Mary School, Bordentown; Christian Berger, St. Leo the Great School, Lincolnton; Maverick Alcala, James F. Murray P.S. #38, Jersey City; Kyle Petzold, Veterans Memorial Elementary School, Brick.

Sixth grade – Hunter Romach, William Rohrer Middle School, Westmont; Kayla Klatt, Ho-Ho-Kus Public School, Ho-Ho-Kus; Brian Mathew, St. Cecelia School, Iselin; Gina Frandino, Buena Regional Middle School, Buena.

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Rebound

■Continued from Page 1

able to adequately fill up their plants to make the clean product. Historically, the demand for recycled was driven by lower cost, but today demand is higher because it is sought after for green reasons, to make claims and advertise recycled content by major brand consumer products. It's difficult to compare prices of recycled to virgin plastics because the market is in constant flux. "Currently there are cheaper virgin alternatives to be found in all traditional rPET applications," said Schedler. "That's worrisome because we don't see that as particularly sustainable. You have to have good economics to go along with a good environmental story," he added.

For 2009, the national recovery rate for PET was 28 percent and about the same rate for HDPE. The increase from the previous year's rate is in spite of a 4 percent decrease in the total PET bottles and jars available for recycling.

In addition to plastics recovered from the solid waste stream, only 11 states have return deposit bottle laws that include recovery of plastics as well as containers made of other materials like glass, metal and paper. Delaware's deposit law will be repealed on December 1 of this year and consumers will cease paying deposits. Refunds will stop on February 1, 2011. But there has been recent progress in bottle deposit recovery.

"Last year we did see New York and Connecticut enact expanded deposit laws and that's had a positive impact. Program expansions in Oregon have really helped and are posting some good numbers," said Schedler. "There's been a fair amount of new and expanded publicly initiated programs. On a private level we see a lot more collection opportunities installed. A few years ago bottle recycling bins in airports were scarce. Now it's not unusual to find them at malls, stadiums, events, festivals and convenience stores. Today you can see a recycling bin almost anywhere. There's certainly been a resurgence of interest by the public to put bottles in bins."

Because of demand and attractive prices for recycled plastics, greater invest-

ments in automation are being made at recycling facilities to recover larger volumes, not only of PET, HDPE and low density polyethylene (LDPE), but also growing interest in the lesser recovered resin codes Numbers 3 to 7.

"We've invested a lot in optical sorting technology at our recycling facilities to enable us to do better and faster sorting of plastics," said Coz about WM. "As few as four or five years ago it was not very widely used at all. Today, I think we would be hard pressed to build a mid or large-scale recycling facility that did not have it built in. It's been a huge advance, especially since more material has shifted to plastics packaging." This camera-based technology was introduced in the mid 90s and has since advanced considerably. It uses optical sensors to instantaneously identify and eject materials from conveyor lines and can be configured to discriminate among various resin types and separate them into respective factions.

In view of tight supplies of recycled plastics, high demand and increasingly high prices the plastics manufacturing and packaging industries are trying to do more with less resin.

"Lightweighting has been phenomenal!" said Schedler at NAPCOR. "There's been a 4 to 6 percent reduction in bottle weight over the past few years. They are continuing to find ways to carve off weight from bottles. It's a process that continues as we speak and will probably continue to have a substantial impact over the next few years."

Schedler elaborated, "We had a minus 5 percent in the amount of PET weight that was used in bottles from 2007 to 2008. The 2009 report is not out yet, but I can tell you that weight will go down again. In many cases, you are seeing the weight of the category going down even though the number of units or bottles sold in that category have gone up. That's the true sense of what the impact lightweighting has meant."

In addition to PET, HDPE, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and LDPE, there is an increasing interest in recovering polypropylene (PP) – the kind of plastic stamped No. 5 – widely used for molded yogurt cups and most often thrown in the trash. Today, few municipal recycling

programs even collect polypropylene because it lacks a reliable market. But that may change according to Coz at WM, "Customers have been talking to us about recovering yogurt cups."

GreenTEK Industries, a division of the J.M. Murray Center in Cortland, New York, for example, is using recycled yogurt cups to process materials that are sold to manufacturers of toothbrushes, razors and reusable cutlery, dinnerware and other products made out of recycled polypropylene. This nonprofit agency provides training and jobs to disabled people. Yogurt makers such as The Dannon Company are promoting the recycling of their cups as part of its sustainability program.

"Many customers are looking to drive their own sustainability issues or looking for cost, productivity or competitive advantages. We are not just looking at PET and HDPE, the big components, but those recycled resin codes 3 to 7. Customers are looking to us to see if there are better ways to use those materials and how can we capture more of them," Coz added.

In May, Waste Management, along with a number of other partners, invested \$6.9 million dollars to expand commercial production at MicroGREEN Polymers, Inc., a plastics company that uses its patented Ad-Air technology to reduce the amount of plastic required for the production of consumer products, thereby significantly lowering raw material costs. The technology creates bubbles within plastics to improve its functionality by creating an internal microcellular structure that is lighter in weight, more insulating and stronger.

The process does not involve petrochemical blowing agents or volatile organic compounds and works especially well with recycled PET. According to WM, when applied to making hot beverage cups, it uses the lowest total amount of energy and has the lowest total solid waste as compared to expanded polystyrene and coated paperboard hot beverage cups, the two most commonly used today. "This new technology is now specifically for processing PET, but could be applied to all plastics. It also has the added environmental benefit that it does not involve petrochemical blowing agents or volatile organic compounds in the manufacturing process," commented Wes Muir, director of communications at WM.

As substitutions increase, such as replacing glass with plastics, and as more and more packaging transitions from aluminum, paper, paperboard and cardboard to plastics, the demand for plastics in all recycling codes will increase – not just for packaging, but also for a wide range of consumer and industrial products.

Today's petroleum prices are increasing pressures to recover as much material as possible, and if prices continue to rise, the pressure will increase accordingly. While many beat the drum of save-the-landfills, the more correct reason is to access valuable secondary materials so it will have a positive effect on the economy, quality of life, as well as many other environmental benefits beyond conserving landfills.

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Standardized recycling signs introduced in Minnesota

Inconsistent and often confusing signage on recycling bins in the United States has been an issue since the introduction of recycling in the United States twenty-plus years ago. The Recycle Across America website introduces and provides standardized signage to help eliminate confusion, improve capture rates and improve the quality of materials being collected.

"There are literally thousands, if not millions of variations of signs on recycling bins across the country," said Mitch Hedlund of Recycle Across America. "This inconsistency has led to frustration, mistakes, contaminated contents, valuable recyclable materials ending up in landfills and ultimately, inaction. Since the signs can be applied to existing bins, purchasing new bins is not necessary."

According to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) in just one school district, improved consistency in recycling practices throughout their 15 school buildings resulted in a 47 percent increase in capture rates.

"Many other state recycling organizations like the Recycling Association of Minnesota (RAM) are promoting this voluntary approach to use standardized recycling signs. Every time another school or business uses the signs, it helps spread the message nationwide. Eventually as you travel cross-country you'll start to see the same signs being used everywhere," stated Ellen Telander, executive director of RAM.

The standardized signage initiative was proposed by UPonGREEN Environmental Advancement Foundation at the recycling industry's 2009 RAM/SWANA Conference and Show in Minneapolis. As a result, the solution has been embraced and eagerly adopted by national industry leaders who recognize the positive and long-lasting impact such an effort can have on society, the environment and the overall practice of recycling.

Any business or organization interested participating in this initiative to help expedite environmental progress and eliminate confusion can visit www.recycleacrossamerica.org to print the signage themselves at no cost or they can place an order to have the signs professionally printed on heavy-duty materials. An organization or a business's logo can also be added to the signs.

A turkey farmer was always experimenting with breeding to perfect a better turkey.

His family was fond of the leg portion for dinner and there were never enough legs for everyone. After many frustrating attempts, the farmer was relating the results of his efforts to his friends at the general store get together. "Well, I finally did it! I bred a turkey that has 6 legs!"

They all asked the farmer how it tasted.

"I don't know," said the farmer. "I never could catch the darn thing!"

Kohl's Department Stores named as 2010 EPA Green Power Partner of the Year

Kohl's Department Stores will be recognized with its second Green Power Partner of the Year honor as part of the annual Renewable Energy Markets Conference.

The awards are co-sponsored by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the United States Department of Energy and the Center for Resource Solutions and recognize the country's leading green power purchasers for their commitment and contribution to helping advance the development of green power sources.

The Green Power Partner of the Year award recognizes partners who distinguish themselves through their green power purchase, leadership, overall strategy and overall impact on the green power market.

"Embracing the use of renewable energy was a natural fit for our overall goal to leave a smaller environmental footprint. Kohl's dedication to innovation in on-site solar power generation and the purchase of renewable energy credits demonstrate our continued focus on energy management as an important component of our sustainability initia-

tives," said Ken Bonning, Kohl's executive vice president of store planning and logistics.

This is the second year Kohl's has been named EPA Green Power Partner of the Year. Kohl's has also received EPA Green Power Partnership recognition for on-site generation and green power purchasing. In 2010, Kohl's purchased more than 1.3 billion kilowatt hours of renewable energy, a 60 percent increase over the company's 2009 green power purchase and enough to meet 100 percent of the company's purchased electricity use.

According to EPA, this current green power purchase is equivalent to avoiding the carbon dioxide emissions of nearly 188,000 passenger vehicles per year, or is the equivalent amount of electricity needed to power more than 119,000 average American homes annually.

In addition to purchasing renewable energy credits that support projects nationwide in the areas of wind, solar, small-hydro, biogas and biomass generation, Kohl's continues to increase its commitment to on-site power generation

through the company's industry-leading solar program. As the largest retail host of solar power in North America, Kohl's currently operates 100 solar locations in 7 states. In September the company announced plans to expand its solar program into its eighth state, Pennsylvania. Depending on the geographic location, solar provides 20-50 percent of the energy provided to the Kohl's location.

Energy management is a significant focus of sustainability at Kohl's, with efforts spanning several different initiatives. Kohl's operates central energy management systems at all stores to control most interior and exterior lighting, as well as heating and cooling systems.

Through its stakeholder engagement program, Kohl's encourages business partners to consider sustainability and energy management as part of how they do business. In addition to the EPA Green Power Partnership, Kohl's is a member of the EPA SmartWay Transport Shipper and ENERGY STAR programs, as well as the United States Green Building Council.

CloudBlue awarded e-Stewards Certification for sustainable electronics recycling

CloudBlue Technologies, Inc., a provider of e-waste management services has received the e-Stewards Certification by the Basel Action Network (BAN) for its six processing facilities in Alpharetta, Georgia, Chandler, Arizona, Indianapolis, Indiana, Joliet, Illinois, Pine Brook, New Jersey, and Sterling, Virginia. The e-Stewards Certification is the world's most rigorous independent e-waste certification program and is awarded only to e-waste providers who pass an extensive independent audit process.

By achieving the certification, CloudBlue has demonstrated that the company's e-waste management services meet and exceed the complete list of e-Stewards regulations. Certified e-Stewards requirements include:

- Prohibition of toxic waste disposed of in solid waste landfills.
- Full compliance with international hazardous waste treaties.
- Social accountability ensuring fair labor practices, including elimination of prison labor in the recycling of toxic and data-sensitive electronics.
- Extensive baseline protections for recycling workings in every country worldwide.
- A certified Environmental Management System (EMS) for maintaining environmental and occupational health and safety policies.
- Strict management of downstream vendors to promote compliance throughout the recycling chain.
- Reporting of all incoming and outgoing weights through Mass Balance

Accounting (MBA) policies to ensure accountability and visibility of all e-waste received and processed.

In addition to e-Stewards operations requirements, CloudBlue ensures complete transparency for customers while managing all logistics of IT asset disposal from pick-up to recycling or refurbishing. Customers are able to track each item online and receive a comprehensive audit detailing the process and end result of all equipment. Its distributed operations model and exclusive-use trucks limit transportation between pickup and processing locations.

Excel Manufacturing establishes new company leadership

Excel Manufacturing Inc. announced the addition of Andrew Archer, son of the late Bryan Andrew Fisher.

Archer assumed the role of owner and acting chief executive officer.

Excel Manufacturing was founded in 1991 by Bryan Andrew Fisher and Steve Aylsworth. Archer continues in the footsteps of his father, to push Excel forward to a new age in technology.

Archer's latest endeavor are mobile control robots through his company Robotics Redefined. Robotics Redefined has worked on several automated robots for the automotive industry and has also worked on several NASA Rover projects.

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Lowe's installs in-store recycling centers



Lowe's has installed recycling centers in nearly 1,700 stores throughout the United States to provide a one-stop recycling destination for customers. The permanent recycling centers offer a free, convenient and easy way for customers to recycle rechargeable batteries, cell phones, CFLs and plastic shopping bags.

As consumers continue to recycle products at a growing rate, the newly launched recycling centers will allow for the safe and proper disposal of these items in an easy-to-use bin near the store entrance. Customers can drop off any expired, unbroken CFL, any rechargeable battery up to 11 pounds and all used cell phones and plastic shopping bags. Lowe's stores in Canada also feature

recycling centers to ensure CFLs and batteries are responsibly recycled. The products are safely shipped to recycling facilities to process and reclaim materials that are used to make new products.

Replacing traditional light bulbs with ENERGY STAR® qualified CFLs is one of the easiest ways to cut home energy costs. ENERGY STAR qualified CFLs use 75 percent less energy, last up to 10 times longer than incandescent bulbs and will save about \$40 over their lifetime, according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). However, the EPA estimates that more than 500 million CFLs, approximately 3 of every 4 CFLs sold in the United States each year, are improperly discarded.

Houston to utilize single stream

Greenstar North America will be the first recycler to provide single stream recycling services in Houston. Single stream is an innovation in recycling that allows participants to put recyclables conveniently into one bin.

Greenstar has helped cities across Texas increase their recycling rates with the convenience of single stream – 300 percent in Dallas, 200 percent in San Antonio and 75 percent in Austin.

Houston is poised for growth and Greenstar expects recycling rates to increase once single stream is available.

Greenstar is upgrading its existing facility in Northwest Houston and has a long history of providing recycling services with operations dating back to the 1970s. The facility upgrades will include technologies to automate sorting so materials end up cleanly separated, baled and ready for sale as inputs into new products.

Local recycling grants from Waste Management given

Fifteen Keep America Beautiful (KAB) affiliates will share \$150,000 in cash grants sponsored by Waste Management (WM). The Waste Management Think Green Community Improvement Grants are part of a nationwide effort encouraging the development of local solutions designed to improve community environments.

For the fourth year, WM is collaborating with KAB to offer merit-based grants to KAB's nearly 600 local affiliates nationwide. To qualify, affiliates present innovative and ambitious proposals for projects encouraging education and community involvement to support environmental stewardship. This year, 55 organizations submitted proposals to receive a WM Think Green Grant.

The winning programs are highly creative, reflecting the diverse interests and needs of the communities involved.

These programs encourage recycling and reuse, provide hands-on environmental education, convey the importance of stewardship to the public through a variety of means such as public service announcements, videos and booklets, and enhance neighborhoods through beautification and community greening. Support of these initiatives marks WM's intent to building awareness about sustainable resources for effective management of waste.

Waste Management partners with KAB on additional programs, which include community beautification grants (target/showcase) and as a National Sponsor for Keep America Beautiful's Great American Cleanup, the nation's largest community improvement program.

For a full list of the grant recipients, view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

California carpet bill signed into law

California signed into law California's AB 2398, Carpet Stewardship Bill. The bill, which was sponsored by Assembly Speaker John A. Perez, (D-Los Angeles) represents new thinking in the area of product stewardship in that it incentivizes carpet recycling by rewarding those who produce marketable products.

The bill generates revenue through an initial assessment of \$.05 per square yard of carpet sold in California. Further, manufacturers will be required to establish a stewardship plan with the state for implementing carpet recycling.

To develop their required stewardship plan, manufacturers will work with Cali-

fornia regulatory agencies with the help of the Carpet America Recovery Effort (CARE). Founded in 2002, CARE is a non-profit organization that works to find market-based solutions for recycling carpet and diverting it from landfills. CARE is listed in the AB 2398 legislation as the carpet industry's designated stewardship organization.

CARE will begin working immediately with CalRecycle to develop a stewardship plan that will increase carpet recycling. The Carpet Stewardship Bill is unique in that it provides monetary incentives for the creation of marketable products from old California carpet.

Hotel recycling

■Continued from Page 1

2,000 television sets within their operations, with the average of 176 sets per respondent.

When asked if they had recently purchased flat screen televisions, more than 39 percent said that they had bought televisions in 2009; while a further 24 percent said they had or would buy flat screen televisions in 2010.

Television disposal has become a problem for the hotel industry as independent and chain hotels look to update bulky cathode ray tube television sets and replace them with modern flat screen televisions.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the United States currently produces more than three million tons of e-waste every year, including television sets and computer monitors, which hold high levels of toxins as well as containing important recyclable resources such as precious metals, plastics and glass.

When asked how they had or would dispose of unwanted television sets, just under a third (30 percent) of respondents realized the need for an approved vendor to remove and recycle unwanted television sets; 6 percent said they used junk-

yards; 15 percent advertised them on sites such as Craigslist. The remainder found alternate methods which included donating the sets to local communities, passing them to other smaller hotel operations or selling/offering them to employees.

The survey revealed that many respondents were unaware of how toxic the components of a television set are. When asked which product contains more toxins, a pack of 20 cigarettes or a television set, over a fifth of respondents (22 percent) thought the chemical volume was greater in cigarettes. Old televisions contain between four and eight pounds of lead.

Mario Insenga, president and CEO of The Refinishing Touch said, "As more state laws – and hopefully federal laws – come into force, all organizations and individuals are going to have to review how they recycle TVs, but in the interim it's crucial to view e-waste from a perspective of responsibility. If you gave someone a box full of lead, cadmium and mercury and asked them to dispose of it, most humans would feel a moral responsibility to do so safely and wouldn't even consider throwing it away. Yet when disguised as a television set, people are doing just that without even realizing it."

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Keep America Beautiful names senior director

Keep America Beautiful, Inc. (KAB) announced the appointment of Brenda Pulley as senior director of recycling programs. Pulley brings over 20 years of corporate communications and government affairs experience including 12 years in the aluminum industry where she played an instrumental role in recycling initiatives as vice president of corporate affairs and communications at Novelis Inc. and, previously, at Alcan Corporation. She has also served as the executive director of the National Association of Chemical Recyclers from 1989 to 1993.

In the new position, Pulley is responsible for the overall development and execution of KAB's America Recycles Day program, outreach to Washington-based stakeholders in government and industry, public policy development and outreach, and recycling-oriented project management. In her previous role at Novelis, she was responsible for brand reputation, global media strategy, employee communications, corporate responsibility strategy and emerging issues management. Pulley will be taking over national project management for America Recycles Day from Anjia Nicolaidis, who will be moving to Cairo, Egypt with her family.

Cincinnati debuts enhanced recycling program

Cincinnati launched an enhanced recycling program, which includes larger recycling carts, every-other-week collection and the ability to earn rewards for recycling. The program officially started in October for about 25 percent of the city residences.

The four-phase rollout of new recycling carts began in September and city-wide implementation will continue through February 2011.

The City is using \$750,000 from the Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grants (EECBG) awarded to Cincinnati through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), or "Stimulus Act," to manage the program and to purchase the new recycling carts.

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Office Depot awarded LEED Gold Certification

Office Depot's global headquarters in Boca Raton, Florida, has been awarded Gold Certification under the U.S. Green Building Council's (USGBC) Leadership for Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) for Existing Buildings: Operations and Maintenance rating system.

Office Depot is the first office supplies retailer with a headquarters building certified under any of the LEED rating systems. The company's headquarters is also now the first LEED for Existing Buildings Operations and Maintenance certified building in Boca Raton, Florida and one of ten in the entire state.

Sustainable Sites

- Landscaping staff is utilizing fuel efficient, battery powered equipment.
- Underground water retention system designed to handle storm water run-off.
- Commuter program that encourages use of public transit.

Water Efficiency

- Rain Sensor System designed to reduce water usage during landscaping.
- Low flow aerators installed in sinks to conserve water.

Energy and Atmosphere

- Energy efficient interior lighting achieved by switching from 32 watt to 28 watt fluorescents, which are 12.5 percent more energy efficient.
- Conversion of garage lighting from 130 watt metal halide lamps with ballast to 54 watt fluorescent lights led to reduced energy consumption by two-thirds.
- Facility is carbon neutral as a result of Renewable Energy Credits purchased from NextEra Energy.

•Motion detectors in all conference rooms, offices and restrooms ensure that lights are off when a space is not occupied.

Materials and Resources

- New sustainable purchasing policies written to meet or exceed LEED for Existing Buildings guidelines.
- New solid waste management policies were written and implemented.
- Over 90 percent of paper used in building is 30 percent post consumer recycled or higher, and Forest Stewardship Council certified.
- Low mercury lamps installed throughout the building.
- Steel case furniture triple-certified to the highest green furniture standards: MBDC Cradle to Cradle® Silver, BIFMA Level 2 and SCS (Scientific Certification Systems) Indoor Advantage Gold™.
- Carpet used in building is recyclable and 100 percent recycled.

Indoor Air Quality

- Green cleaning products for indoor janitorial use are Green Seal and EcoLogo certified.
- Disposable paper cleaning cloths were replaced with reusable micro fiber cloths.

Innovation

Fourteen on-site lime, grapefruit, orange and tangerine fruit trees were planted.

Durable goods 100 percent diverted from landfill through building recycling program.



An Office Depot associate changes out a garage light from a 130 watt metal halide lamp with ballast to a 54 watt fluorescent light.

139 percent weighted green value of office supplies expenditure was documented using Office Depot's industry-exclusive LEED for Existing Buildings Credit Report.

Approximately 1,700 Office Depot associates work at Office Depot's global headquarters in Boca Raton. The company leases the facility from Boca 54 North, LLC, a joint venture partnership between Flagler which oversaw the design and development of the complex, and TIAA-CREF Global Real Estate Group. Office Depot partnered with LEED consultant Envision Realty Services to manage the project.

Million dollar grant reduces port pollution

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has awarded \$1.1 million to upgrade 48 pieces of cargo handling equipment at the South Jersey Port in Camden, New Jersey. Older diesel engines generate significant amounts of fine particles, hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide, which are released into the air and can contribute to severe respiratory ailments and trigger asthma.

The grant will provide for the installation of improved engines on port vehicles including fork lifts, lift trucks, front end loaders and other types of port equipment. EPA's commitment advances one of the Agency's priorities, environmental justice, ensuring that everyone enjoys the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards. The Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management will also utilize \$1.4 million in EPA funding to repower 16 construction cranes with cleaner engines and install a diesel particulate filter on a repowered crane in areas throughout New York and New Jersey in a separate but related project.

Waterfront South and South Central Camden have one of the highest concentrations of contaminated sites and operating facilities that are sources of air pollution sources in all of New Jersey. With 1,700 residents living nearby, the area has 2 EPA Superfund sites and over a dozen contaminated sites identified by the state.

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ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

IKEA powers up solar energy in Tempe, Arizona

With company representatives, local officials and community leaders on-hand, IKEA, a home furnishings retailer, officially plugged-in the solar energy system installed at its store in Tempe, Arizona. The 75,000 square foot array consists of two 300kW systems, each built with approximately 1,300 panels. IKEA Tempe's solar program will produce approximately 1 million kWh of electricity annually, the equivalent of reducing at least 760 tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂).

This effort represents the third active solar energy project for IKEA in the United States. Systems are operational in Brooklyn, New York and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and plans are underway for installing programs at eight IKEA locations in California. Also, a geothermal system has been incorporated into the store under construction in Centennial, Colorado.

IKEA contracted with Gloria Solar for the development, design and installation of this customized solar power system. Gloria Solar is the United States operating group focused on the photovoltaic system business within the family of E-Ton Solar Group. This project – the largest commercial installation in SRP's service area – is being implemented as part of the EarthWise Solar Energy program of SRP, the third-largest

public power utility in the country. SRP provides more than 940,000 electric customers in the Phoenix metropolitan area through a variety of resources including solar, wind, biomass, geothermal and hydroelectricity.

Other sustainable efforts by IKEA include: integrating innovative materials into the production process; working with Global Forest Watch to maintain sustainable resources; flat-packing the goods for an efficient distribution system; recycling approximately 75 percent of the waste (paper, wood, plastic, etc.); and incorporating environmental measures into the construction of the buildings in terms of energy-efficient HVAC and lighting systems, recycled construction materials, low volatile organic compound emitting paint, skylights in the warehouse and water conserving restrooms.

Located on 23 acres, the 342,000 square foot IKEA Tempe employs approximately 250 workers. In addition to 10,000 exclusively designed items, IKEA Tempe presents 44 different room settings, 3 model home interiors, a supervised children's play area and a 250 seat restaurant serving Swedish specialties such as meatballs with lingonberries and salmon plates, as well as American dishes.

Law of Probability: The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.



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- AIR CONVEYOR CORP PAPER SHREDDING SYSTEM
- SHRED TECH SHREDDER SYSTEM, MODEL CT-50
- 60 HP CUMBERLAND GRANULATOR, MODEL 24B
- 60 HP REDUCTION TECH DUAL SHAFT SHREDDER, MODEL 4220
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Veolia Environmental to develop a landfill gas-to-energy project in Milwaukee

Veolia ES Solid Waste signed a contract with the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) to develop an alternative energy project that is estimated to save MMSD customers tens of millions of dollars over 20 years. The agreement includes the construction of a low-pressure, "green" pipeline to transport landfill gas from Veolia's Emerald Park Landfill in Muskego to downtown Milwaukee, where it will fuel three new turbines at the MMSD's Jones Island Water Reclamation Facility. The project is expected to be operational by 2013.

MMSD will design, construct and operate the low-pressure, landfill gas pipeline. The pipeline will run approximately 19 miles from the Veolia ES Emerald Park Landfill in Muskego, Wisconsin to the Jones Island Water Reclamation facility in Milwaukee. Prior to entering the pipeline, the landfill gas will be cleaned and prepared via specialized equipment at the landfill. When the gas arrives at Jones Island, three new turbines will transform it into energy, significantly reducing the amount of electricity and natural gas the MMSD purchases to clean wastewater.

At only 100 pounds per square inch (PSI), the pipeline will have less pressure than other natural gas pipelines, which are usually in excess of 300 PSI. It will be approximately 16 inches in diameter and will be constructed of high-density polyethylene (HDPE), a strong heat-, chemical- and corrosion-resistant thermoplastic.

The Veolia ES Emerald Park Landfill currently produces enough landfill gas to meet approximately 50 percent of MMSD's current fuel needs at Jones Island. The landfill will be able to supply all MMSD fuel needs by 2025, meeting the majority of the district's fuel needs – with renewable energy – during the 20-year agreement. In addition, the use of methane, or landfill gas, is projected to have a combined reduction in carbon dioxide emissions between the two facilities.

The project has the support of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as well as various local governments.

Cooper Marine & Timberlands to supply feedstock to BlueFire

BlueFire Renewables, Inc. announced a contract with Cooper Marine & Timberlands (CMT) to provide feedstock for BlueFire's planned cellulosic ethanol facility in Fulton, Mississippi, for a period of up to 15 years.

Under the agreement, CMT will supply BlueFire's Fulton, Mississippi project with all of the feedstock required to produce approximately 19-million gallons of ethanol per year from locally sourced cellulosic materials such as wood chips, forest residual chips, pre-commercial thinnings and urban wood waste such as construction waste, storm debris, land clearing; or manufactured wood waste from furniture manufacturing.

Under the agreement, CMT will pursue a least-cost strategy for feedstock supply made possible by the project

site's proximity to feedstock sources and the flexibility of BlueFire's process to use a wide spectrum of cellulosic waste materials in pure or mixed forms.

CMT, with several chip mills in operation in Mississippi and Alabama, is a member company of Cooper/T. Smith one of America's oldest and largest stevedoring and maritime related firms with operations on all three United States coasts and foreign operations in Central and South America.

The Fulton project will put to work Mississippi's significant biomass resources to create economic development and job creation in Mississippi.

The project will establish the platform for developing American energy self-sufficiency from readily available local resources.

Laidlaw permit application approved

Laidlaw Energy Group, Inc. indicated that the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee unanimously approved Laidlaw Berlin BioPower's application to construct and operate a 70 megawatt biomass plant in Berlin.

The approval comes with a large number of conditions, including a list of stipulations negotiated between the city and Laidlaw. SEC Attorney Michael Iacopino said other conditions include a signed wood supply agreement with Cousineau Forest Products, an operations agreement with Homeland Renewable, an Engineering, Procurement, and

Construction agreement with Babcox and Wilcox and a wood harvesting sustainability agreement negotiated with the Counsel for the Public. The state Public Utilities Commission must also approve the 20 year power purchase agreement between Laidlaw and Public Service of New Hampshire.

The 9 member committee deliberated for 2 days following a 9 month procedure that included a 900 page application, a public hearing and site visit in Berlin, 2 technical sessions, and 6 days of adversarial hearings.

GLASS

O-I employees collect 4 tons of glass for recycling

by Duane Ramsey

news@toledofreepress.com

Owens-Illinois (O-I) employees collected four tons of glass for recycling as part of North American Recycle Glass Week which is sponsored by the Glass Packaging Institute (GPI).

O-I employees exceeded the company's goal of collecting 3 tons of glass for recycling through its employee collection drive at the global headquarters in Perrysburg, Ohio where 750 people are employed.

"We wanted to focus on raising awareness about the importance of recycling glass since many people may not realize that glass can be recycled over and over, saving tons of raw materials," said Kristie Martin, a communications specialist at O-I, who chaired the company-wide recycling effort.

O-I hosted collection events and collected glass for recycling at its headquarters and its manufacturing plants across in the United States. The company built glass recycling stations for employees to deposit glass bottles and containers during the campaign.

All of the recycled glass was sent to cullet processors that provide recycled cullet to O-I for its glass manufacturing process to make more bottles and containers.

While glass is 100 percent recyclable, one of the most significant issues affecting the glass industry is the lack of quality recycled glass, according to O-I.

Although 17 million tons of glass enters the waste stream annually, only about 2.5 million tons are recycled by glass makers to produce more containers. By increasing the amount of recycled glass available by 10 percent, the environmental impact would reduce the energy required for glass production by 3 percent and carbon emissions by 5 percent, according to the company.

If OI's goal of using at least 50 percent recycled glass when producing new glass containers by 2013 is reached, the Environmental Protection Agency estimates the domestic energy savings would be enough to power nearly 22,000 households for an entire year and keep 181,550 tons of waste from reaching landfills.

GPI's Recycle Glass Week was a resounding success

The Glass Packaging Institute's (GPI) second-annual Recycle Glass Week, held September 12 to 18, united communities across the United States with glass container manufacturers, suppliers, and recyclers around local events to build awareness and boost glass bottle recycling.

During the week, Saint-Gobain Containers educated elementary school students about the importance of choosing and recycling glass in 10 states and continue to reach out to kids across the country through their new virtual Captain Cullet program. Saint-Gobain Containers and Green Broad Ripple Village in Indianapolis, Indiana, also organized the drop off of 100 glass container recycling bins for Broad Ripple bars and restaurants.

In Salem, New Jersey, and Winchester, Indiana, Anchor Glass Container organized collection drives for glass bottles and jars. Community members also gathered in Muskogee, Oklahoma for O-I's glass container collection event, and in Houston, Texas, residents rallied during We CAN Recycle Inc's first-ever G-Cycle glass container collection event.

An online virtual scavenger hunt with chances to win iPod shuffles, t-shirts, cash and more, was launched to

build excitement for GPI's Recycle Glass Week. The hundreds of consumers who participated were able to learn about the environmental payback when they recycle glass bottles and jars.

For the second time as a part of Recycle Glass Week, GPI recognized six "Friends of Glass" in four categories. This recognition honors those companies, organizations and persons making significant and innovative efforts to promote or participate in glass container recycling for bottle-to-bottle use.

The 2010 Friends of Glass honorees are Container Recycling Institute; MGM Resorts International; We CAN Recycle Inc.; Boulevard Brewing Company, Dr Pepper Snapple Group, and LiDestri.

GPI honored 10 consumer products goods companies for expanding the frontiers of glass package design with its 21st annual Clear Choice Awards. The winning package designs demonstrate that glass continues to be the "clear choice" for consumers who want a package that offers a premium look and feel and also protects the products they are buying. The Boston Beer Company took the prize for overall package design with their Samuel Adams Barrel Room Collection.

INTERNATIONAL

New Zealand technology turns manure into power

Mountains of manure from cows and chickens will soon be helping to heat houses in Canada thanks to technology from Flotech Inc. The New Zealand-based company has a water-scrubbing system that converts unrefined "biogas" emitted by agricultural waste into natural gas clean enough for use in homes.

Flotech's first biogas upgrading system in Canada is now up and running at an Abbotsford farm about 80 miles southeast of Vancouver. Catalyst Power is aggregating the waste from several local farms that were struggling with dairy, poultry and vegetable waste and converting it into pipeline-quality natural gas that is injected directly into the local utility grid, helping to provide energy to more than 900,000 customers across the province.

Manure management has become a huge issue in the United States and Canada. The United States Department of Agriculture estimates that more than 335 tons of dry matter waste is produced annually on farms in the United States. With the average milk cow producing upwards of 150 pounds of waste each day, one dairy farm with 2,500 cows produces as much waste as a city with 411,000 residents. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently identified agricultural runoff as the single largest source of water pollution in the nation's rivers and streams.

The EPA also estimates that cattle in the United States emit about 5.5 million metric tons of methane per year into the atmosphere. Methane has a global warming effect that is 21 times that of carbon

dioxide, so capturing and using livestock methane for energy production also dramatically reduces greenhouse gas emissions. Significant reduction of manure odor is another side benefit.

Flotech's Greenlane Biogas water scrubber installed at the British Columbia farm has the capacity to process 460 standard cubic feet per minute – the equivalent of about 1.5 megawatts of electricity or enough to heat about 1,000 homes. The system has the lowest energy consumption per unit feed of any biogas or landfill upgrading system operating in the United States and Canada, according to Sean Mezei, president of Flotech North America. It also boasts a 98 percent yield of methane from raw biogas and delivers a methane purity level of 97 percent.

With the first of the natural gas now flowing into the grid, Catalyst Power has its sights set on building similar systems at farms across Canada. Flotech is also actively involved in a number of larger projects in the United States that are expected to come online early next year.

Caterpillar to build manufacturing facility in China

Caterpillar Inc. plans to expand its manufacturing presence in China to further position the company to meet growing customer demand in China. The company will produce mini hydraulic excavator models in the under eight ton range at the new facility in Wujiang.

Work on the new facility in Wujiang is expected to begin in late 2010 pending approvals from governmental officials in Jiangsu province. The company expects to begin producing mini excavators in Wujiang in 2012. Currently Caterpillar supplies Chinese customers with mini excavators produced at Caterpillar's facility in Xuzhou, China and with machines produced in Sagami, Japan. Once the facility in Wujiang is producing machines, the operations in Xuzhou and Sagami will then be able to increase capacity for other Caterpillar products.

The new facility in Wujiang is part of Caterpillar's long-term capacity investment plan for China, which when completed, will position Caterpillar for industry leading equipment manufacturing capacity among construction equipment manufacturers in China.

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RUBBER

RMA hits 20 years of scrap tire leadership

Twenty years ago, the United States was littered with more than 1 billion stockpiled scrap tires and only 11 percent of the annually generated scrap tires were sent to an end use market. The tire manufacturing industry was contending with a nascent scrap tire industry and a Congress that wanted results.

Rather than going from bad to worse, scrap tire management underwent a radical turnaround. Today, only 100 million stockpiled scrap tires remain and the number continues to shrink. While only one viable market for scrap tires existed in 1990, today several markets exist that consume nearly 85 percent of annually generated scrap tires. These markets have made scrap tires into a valuable commodity and have improved the environment.

A significant factor in this transformation from environmental problem to environmental success story was a tire manufacturer-led initiative. In 1990, the Rubber Manufacturers Association (RMA) created the Scrap Tire Management Council (STMC), an organization focused on developing end use markets for scrap tires and assisting in the abatement of stockpiled tires. Although the functions of the STMC were later absorbed by RMA, the mission, commitment and effort did not change.

"RMA and its tire manufacturer members recognized a serious environmental issue and invested significant resources, time and effort to make positive changes," said Charles Cannon,

RMA president and CEO. "At a time when many things could have gone terribly wrong for the industry, tire manufacturers stepped up and did the right thing at the right time. Having achieved major success over the past two decades, RMA and our members have not relented and continue to work with a broad spectrum of scrap tire industry stakeholders and regulators to ensure that these successes are not reversed," Cannon added.

Since 1990, RMA's scrap tire efforts have been spearheaded by Michael Blumenthal, who began as the Scrap Tire Management Council's executive director and is now a vice president at RMA.

Blumenthal identified a key shortcoming of the scrap tire industry – a lack of information. "One of the first efforts we undertook was to collect, develop and distribute timely and pertinent information to the scrap tire industry," Blumenthal said. "Between 1990 and 1996 reports and documents on virtually every facet of the industry were published. Information collection and distribution remains a critical practice to this day."

Another challenge was market development. In 1990, only one viable market for scrap tires existed – tire-derived fuel (TDF). The scrap tire industry was trying to develop other markets, but the technology and market opportunities did not materialize until 1994. In the early 1990s Congress was actively considering scrap tire legislation, and enacted a mandate to use ground rubber in federally-funded asphalt pavement

projects. The result of that mandate was a disaster and taught a powerful lesson to the emerging scrap tire industry.

"The scrap tire industry was under pressure to develop non-TDF markets at a time when the industry was not prepared for such an effort," Blumenthal said. "One of the very expensive lessons that had to be learned by government agencies was that the scrap tire industry has always been a demand-pull industry. Subsidizing the supply of processed scrap tires when the demand for it doesn't exist causes over-supply, falling prices and failing businesses. The Congressional mandate for road construction caused more problems than it solved," Blumenthal noted.

"Today the scrap tire industry faces new challenges from a wide array of sources. As scrap tire-derived products move into new markets, new questions and issues have arisen," Blumenthal said. "The recession has hit states hard financially and many have been diverting scrap tire funds to finance other state programs. We continue to fight these diversions so that progress to date is not reversed. Additionally, we are currently fighting an Environmental Protection Agency proposed regulation that would effectively ruin the tire derived fuel market, which still accounts for 50 percent of the market for scrap tires. This could lead to more stockpiles and greater risk of environmentally dangerous tire pile fires."

Blumenthal added, "Our determination and resolve remain steadfast, as does our commitment to the industry and the environment. As the quote goes, 'it ain't over till it's over!' I believe that's a very good way to describe our approach to scrap tires management."

A frog called the Psychic Hotline and was told, "You are going to meet a beautiful young girl who will want to know everything about you."

The frog said, "Really, that is great! Will I meet her at a party, or what?"

"No," the psychic said, "Next semester in her biology class."

Rubberized asphalt lasts longer for less

Rubberized asphalt is a high-performance alternative to traditional paving material that combines the strength and versatility of asphalt and the longevity and flexibility of recycled rubber. Derived from scrap tires, rubberized asphalt is longer lasting, safer, less costly, and friendlier to the environment than traditional paving materials. Rubberized asphalt provides an outlet for between 500 and 2,000 scrap tires per lane mile of pavement. For a 1 mile section of 4 lane highway, between 2,000 and 8,000 tires create a longer-lasting, safer and more cost-effective roadway.

"Rubberized asphalt resists cracking and rutting, improves skid resistance, decreases splash and spray in wet conditions and decreases maintenance costs," said Jeffrey Kendall, CEO of Liberty Tire Recycling, a tire recycling service provider.

Cracking in traditional asphalt is a result of vertical or horizontal movements beneath the overlay that are caused by traffic loads, temperature fluctuations and shifting earth. Rubberized asphalt reduces the occurrence of cracking and rutting with superior elasticity and stiffness. In use for more than 40 years, rubberized asphalt is laid using the same equipment as traditional asphalt in most cases. The longer lasting properties of recycled rubber reduce maintenance costs and provides a consistent supply of material.

Other environmental factors include the reduction of noise pollution by up to five decibels on highways, and the reduction of high temperature zones caused by urban heat islands. A heat island is an area that is significantly warmer than surrounding rural areas because developed land retains more heat. Rubberized asphalt's porous top layer cools down quicker than conventional asphalt, cooling road surfaces and diminishing the effects of urban heat islands.

The EPA lists the benefits as "...longer lasting road surfaces, reduced road maintenance, cost effectiveness over the long term, lower road noise and shorter braking distances."

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RUBBER

Oil to be recovered at tire recycling facility in Canada

An advanced technology at a plant under construction in Sault Ste. Marie will extract oil from used tires, along with other valuable by-products, when it becomes operational early next year.

The showcase facility will be using a proprietary technology developed by Environmental Waste International Inc. (EWS). Its patented microwave delivery system breaks down the tires at the molecular level, reducing them to their simplest forms – oil, carbon black, steel and hydrocarbon gases.

For raw material supply, the United States produces 300 million used tires annually.

Running at a planned recycling rate of about 300,000 tires a year, the plant would produce some 240,000 United States gallons of oil, 2 million pounds of carbon black, and 600,000 pounds of steel annually. Off-gases produced by the system will be used to co-generate electricity that allows the system to be energy self-sufficient.

Reverse Polymerization™, the patented EWS technology used in this system, is the most advanced process of its kind in the world. Since it does not melt tires, but rather breaks apart the molecular bonds, virtually 100 percent of the tires' by-products are reclaimed.

Securing raw materials for the plant is already under way. Approximately 12 million used tires are generated in Ontario each year. In fact, under the Ontario Tire Stewardship program, a fee is paid for every tire processed through the plant.

Ellsin Environmental Ltd., the owner of the Sault facility, contracted EWS to design and build the prototype equipment for the plant which will have a total cost in excess of \$6 million. EWS will build all future Ellsin systems and receive a royalty for each tire processed.

Ellsin, partially owned by EWS, has the sales and marketing rights to the technology for passenger tires in Canada and the United States. EWS retains the rights to the used truck tire market in these two countries, and to the entire used tire market in the rest of the world.

Simms points out that some 300 million used tires are generated each year in North America, and another 600 million annually in other parts of the world. He says the company's goal is to capture about 30 percent of the global market over the next decade.

The Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) has loaned \$2 million to Ellsin to help fund the Sault project. Operations are expected to begin in the first quarter of 2011.

Lehigh adds to tire and industrial rubber team

Lehigh Technologies has added David R. O'Brien as a major account manager for the tire and industrial rubber team.

O'Brien joins the existing team of Kedar Murthy, vice president and general manager, and Frank Papp, technical manager and accomplished rubber chemist.

O'Brien has a 30 year history within the rubber industry, with an expertise in high value plasticisers, rubber lubricants, chemical dispersions and custom-mixed rubber compounds. A well-known industry insider by tire and industrial rubber manufacturers, O'Brien has served as chairman of the Southern Rubber Group. He also held the position of chair of the American Chemical Society's Rubber Division and is currently on its Steering Committee.

Liberty Tire appoints general counsel

Pittsburgh-based Liberty Tire Recycling, a provider of tire recycling services in North America, announced the appointment of Frank DeCarlo as general counsel. In his new role, DeCarlo will provide expert legal and business guidance in the areas of acquisitions, financing, corporate governance, compliance and employment.

DeCarlo brings 20 years of experience to Liberty Tire Recycling. Prior to joining the company, DeCarlo was employed by the Software Engineering Institute at Carnegie Mellon University, where he was responsible for developing and managing business in the Army market and life-cycle activities for assigned customers. He also served as a corporate attorney in the Pittsburgh office of Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Preston Gates Ellis, an international law firm.

SALVAGING Millions

by Ron Sturgeon
Autosalvageconsultant.com

Get your banker to say "yes"

For entrepreneurs looking to borrow, the road to YES is more difficult than ever. I just spoke at two conventions on the topic of how we, as entrepreneurs, can create the right kinds of relationships with bankers to borrow when we need to. My new book, *Getting To Yes With Your Banker*, is packed with tips, traps and secrets on getting your business funded, as well as personal tips on managing your credit.

I spoke and signed books, with 100 percent of the proceeds going to ARA.

I'd like to share some of the advice that I gave to attendees with you.

•Lines of Credit – You may think you have one. But, in many cases, when you go to draw on it, you may find that it isn't "open" and getting it open requires additional underwriting. If you aren't sure, call and get a small advance on it just to see!

•Maturities on Lines Of Credit (LOC) – If your line is open, it still may be up for renewal. Typically a LOC must be renewed every 12 months. Once routine renewals are now being scrutinized. If your line matures in the next year, call now to learn what to expect. Ask your banker for a two year maturity.

•Advance rates on borrowing base – If you have a borrowing base, the advance rates are likely to decline at the next renewal. So, if you used to be able to borrow 65 percent on your 60 day and newer receivables, you may

find the percentage dropping or the terms getting tighter, perhaps only to 30 day receivables.

•Community banks vs. money center banks – I am a huge advocate of entrepreneurs creating banking relationships at community banks. You're only a number at a money center bank. You should be shopping for a community bank well in advance of maturities. Learn more in an upcoming article about how to choose the right one.

I've been blessed with a lot of experience with bankers. I've made my share of mistakes and learned from them. As a result, few people have borrowed more on scrap and junk cars than I have. At GreenLeaf and Schnitzer Industries, I dealt with asset-based lenders and venture capitalists.

Many in our industry tend to be conservative about borrowing. In the present conditions, they are shocked to find out they can't borrow or that the barriers to YES are much higher than they were a few years ago.

No matter how much or how little experience you have with bankers, you need to be proactive in making sure that you can get the lines of credit and capital that you need.

Because many of the questions in my small business consulting practice relate to working with bankers, I teamed up with a community banker to write a book to help you get the most from working with your banker.

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.

Is recurring fork failure becoming an issue?

Cracks and wear are the first signs of fork failure but lack of preventative maintenance and daily inspection normally leads to catastrophic failure at the most inopportune times.

This increases downtime and causes added operating expenses. Work takes longer and is more difficult to do with bent or worn forks.

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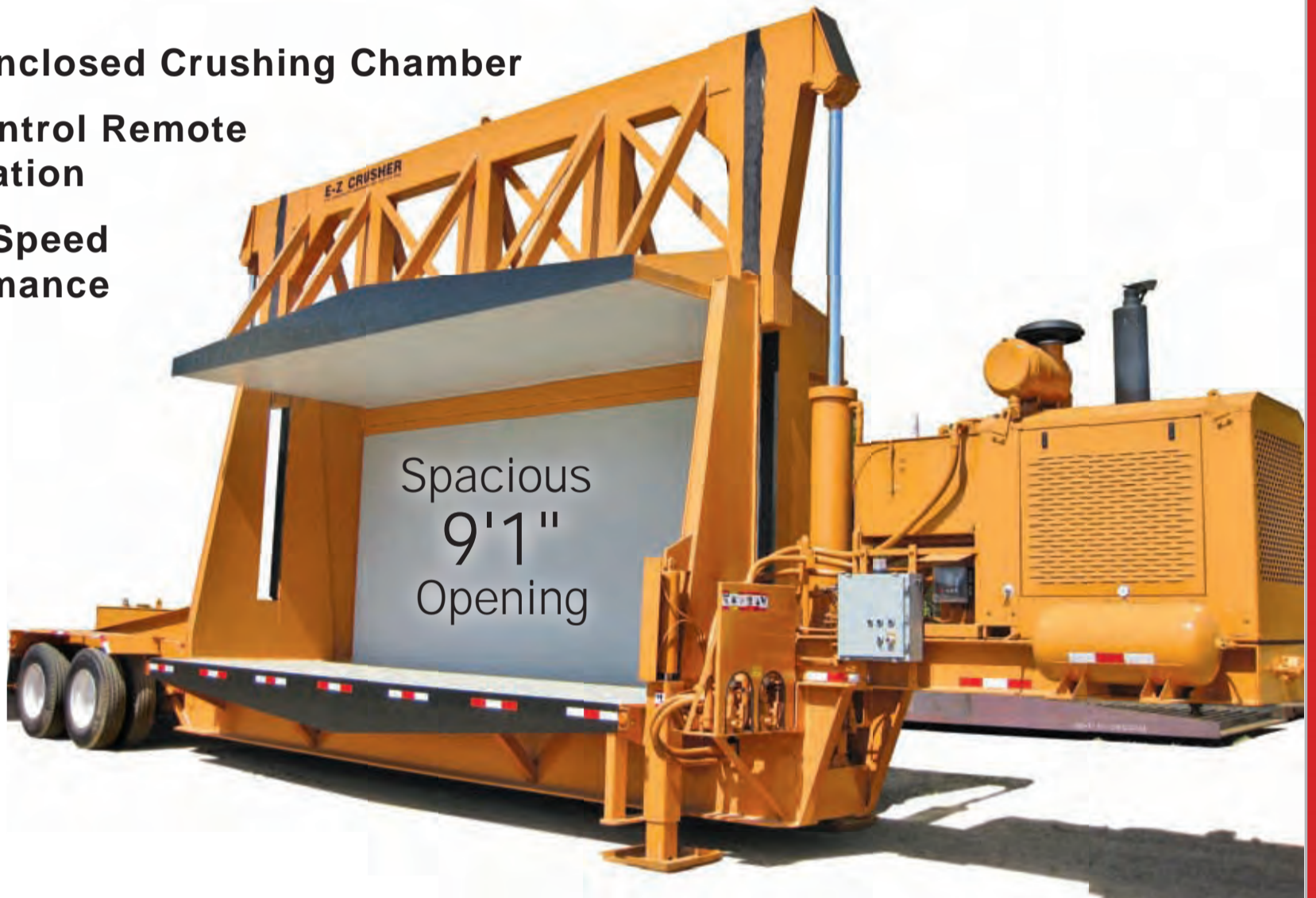
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20,100 hours approximatly. Box relined, guides replaced. \$175,000



LIEBHERR MODEL 65 GRAPPLE

New, never used Liebherr model 65 grapple, 1.25 yd. \$18,500



2002 AL-JON 400 METAL BALER

Very good condition. Low 6,100 hours and ready to travel. \$175,000



1996 SIERRA 500T

18,000 hours runs well. Demo it. \$195,000



2007 FUCHS MHL350

With gen-set and magnet. Good operating condition. \$225,000



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1997 KOMATSU PC 300LC W/ LABOUNTY MSD 70

Very good condition. Machine and shear 6,000 hours. \$150,000



1995 HARRIS ABS 550

SEE IT RUNNING. Spare parts 19,000 hours. \$165,000



1975 BIG MAC CAR CRUSHER

Very nice condition. New hydraulic pump, Detroit diesel. Factory reinforced back wall, late model cylinders with larger pins and no leaks. \$43,500



1990 MOSLEY 330 SHEAR

SEE IT RUNNING. Spare Parts - cylinders, blades, bolts, packing. 23,000 hours. \$95,000



2005 CM 1000-T PORTABLE SHEAR

Refurbished with **6-month warranty**. \$515,000



2000 SENNEBOGEN 830M

12,000 hours, 50' reach, generator, grapple and rebuilt engine and pump. \$175,000



2004 TEXAS 80 x 104 AUTO SHREDDER

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2006 SENNEBOGEN 835M

6-8,000 hours estimated, 25KW gen-set, NO grapple or magnet. \$197,500



2000 KOBELCO SK330LC WITH SHEAR

With GENESIS Pro Series GMS500 shear. Equipment in excellent condition. \$195,000

METALS

OmniSource sues Marion County Prosecutor Carl Brizzi

Steel Dynamics, Inc.'s wholly-owned subsidiary, OmniSource-Indianapolis LLC, has filed a lawsuit in Marion Superior Court in Indianapolis against Carl Brizzi, the Prosecutor of Marion County, seeking to force him to return \$277,508 in cash seized on February 23, 2009 in connection with a police search of OmniSource's Indianapolis scrap yards.

The pretext for the search were allegations that OmniSource was knowingly purchasing stolen scrap metal. To the contrary, OmniSource has been, and continues to be, the established scrap industry leader in developing and implementing anti-theft programs and training for both its employees and for the law enforcement community. These programs are designed to assist in the identification of potentially stolen property

and, in such instances, to require its employees to take extra precaution to try to ascertain the seller's authority to sell the property and, if the property turns out to have been stolen, to work with law enforcement to prosecute the thief.

In fact, when OmniSource entered the Indianapolis market in 2006, it provided anti-theft training for Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department officers at its own expense and even hired 51 off-duty Indianapolis police officers to provide security and advice at all of its Indianapolis facilities. And with the help of OmniSource's employees, those officers identified and arrested dozens of suspected metal thieves.

"We regret that we have been forced to initiate this action," said Mark Millett, OmniSource's president, "but, after almost 20 months, it has become clear

that this action by the Prosecutor has never really been about a legitimate concern about metal theft in Marion County or about a desire for accuracy or justice. It has become quite apparent that the Prosecutor's real motivation was about headlines and a money grab, threatening OmniSource with forfeiture of all of OmniSource's Indianapolis facilities."

To assist him with his plan, the Prosecutor hired a private lawyer, Greg Garrison, to organize and pursue the investigation against OmniSource and promised to pay Garrison a percentage of anything Garrison can extract from OmniSource.

Ben Eisbart, OmniSource's vice president and corporate compliance officer, explained that "We engage in hundreds of thousands of scrap purchases each year with the best trained anti-theft

staff and operating procedures in the industry. How could anyone seriously suggest that OmniSource intended to purchase stolen scrap metal when OmniSource annually devotes hundreds of hours and spends hundreds of thousands of dollars attempting to prevent metal theft and works cooperatively with the police to create an atmosphere at all OmniSource scrap yards that metal thieves are not only not welcome but will be prosecuted?"

OmniSource's lawsuit also contends that Prosecutor Brizzi's forfeiture practices are illegal, unconstitutional and contrary to established standards of conduct for prosecutors, in that he has enlisted a private lawyer to direct a forfeiture case in which he has a direct financial interest.

US Steel chairman named to trade advisory committee

John P. Surma, United States Steel Corporation chairman and CEO, and a past chairman of the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI), has been appointed by President Obama to the Advisory Committee for Trade Policy and Negotiations (ACTPN).

Appointed for two years, ACTPN members represent a broad range of key economic sectors and will provide guidance on trade policy issues affecting the nation.

Steel imports decline 11 percent in August

Based on preliminary Census Bureau data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that the United States imported a total of 2,155,000 net tons (NT) of steel in August, including 1,668,000 NT of finished steel (down 11 percent and 8 percent from July data).

Finished steel import market share was an estimated 21 percent in August, vs. year high 24 percent in July and a low of 15 percent in August 2009. For year to date, finished steel import market share is 21 percent. In the first 8 months of 2010, total and finished steel imports were up 54 percent and 30 percent, respectively, compared to the same period last year.

Key finished steel products with significant import increases in August 2010 compared to July include heavy structural

U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN (Thousands of Net Tons)					
	AUG 2010	JULY 2010	2010 Annual (est)	2009 Annual	% Change 2010 Annual vs. 2009
SOUTH KOREA	198	196	1,924	1,323	45.4%
JAPAN	137	126	1,326	981	35.2%
GERMANY	64	87	905	495	82.9%
CHINA	99	94	849	1,463	-42.0%
INDIA	63	145	823	581	-41.5%
TURKEY	85	49	679	492	38.2%
TAIWAN	71	27	519	371	39.9%
All Others	952	1,081	11,971	8,474	41.3%
TOTAL	1,668	1,806	18,994	14,179	34.0%

shapes (up 32 percent), reinforcing bars (up 25 percent) and hot-rolled bars (up 22 percent). Many finished steel products have registered significant year-to-date

import increases in 2010 vs. the same period last year, including wire rods (up 147 percent) and hot rolled sheets (up 52 percent).

July steel shipments down

The American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that for the month of July 2010, United States steel mills shipped 6,481,886 net tons, a 11.2 percent decrease from the 7,292,203 net tons shipped in the previous month, June 2010, and a 23.0 percent increase from the 5,271,470 net tons shipped in July 2009. Shipments year-to-date in 2010 are 48,790,026, a 55.3 per-

cent increase vs. 2009 shipments of 31,427,771 for seven months.

A month-to-month comparison of shipments shows the following changes: hot dipped galvanized sheet and strip, down 11 percent; cold rolled sheet, down 12 percent and hot rolled sheet, down 20 percent.

Nucor selects location for iron making facility

Nucor Corporation has selected St. James Parish, Louisiana, for the construction of a planned \$750 million iron making facility, subject to receipt of all requisite environmental permits. The new facility will be owned and operated by Nucor Steel Louisiana, LLC, a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of Nucor.

The 2,500,000 tons-per-year iron making facility will use direct reduction technology to convert natural gas and iron ore pellets into high quality direct reduced iron (DRI) used by Nucor's steel mills, along with recycled scrap, in producing numerous high quality steel products such as sheet, plate and special bar quality steel. The DRI facility is the first phase of a multi-phase plan that may include an additional DRI facility, coke plant, blast furnace, pellet plant and steel mill.

Nucor anticipates issuing prior to year-end approximately \$600 million in Gulf Zone Opportunity Bonds to partially fund the capital costs of the project.

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METALS

2010 FeMET grants and scholarships awarded

The Association for Iron & Steel Technology (AIST) Foundation and the American Iron and Steel Institute's (AISI) FeMET Initiative, aimed at attracting top talent to the North American steel industry, has awarded its grants and scholarships for the 2010–2011 academic year.

Grants

FeMET Curriculum Development – Six grants in the amount of \$5,000 each were issued to professors of ferrous metallurgy or materials science. Of that total, three grants represent renewals from 2009, including:

- Dr. Thomas J. Balk, University of Kentucky (Year 5 of 5).

- Dr. Sivaraman Guruswamy, University of Utah (Year 4 of 5).

- Dr. S. Komar Kawatra, Michigan Technological University (Year 2 of 5).

Three grants were awarded to:

- Dr. John A. Nychka, University of Alberta (Year 1 of 5).

- Dr. Marian Kennedy, Clemson University (Year 1 of 5).

- Dr. Randy J. Bowers, University of Windsor (Year 1 of 5).

Proposals are solicited from North American universities for funding of a curriculum development assistant to enhance or update industry curriculum in ferrous metallurgy programs. The program objective is to utilize students to assist in the editing and updating of textbooks and/or other course materials for use in ferrous metallurgy education, with an underlying objective to increase industry awareness within the academic community. The proposals must indicate how the professor will approach the task, including budget and schedule requirements. University professors will be awarded \$5,000 each to fund initiatives designed to enhance or update industry curriculum in ferrous metallurgy programs. The number of awards granted depends on fund availability; the maximum grant per award will be \$5,000 per year for 5 years for a total of \$25,000.

FeMET Design Grant – Dr. Patricia Morris and a team of materials science and engineering research students from The Ohio State University have been selected for their proposal entitled, “Design of a Virtual Metal-Oxide Sensor Array Device for Off-Gas Detection and Monitoring in Iron and Steel Processing.” Their proposal was submitted in response to the 2010–2011 design theme, “Improvements in off-gas control/sensors.” The Ohio State University was granted \$50,000.

The Design Grant program challenges North American university teams (students and professors) to submit proposals for grant funding in the theme area selected by the steel industry. The proposal should indicate how each team of professors and undergraduate students will approach the problem, including budget and schedule requirements. The

maximum allowable time for the project is one year beginning in the fall of 2010. The number of awards granted depends on fund availability; the maximum grant per award will be \$50,000.

Scholarships

Nine students from four American and Canadian universities have been awarded FeMET scholarships, focusing on metallurgy and materials science. Similarly, three students from three American and Canadian universities have been identified as StEEL scholarship finalists, focusing on all engineering disciplines. The next step for the StEEL finalists is to be matched with interested corporate sponsors. In addition to the FeMET and StEEL scholarships, the third AISI/AIST Foundation Premier Scholarship was awarded.

Scholarships of \$5,000 will be awarded to each scholar for the school year beginning in fall 2010. Each scholarship will include a paid internship at a North American steel company during the summer of 2011 and a second scholarship of \$5,000 in the student's senior year, based on satisfactory academic and internship performance.

This is the sixth year of the FeMET Initiative and the fifth year of the StEEL program. The AISI/AIST Foundation Premier Scholarship, now in its third year, is awarded to the highest ranking of all FeMET and StEEL applications received. This scholarship provides the same benefits, with an increase to \$10,000 per year.

For a detailed list of recipients, view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

Copper past and future

According to the U.S. Bureau of Mines and the U.S. Geological Survey, known copper resources are estimated at nearly 5.8 trillion pounds worldwide, only about 0.7 trillion pounds of which have been mined to date. The recycling rate of copper is so high that nearly all of the copper mined throughout history – some estimates go as high as 80 percent – is still in circulation today. Every year in the United States, nearly as much copper is recovered from recycled material as is mined. This is why the value of copper scrap remains so high, with premium-grade scrap maintaining at least 95 percent of the value of newly mined copper.

Copper use has withstood the test of time. Pure copper was the first metal used by man, and copper artifacts, like a copper pendant that was discovered in what is now northern Iraq, date back to about 8700 B.C.

The Egyptians took full advantage of mankind's first metal. Copper saws, chisels, knives, hoes, dishes and trays made thousands of years ago by Egyptian copper-smiths have been uncovered from tombs in excellent condition, showing surprising durability and longevity.

Today, copper, and its alloys brass and bronze, are used for faucets, locksets, door hardware, roofing, flashing, plumbing and electrical applications, as well as decorative products inside the home – the same unique characteristics that were admired centuries ago are still valued today.

Concerns about copper resources being in jeopardy are unfounded and probably based on speculation. While there has been tremendous fluctuation in copper production over the last few years, there is no indication that resources are tapering.

“Production relies on several factors, but mostly, it's the general state of the

industry, projected prices and supply-and-demand balances,” said Daniel Edelstein, who is a copper commodity specialist for the National Minerals Information Center. “We were in an upward swing when the recession hit. Since then, copper prices have recovered, but cutbacks in mining production that took place in 2009 have not been restored.”

“In the United States, there is at least one major mine working toward final approval in Arizona, which will produce about 100,000 pounds of copper per year, and we also have mines that are operating at less-than-capacity that will be restored,” he added.

Edelstein said there is also a proposed mine in Alaska that can lead to the production of hundreds of thousands of pounds of copper annually.

For those who were ever worried about copper production halting, they can rest assured that it won't happen. Aside from using recycled and mined copper in United States industries, there is also a tremendous amount of scrap metal that is exported.




Commodity		Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5
#1 Bushellings	per gross ton	\$285.00	\$250.00	\$265.00	\$300.00	\$379.00
#1 Bundles	per gross ton	285.00	250.00	260.00	298.00	375.00
Plate and Structural	per gross ton	300.00	262.00	395.00	295.00	340.00
#1 & 2 Mixed Steel	per gross ton	290.00	265.00	294.00	290.00	312.00
Shredder Bundles (tin)	per gross ton	245.00	230.00	215.00	230.00	250.00
Crushed Auto Bodies	per gross ton	240.00	238.00	215.00	230.00	252.00
Steel Turnings	per pound	115.00	110.00	138.00	140.00	235.00
#1 Copper	per pound	3.26	2.95	3.24	3.45	3.46
#2 Copper	per pound	3.16	2.82	3.08	3.19	3.26
Aluminum Cans	per pound	.65	.63	.76	.78	.75
Auto Radiators	per pound	1.88	1.74	1.91	1.97	1.72
Aluminum Core Radiators	per pound	.60	.51	.67	.68	1.00
Heater Cores	per pound	1.10	1.41	1.30	1.57	1.54
Stainless Steel	per pound	.86	.74	.92	.96	.97


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

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AUTOMOTIVE

EPA grants E15 waiver for newer vehicles

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) waived a limitation on selling fuel that is more than 10 percent ethanol for model year 2007 and newer cars and light trucks. The waiver applies to fuel that contains up to 15 percent ethanol – known as E15 – and only to model year 2007 and newer cars and light trucks. This represents the first of a number of actions that are needed from federal, state and industry towards commercialization of E15 gasoline blends. EPA administrator Lisa P. Jackson made the decision after a review of the Department of Energy's (DOE) extensive testing and other available data on E15's impact on engine durability and emissions.

"Thorough testing has now shown that E15 does not harm emissions control equipment in newer cars and light trucks," said EPA administrator Lisa P. Jackson.

A decision on the use of E15 in model year 2001 to 2006 vehicles will

be made after EPA receives the results of additional DOE testing, which is expected to be completed in November. However, no waiver is being granted this year for E15 use in model year 2000 and older cars and light trucks – or in any motorcycles, heavy-duty vehicles or non-road engines – because currently there is not testing data to support such a waiver.

Since 1979, up to 10 percent ethanol or E10 has been used for all conventional cars and light trucks, and non-road vehicles.

Additionally, several steps are being taken to help consumers easily identify the correct fuel for their vehicles and equipment. First, EPA is proposing E15 pump labeling requirements, including a requirement that the fuel industry specify the ethanol content of gasoline sold to retailers. There would also be a quarterly survey of retail stations to help ensure their gas pumps are properly labeled.

The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 mandated an increase in the overall volume of renewable fuels into the marketplace reaching a 36 billion gallon total in 2022. Ethanol is considered a renewable fuel because it is produced from plant products or wastes and not from fossil fuels. Ethanol is blended with gasoline for use in most areas across the country.

The E15 petition was submitted to EPA by Growth Energy and 54 ethanol manufacturers in March 2009. In April 2009, EPA sought public comment on the petition and received about 78,000 comments.

The petition was submitted under a Clean Air Act provision that allows EPA to waive the act's prohibition against the sale of a significantly altered fuel if the petitioner shows that the new fuel will not cause or contribute to the failure of the engine parts that ensure compliance with the act's emissions limits.

\$6.3 million awarded to promote use of title database

The Department of Justice announced that nearly \$6.3 million in 2010 funding was awarded to 6 jurisdictions and the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) for the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS).

The District of Columbia, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas and Oregon will receive up to \$100,000 each to assist with their participation in NMVTIS. AAMVA will receive \$5.7 million to support the continued implementation of NMVTIS and AAMVA's responsibilities as the NMVTIS operator.

The Department's Office of Justice Programs, through its Bureau of Justice Assistance, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation manage NMVTIS. This system, which is available to the public, law enforcement, and others, is an electronic system used to verify vehicle information in the following key areas:

- Current state of title and last title date
- Brand history
- Odometer reading
- Total loss history
- Salvage history

The NMVTIS system, available at www.vehiclehistory.gov, provides short, concise reports; however, it does not include vehicle repair histories, recall information, and other care and maintenance data.

"NMVTIS is unique because federal law requires more than 8,000 insurance carriers, auto recyclers, junk yards and salvage yards to regularly report salvage vehicle data so it can be included in this publicly available system, which currently has nearly 22 million salvage or total loss records," explained James H. Burch, II, BJA's acting director.

The way to gain a good reputation, is to endeavor to be what you desire to appear.

—Socrates

Ford looks to algae as biofuel

Ford scientists are working to understand the suitability of renewable sources as potential automotive biofuels.

This effort is an integral part of Ford's desire to better understand the use of biomass to produce future biofuels as part of an overall strategy to reduce the nation's dependence on foreign oil and address climate change.

Research received an added boost when the House of Representatives intro-

duced a bill (HR 5142) – known as the Green Jobs Act of 2010 – to encourage investment tax credits for algae-based biorefineries.

This year, Ford researchers visited Wayne State University's National Biofuels Energy Laboratory, which is actively analyzing suitable algae strains that could be used as a feedstock for biodiesel. At Ford, algae is one of the possible future biofuels researchers are watching.

Commerce award presented to Recycalytics

For the second consecutive year, Recycalytics, a recycler of scrap catalyst material, has been selected for the 2010 Best of Newark Award in the Local Business category by the U.S. Commerce Association (USCA).

The USCA "Best of Local Business" Award Program recognizes outstanding local businesses throughout the country. Each year, the USCA identifies companies that they believe have achieved exceptional marketing success in their local community and business category. These are local companies that enhance the positive image of small business through service to their customers and community.

Nationwide, only 1 in 70 of the 2010 Award recipients qualified as Two-Time Award Winners. Various sources of information were gathered and analyzed to choose the winners in each category. Winners are determined based on the information gathered both internally by the USCA and data provided by third parties.

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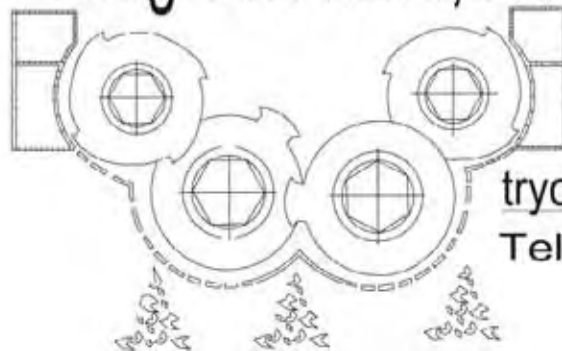
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WASTE

Veolia recycling truck driver recognized for safety

Kevin Brady, a recycling truck driver for Veolia ES Solid Waste since 2003, has been named the 2010 recipient of the "Saved by the Belt Award" from the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA).

Brady accepted his award at CVSA's annual conference in Anaheim, California, during an awards luncheon.

The "Saved by the Belt" award is presented annually to a commercial vehicle driver whose life was saved or injuries significantly reduced because he or she was wearing a seatbelt when involved in an accident. The recipient of

the award must not be at fault in the accident and must be wearing the seatbelt properly.

"Our number one priority for our drivers is their safety," said Jim Suter, general manager with Veolia ES Solid Waste. "We are very proud of Kevin and the standard that he has set for our company."

On August 16, 2010, Brady's recycling truck was hit head-on by a small passenger car in Ft. Myers, Florida. Fortunately, Brady was wearing a seatbelt, but sustained a fractured left knee. The driver of the car was transported by helicopter to the hospital.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there were over 4,000 injuries to solid waste collection workers in 2008.

Hybrid refuse vehicles put to work in Florida

Parker Hannifin Corporation in partnership with Autocar, a manufacturer of commercial vehicles and class 8 trucks, delivered hybrid-powered refuse vehicles that place three South Florida municipalities among the nation's pioneers in adopting the best technology available to promote cost savings and sustainability in their communities. The new Autocar E3 refuse vehicles feature Parker's RunWise® advanced series hybrid drive system, which dramatically increases fuel savings and lowers emissions even as it improves drivability and performance.

At its National Vehicle and Fuel Emissions Laboratory in Ann Arbor, Michigan, EPA played a significant role in pioneering hydraulic hybrid technology and partnered with Parker and Autocar in the early testing of these vehicles.

The RunWise advanced series hybrid drive technology performed so well in South Florida field trials last summer that the communities of Hialeah, Miami-Dade County, and the City of Miami chose to upgrade their refuse collection fleets and purchase a total of 11 Autocar E3 trucks with the new RunWise technology. RunWise features proprietary software that allows for seamless shifting and smoother braking, improving drivability.

During a full month of testing in South Florida, the RunWise system registered a 42 percent reduction in fuel consumption, which is equivalent to nearly double the miles per gallon. On an annual basis, the green technology reduces each truck's carbon footprint by more than 38 tons along routes with frequent stops. In addition, the technology extends the brake life for each truck by up to eight times depending on the duty cycle, resulting in dramatically reduced maintenance costs.

SWANA supports proposed changes to reporting rule

The Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) submitted comments to the Environmental Protection Agency regarding proposed revisions to the mandatory greenhouse gas reporting rule in September.

SWANA agreed with the following revisions proposed by EPA:

- Waste-to-Energy (WTE) units processing 600 tons per day or less should be able to use the Tier 2 reporting method.

- Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) should be removed from the definition of fossil fuel in the rule and MSW and tires should be listed as "other fuels" not "fossil fuel derived".

- Facilities should be able to use default moisture values if they measure CO₂ on a dry basis, consistent with requirements under the Acid Rain Program.

"We encourage EPA to move ahead with these changes and to issue a final rule as soon as possible so that waste-to-energy facilities know for certain what is

required of them" said John H. Skinner, SWANA executive director and CEO. "Waste-to-energy facilities can make an important contribution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and providing renewable energy" added Skinner.

SWANA was not in agreement with all of the revisions proposed by EPA. One such revision was the requirement to report aggregate carbon dioxide emissions, instead of separating out biogenic emissions from anthropogenic ones. The majority of emissions from WTE are biogenic in nature and for more accurate reporting SWANA supports reporting them separately.

These changes are the result of a settlement between EPA and the Energy Recovery Council, the national trade association representing the waste-to-energy industry. The notice published on August 11, 2010 allows the opportunity for additional public comments on the revisions. If EPA doesn't make these changes final, ERC can continue the lawsuit.

Events Calendar

November 3rd-4th

NERC's Fall 2010 Conference. Hotel Northampton, Northampton, Massachusetts. 802-254-3636 • www.nerc.org

November 3rd-4th

Canadian Waste & Recycling Expo. International Centre, Toronto, Ontario. 877-534-7285 • www.cwre.ca

November 7th-10th

2010 Educational Conference on Litter Control and Solid Waste Management. Stonewall Resort State Park, Roanoke, West Virginia. 304-292-3801 • www.awvswa.com

January 24th-27th, 2011

US Composting Council's Annual Conference and Exhibition. Hyatt Regency, Santa Clara, California. 631-737-4931 • www.compostingcouncil.org

March 6th-9th

The Southeast Recycling Conference & Trade Show. Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa, Destin, Florida. 800-441-7949 • www.southeastrecycling.com

March 22nd-26th

ConExpo-Con/Agg 2011. Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nevada. 800-867-6060 • www.conexpoconagg.com

March 23rd

C&D World. Paris Resort and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada. 630-585-7530 • www.cdrecycling.org

April 3rd-5th

Aluminum Association 2011 Spring Meeting. Sanibel Harbour Marriott Resort & Spa, Fort Myers, Florida. 703-358-2960 • www.aluminum.org

April 5th-9th

ISRI Annual Convention and Exposition. Los Angeles Convention Center, Los Angeles, California. 202-662-8544 • www.isriconvention.org

May 9th-12th

WasteExpo. Dallas Convention Center, Dallas, Texas. 800-927-5007 • www.wasteexpo.com

June 21st-24th

Air & Waste Management's 104th Annual Conference and Exhibition. Disney's Coronado Springs Resort, Orlando, Florida. 412-904-6003 • www.awma.org

NSWMA solicits applications for 2011 Drivers of the Year

The National Solid Wastes Management Association (NSWMA) is accepting applications for its prestigious 2011 Drivers of the Year awards. The program honors those drivers who have upheld the field of solid waste management as an honorable occupation and who have conducted themselves and operated their vehicles in a safe and responsible manner.

Individual Drivers of the Year prizes are awarded in different categories that include small company residential, small company commercial, small company industrial, large company residential, large company commercial, large company industrial, and the public sector. All nominees receive a gift package and certificate of appreciation. Finalists also receive a personalized plaque. The winner in each category will be honored in person at the May 2011 WasteExpo, in Dallas, Texas, and receives a commemorative gift and \$1,000 cash prize.

Eligible drivers must be a full-time employee at the time of nomination and at the time of winner selection and award presentation. Complete nominations are due by December 3, 2010. The supervisor of the winning driver in each category will be notified via e-mail by February 12, 2011.

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

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

US Shredder adds two new staff members

■ The US Shredder and Castings Group announced the addition of two staff members to the company recently.

Will Rushing joined the company as business and systems manager. He will be located in the company's Trussville, Alabama office. Rushing will be supporting inside and field sales managers as well as implementing a new parts and logistics system recently installed by the company. Prior to joining the company, Rushing served as a business analyst for Cellular South in Jackson Mississippi.

Kristi Quick also joined the company and will serve as controller. She will be located in the company's Mackinaw, Illinois office. Prior to joining US Shredder, Quick served as a controller for a construction firm in central Illinois.

Trekker Tractor signs with Chicago Pneumatic

■ Trekker Tractor, a Case dealership in Florida, is the latest dealer to carry Chicago Pneumatic compressors, generators, hydraulic attachments and hand-held breakers and hammers.

Sam Silva, vice president of finance for Trekker Tractor, said the company plans to open an Orlando branch by the end of 2010, and Jacksonville and Tallahassee branches in the future. They will have both heavy and light equipment at the locations, tailored to meet local needs.

Veolia acquires assets from Republic Services

■ Veolia ES Solid Waste, Inc. has acquired certain assets in southeastern Wisconsin from Republic Services, Inc. Overall, the acquisition provides a new market area for Veolia and fortifies the company's existing operations.

The assets acquired by Veolia include the Mallard Ridge Landfill in Delavan, Wisconsin, a hauling operation based in Racine; and a transfer station, a single-stream material recycling facility, and a collection operation located in Waunakee. While contiguous to Veolia's existing operations, the Waunakee assets service the Madison area, which is a new market for Veolia. In addition, collected waste will be internalized at various Veolia owned landfills.

Flip Screen USA appoints Peter Bigwood as president

■ Flip Screen Australia Pty Ltd. has appointed Peter Bigwood as president of its United States headquarters, Flip Screen USA. In his new position, Bigwood is responsible for North American sales operations, which includes identifying new market segments and applications, building a sales team, and developing new relationships with dealers and distributors.

Bigwood has more than 25 years of experience in the industry. Prior to joining Flip Screen, he worked at Atlas Copco Construction Tools, LLC where he served as president for 16 years.

Stericycle, Inc. to acquire Healthcare Waste Solutions

■ Stericycle, Inc. announced that it had entered into an agreement to acquire Healthcare Waste Solutions, Inc.

On September 24, 2010, Stericycle, Inc. and SAMW Acquisition Corp., entered into a merger agreement with Healthcare Waste Solutions, Inc. (HWS).

HWS, a portfolio company of Altaris Capital Partners, LLC, provides a resource management assessment and consulting program for all waste streams to healthcare providers. It uses a customized process to help customers reduce the risk of environmental fines and penalties and helps them to meet their sustainability and cost management goals. HWS also is engaged in the collection, transportation, treatment and disposal of medical waste, universal waste and other regulated wastes, sharps management services, safety and compliance training, and other related businesses.

The total merger consideration is \$245,000,000 in cash, subject to various adjustments, including a reduction for HWS's indebtedness as of the closing date.

Concurrently with the parties' execution of the merger agreement, HWS stockholders holding a majority of its outstanding shares of common and preferred stock entered into a voting agreement with us to vote their shares in favor of the merger at the special meeting of stockholders that HWS will call to obtain stockholder approval of the merger.

The merger is subject to customary closing conditions and regulatory reviews, including clearance under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended.

Steven Wintheiser joins Cornerstone Environmental

■ Cornerstone Environmental Group, LLC indicated that Steven Wintheiser has joined the firm, and will serve as a senior project manager, focusing on landfill construction, closure and infrastructure projects. Based in the Farmington Hills, Michigan office, Wintheiser will assist clients in the Midwest and around the country with construction quality assurance, construction management, and operations and maintenance issues.

Wintheiser has more than 26 years in the environmental engineering and construction field, specializing in landfill geosynthetics and construction projects, including cell construction, capping, and gas system installation. His expertise also extends to construction management and environmental/geotechnical drilling operations. In his most recent position prior to joining Cornerstone, he served as senior director of landfill field services, where he directed all construction quality assurance, construction management, and drilling services for landfill construction sites around the Midwest. Prior to that, he was a senior project manager, leading permitting efforts.

Accio Energy adds Jennifer Baird as CEO

■ Accio Energy, Inc. announced that Jennifer Baird, until recently president and CEO of Accuri Cytometers, Inc., is joining the company as chief executive officer.

Baird will work with Accio co-founder, president and chief technology officer Dawn White to drive Accio's next stage of growth and development. Baird will join White on the company's board of directors.

From 2005 to 2010, Baird was president and CEO of Accuri Cytometers, a rapidly growing company developing and marketing life science products for research and clinical use. Baird co-founded Accuri and led the company from inception through development and commercialization. She raised over \$30 million in venture equity and debt funding and achieved more than \$10 million in sales, a global reach and near-profitability in just five years' time.

Previously, Baird was a key member of the senior management team at Integrated Sensing Systems, Inc., a technology development firm focused on using micro-electromechanical systems for medical and scientific sensing applications. Earlier in her career, as a vice president at Keane Consulting Group, she managed over \$10 million in projects and helped the firm quintuple in size to over 150 staff. Baird began her career in commercial banking.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

E-Z Pack Manufacturing adds dealer in Florida

■ E-Z Pack Manufacturing, LLC, a manufacturer of refuse truck bodies and a supplier of OEM parts for waste vehicles, announced that Waste Equipment and Parts, LLC, is its new dealer in Florida.

Located in Tampa, Waste Equipment and Parts is a new company, but with a veteran management team. The president of the company, Dave Lance, has over 30 years of sales and management experience in the waste equipment industry. Most recently, Lance was the municipal marketing manager for RDK Truck Sales.

In addition to E-Z Pack refuse trucks, Waste Equipment and Parts will offer roll-off equipment, street sweepers, grapple equipment, vacuum trucks, plus carts and containers from other manufacturers. The company is a full-service dealership, with sales, service, and parts support for the brands they represent.

Trojan Battery appoints Jeff Elder president

■ Trojan Battery Company, a manufacturer of deep cycle batteries, has appointed Jeff Elder to the position of president.

Elder, a five-year veteran of Trojan, served as chief operating officer and chief financial officer guiding the strategic growth of the organization. Prior to joining Trojan, Elder served as chief operating officer and chief financial officer at Dynamic Cooking Systems. Elder held the position of chief operating officer and chief financial officer at Rand Technology, served as vice president of finance at Avery Dennison and has held management positions at Toshiba America, Emerson Electric and Arthur Anderson. Elder's expertise in finance, operations and strategic planning spans over 30 years.

In his new position as president, Elder will report directly to Rick Godber and be responsible for the overall strategic management of all operations within Trojan Battery. Rick Godber will continue in his role as chairman and chief executive officer focused on future strategic direction for Trojan Battery Company.

Atlas Copco appoints business line manager

■ Torbjorn Redaelli, president of Atlas Copco Construction & Mining, announced the appointment of Shawn Cheney as business line manager for Dynapac Road Construction Equipment. Dynapac USA is part of the Atlas Copco Group.

Cheney comes from Volvo (IR) where he held various management positions for the past 13 years working with distributor development as well as company-owned stores. In that capacity he worked extensively with road development products. Cheney has a mechanical engineering degree from the Colorado School of Mines, as well as an MBA from Indiana University.

Buckhorn names director of sales and marketing

■ Buckhorn, a North American business specializing in reusable plastic packaging and material handling systems, announced that Rob Tieman has been named director of sales and marketing.

In this new position, Tieman assumes all responsibility for conducting the sales and marketing initiatives of Buckhorn, which is based in Milford, Ohio.

Prior to joining Buckhorn, Tieman gained over 19 years of sales and marketing management experience in industrial manufacturing environments. Most recently, he held the position of vice president, sales and marketing for Gold Medal Products Co. in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he focused on servicing distributors and securing key national accounts.

Also, at Aristech Acrylics LLC Tieman spent 12 years holding various positions, including business director. Tieman's duties included new product and market development, ongoing service sales and technical support, and negotiating supply contracts.

Kirby-Smith to carry Atlas Copco products

■ Kirby-Smith Machinery, Oklahoma City, is the latest dealer to carry Atlas Copco's line of compressors, generators and tools for sale and rent.

Kirby-Smith Machinery was established in 1983 and is recognized as one of the premier new and used heavy construction equipment and crane dealers in the country, serving the construction, earth moving, paving, road building, materials handling, compaction, and demolition markets.

Business unit manager of Casella USA appointed

■ Casella USA announced the appointment of Robert Brauch to the position of business unit manager. He will report directly to Jim James, president and CEO of Ideal Industries, Inc., Casella's parent company.

In his new role as business unit manager, Brauch is tasked with the strategic planning and direction of the Casella brand throughout North America, while managing the day-to-day operations of the Casella USA office in Amherst, New Hampshire.

Brauch comes to Casella USA from PCB Piezotronics Inc., where he was a member of the executive management team, developing and implementing a strategic plan for corporate growth targets as well as a long-term business unit vision for the company. Prior to that, he served as international sales manager with Metrosonics and as manufacturing manager with MXR Innovations, Inc.

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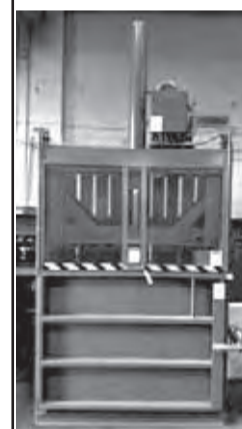
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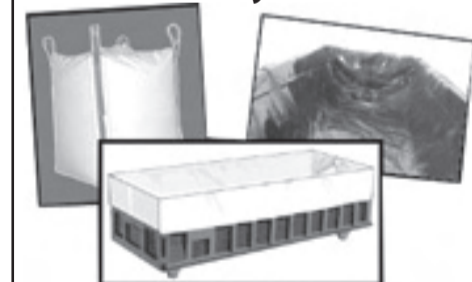
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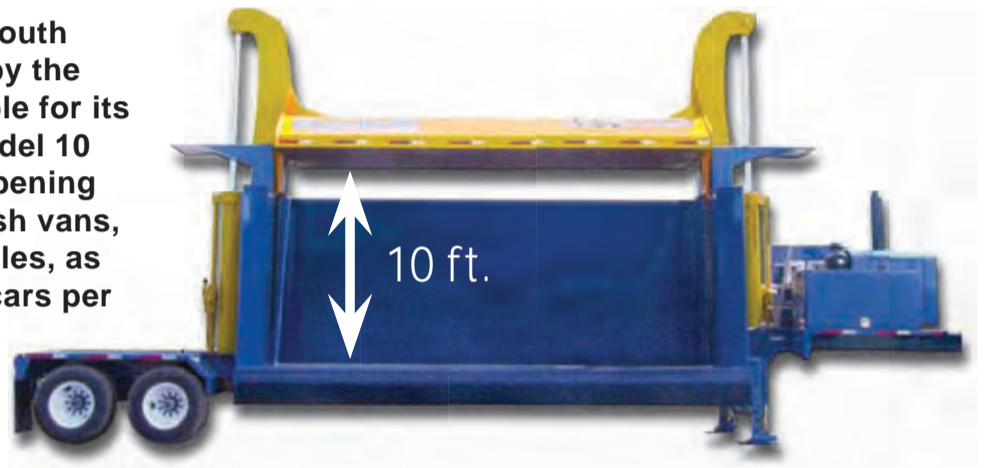
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RISI pulp and paper ranks published

RISI, an information provider for the forest products industry, has released the latest edition of the Pulp & Paper International (PPI) Top 100. The PPI Top 100 is an annual list of the biggest pulp and paper producers in the world. International Paper sits at the top of the pile but there was a lot of movement elsewhere in the rankings.

Oji Paper moved up three positions but it was enough to crack the top five as the company came in at number three behind IP and Procter & Gamble. Rounding out the top five were SCA and Stora Enso. Fibria made its debut in the top third of the table, at number 28, and others making a first appearance in the Top 100 were Hunan Tiger Forest & Paper at 80, Kapstone at 91, Arctic Paper at 93 and Neenah Paper at 94.

As could be expected from how the worldwide pulp and paper industry has shaken out over the past few years, the real movers were the Asians. Making a significant climb up the ladder were Cheng Loong (from number 88 all the way to number 70), Sun Paper, Hokuetsu, Rengo, Yuen Foong Yu, Lee & Man and Shandong Chenming. At number 35, Shandong Chenming is still the largest Chinese company listed. Two Indian-based companies, BILT and ITC, also made a move upwards from number 98 to 95 and number 99 to 90 respectively.

Overall, sales of pulp, paper, board and converted materials showed a significant drop in 2009 compared with 2008, from \$313.8 billion to \$282.6 billion. This is even below the 2007 total of \$296.1 billion.

Total reported paper and board production fell to 206.6 million tons from 219.7 million tons in 2008. This marked the second consecutive year of decline. Market pulp production did show a small jump up, to 42.3 million tons from 41.1 million tons.

For additional information and a link to the report, view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

Common sense trumps bag bans

by MIKE BRESLIN

mbreslin@americanrecycler.com

There are many reasons why plastic bags may be considered less harmful than paper bags. They're made from recycled materials, are lighter and easier to transport in bulk and their manufacture releases fewer air pollutants. The missing conclusion in this otherwise compelling story, however, is making sure that the vast majority of retail plastic bags are deposited in recycling bins to become raw material for new product production.

When it comes to plastic shopping bags, radicals in opposing camps have divided sharply along dogmatic lines. On one side there are dedicated activists that would like to see all plastic bags replaced with earth-friendly reusable bags. On the other are shoppers and industrialists who see plastic as a convenient, inexpensive solution to one of humankind's most perplexing problems: how to carry stuff?

In the middle of the battle, are the pragmatists who acknowledge the arguments on both sides of the issue and see regulators as referees. Are more regulations, reporting requirements and bureaucratic oversight necessary? Will bans lead to enforcement, including fines? Can the litter and environmental issues associated with plastic bags be solved intelligently in a free-market through responsible recycling?

These are questions facing governments around the world. By fiat in 2008, China's Central Council imposed a nationwide ban on thin plastic bags and taxed thicker ones thereby relegating its population of over 1.3 billion to carrying buckets, wicker baskets and sack cloths. Thankfully, the United States decisions regarding plastic bag and thin films are being freely made by citizens in local and state jurisdictions.

In South Africa, like China, thin plastic bags are banned and thicker ones are taxed. Similar approaches have been taken in Eritrea, Rwanda, Somalia, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and Australia. Taxing or charging for plastic bags has also gained ground in Europe. Other countries and cities around the world are considering bans and taxes.



Shredded and cleaned plastic bags await further processing.

Thus far, no American state has banned plastic bags, but California tried. On August 31, an effort to ban plastic bags statewide failed to pass the California Senate by a 21 to 14 vote. This legislation would have banned the distribution of plastic bags at grocery and other retail stores, allowing only reusable bags or paper bags to be made available for sale. If it had passed, California would have been the first state to impose a full ban. Critics of the defeat attributed it to extensive lobbying by the retail and plastic bag manufacturing industries.

Since 2007, bans have been enacted in 12 United States jurisdictions including American Samoa. California has bans in San Francisco, Malibu, Fairfax and Palo Alto. In Oakland and Manhattan Beach, California plastic bags were banned, but the courts rejected the laws because these cities failed to conduct environmental impact reviews. Two counties in Hawaii have bans as do the cities of Westport, Connecticut; Edmonds, Washington; Bethel, Arkansas and North Carolina's Outer Banks.

In January, Washington, D.C., implemented a \$0.05 surcharge on disposable paper and plastic bags. Many other towns and cities are considering

ban or tax regulations which, in turn, generate lobbying on both sides of the issue, innumerable lawsuits that tie up courts and sap the resources of all involved.

Brownsville, Texas imposed a ban on single-use plastic bags this past January that is scheduled to go into effect in 2011, but according to a survey conducted in August by the American Chemistry Council (ACC) the majority residents oppose it. Of 300 adult residents surveyed, 51 percent wanted to see the bag ban repealed or postponed, 28 percent supported it and the rest were undecided. "This survey demonstrates that the City Commission is out of step with Brownsville voters," said Rudy Underwood of ACC. "The citizens of Brownsville clearly oppose banning this valued product that most people rely on and then reuse in their homes."

In Seattle a bag tax ordinance was rejected by voters in 2009, and a variety of other bills being introduced in states, cities and counties around the country are being increasingly rejected by legislators due to pressure from voters.

In addition to California, during 2010 plastic bag bans also failed to pass

See BAG BANS, Page 7

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A Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

When people perceive something as harmful, their first instinct is to make it less so. Unfortunately, some people take that instinct to an extreme, and simply seek to ban outright the harmful thing.

It has happened with books, firearms, offensive language and television content. Substances, building materials and industrial chemicals have also been subject to such bans. And for awhile, it appeared that the plastic shopping bag was slated to join the ranks of banned products.

That's changing, however. Perhaps due to heavy lobbying by those with a stake in the market, or perhaps because the harm is easier to mitigate than previously thought, the crusade to ban plastic bags has slowed.

In our cover story, author Mike Breslin examines plastic bag legislation throughout the States, and finds that outright bans are losing traction while diversion and more visible and convenient recycling options are gaining ground. I believe that this is the right way to go about it.

I may not always have my own bags when I make an impromptu trip to the store. Or I may not remember to bring enough bags to hold my purchases. What I can do, however, is take my accumulated plastic bags with me to be recycled every third or fourth trip to the store. It's an easy alternative to providing my own, and it solves the harms that bag bans sought to remedy while keeping shopping convenient.

The movement away from banning bags is a glimmer of hope in an otherwise bleak political realm. It shows that at least in some states, politicians are listening to the constituents who don't want to be forced to bring their own reusable bags every time they decide to grocery shop.

That most basic desire – to have representatives in office who hold views similar to my own – was the reason I went out and voted this month. I hope that most of you did the same.

Plastics and politics aside, I hope you enjoy this November edition of American Recycler. We've focused on paper and plastics recycling this month, and it seems to be a fitting topic to ponder as you load your disposable paper plates with Thanksgiving dinner, and tuck into that turkey with plastic utensils.

So, happy holidays to you and yours, and until next month, feel free to get in touch.



Dave Fournier
Focus Section Editor
david@americanrecycler.com

CNG acquires Parsons's fine paper division

Central National-Gottesman Inc. (CNG) announced that its Lindenmeyr Munroe division has acquired the assets and business of Frank Parsons's fine paper division, one of the mid-Atlantic region's independent paper merchants. The purchase includes Frank Parsons's entire fine paper operation, which serves seven United States markets and consists of locations in or near Baltimore, Maryland, Washington, DC, Lynchburg, Virginia, Norfolk, Virginia, Richmond, Virginia, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Also included in the sale are six wholesale paper stores.

Founded in 1886 and headquartered in Purchase, New York, Central National-Gottesman Inc. is an international marketer of pulp and paper. The company has sales offices in 28 United States cities and 20 countries worldwide. The company's sales of pulp and paper exceed \$3.5 billion annually.

President of MBA Polymers wins Innovation Award

The *Economist* announced that Dr. Michael Biddle, founder and president of MBA Polymers, will receive the Energy and Environment award at its Innovation Awards ceremony, which was held on October 21, 2010 at the Science Museum in London.

Dr. Biddle founded Michael Biddle & Associates in his garage in 1992 to demonstrate that it was possible to recycle plastics from complex waste streams. MB&A was expanded to a pilot line in Berkeley, California and renamed MBA Polymers in 1994 after he brought on his former colleague, Laurence Allen.

From this humble beginning, MBA Polymers now has headquarters and a research center in Richmond, California, and recovers materials from a variety of sources, including computers, electronics, appliances and automobiles. The company has developed numerous proprietary processes for separating polymeric materials from highly complex waste products.

These are then reused in a number of different applications, making it a more sustainable option than using new virgin plastics. MBA's process requires less than 10 percent of the energy compared to making plastics from petrochemicals.

Commenting on the award decision by a panel of independent judges, Tom Standage, Digital Editor at The Economist said, "With this award, the judges have recognized Michael Biddle for the outstanding contribution his innovative way of dealing with plastics has made to improving the environment. MBA Polymers and the U.S. Department of Energy estimate that 12 billion pounds of mixed durable plastics are discarded in America each year. By using MBA's recycled plastic pellets as raw material, plastics manufacturers can save lots of money and significant amounts of energy. MBA's sorting technology also means that material that might otherwise end up in landfill can be recycled."

The McGraw-Hill Companies named to sustainability indexes

The McGraw-Hill Companies announced it has been named to the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes (DJSI) in recognition of the Corporation's commitment to superior sustainable development in its business operations. McGraw-Hill has been recognized as a sustainability leader by both the DJSI World Index and DJSI North America Index.

Launched in 1999, the Dow Jones Indexes together with SAM, an investment boutique focused exclusively on sustainability investing, review companies annually on a range of issues including corporate governance, environmental policy, climate strategy, supply chain standards and labor practices. Only ten percent of the world's largest corporations are selected for the DJSI World Index.

In 2009, McGraw-Hill underscored its commitment to enhancing the economic, social and environmental well-being of the communities it serves through several initiatives, which have led to:

- Reducing the consumption of printing paper by a third in 2009 as compared to 2008. In addition, 30 percent of the office paper used in 2009 had recycled content.

- Use of 100 percent corrugated recycled paper and plastic shrink wrap for all packaging within the United States.

- Cutting the number of total shipping cartons used from 2.59 million in 2008 to 2.37 million in 2009.

The corporation's commitment to corporate social responsibility was also recently spotlighted by being listed on the FTSE4 Good Index Series, and the company has been ranked highly on Newsweek's Green Rankings Index and Corporate Responsibility Magazine's "100 Best Corporate Citizens."

For additional information and a link to the report, view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

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Staples revamps products and packaging strategy

Staples, Inc., the world's largest office products company, has announced a new corporate strategy to drive sustainability innovation in product manufacturing, packaging and distribution by challenging its key suppliers to join it in a "Race to The Top." The company detailed the challenge to its key suppliers at its Supplier Summit which took place in Boston on October 22.

In its Race to The Top sustainability strategy, Staples calls on suppliers to compete not only in terms of product quality, cost and features, but in finding innovative solutions for product manufacturing, packaging and distribution which reduce impacts on the planet. The strategy aims to increase environmental, economic and social sustainability and remove waste and inefficiency of all types.

"Viewing our business through the lens of environmental and social sustainability will lead to better results for our customers, our shareholders and our communities," said Ron Sargent, Staples' chairman and chief executive officer. "It's the right thing to do for our business and for all our stakeholders. The results of this challenge will help make it easy for customers to run their businesses more efficiently, with less impact on natural resources."

The importance of the strategy was outlined at the supplier summit. "We're letting our key suppliers know that sustainable business practices will join price, quality and service as a major factor in driving purchasing decisions," said Jevin Eagle, executive vice president of merchandising and marketing at Staples. "Starting now and over time, we'll work with all of our suppliers in a Race to The Top to improve product sustainability and quality and reduce cost."

As immediate steps, Staples is asking its key suppliers to address environmentally sustainable packaging priorities in the next six months. These steps will reduce impacts on natural resources by using less or alternative packaging materials for products in the company's delivery and retail business-

es as well as for bulk shipments received from suppliers.

Staples' strategy includes collaboratively developing sustainability scorecards for products and packaging. The scorecards will track design innovations and environmental attributes, driving more accountability throughout the supply chain. Supplier scorecard designations will increasingly be scientifically-based and focused on the sustainability attributes that matter most for particular types of products.

"Staples has been focused on sustainability for some time - from the products we offer to our own internal operations," said Mark Buckley, vice president of environmental affairs at Staples. "Now, by working closely with our key suppliers on sustainable packaging and products, we'll begin to drive continuous improvement more quickly across the lifecycle of products that we offer customers every day. This is particularly important work given that products represent the largest part of the company's overall environmental footprint. In other words, we're going after what matters most and changing the way our products get to market."

Staples' new corporate strategy for product and packaging sustainability is the company's most significant move in a series of industry-changing initiatives, including:

- In March 2008, Staples' Copy & Print Centers introduced 50 percent post-consumer recycled FSC-certified paper as the standard offering for high-speed black and white copying, becoming the first national copy and print operation to do so.

- In May 2007, Staples became the first retailer to launch a nationwide in-store technology recycling program.

- In 2007, Staples became the first retailer to offer its own brand of recycled content copy and print papers certified by the Forest Stewardship Council, a leading certification standard for sustainable forest management.

- In 2002, Staples became the first in the office products industry to establish an environmental paper procurement policy.

Caraustar ups price on paper products

Caraustar Industries, Inc. announced that it will increase prices on paperboard converted products, which includes Paperboard Tubes and Cores, in the United States and Canada. An increase of 4 percent is effective with shipments on or after November 22, 2010. This increase is a result of recent price increases on uncoated recycled paperboard.

Shipments of Kraft paper up according to AF&PA report

According to the American Forest & Paper Association's August 2010 Kraft Paper Sector Report, total Kraft paper shipments were 136.2 thousand tons, an increase of 7.5 percent compared to August 2009, and July 2010. Total year-to-date shipments rose 15.1 percent over last year. Total inventory was up 2.8 percent from last month.

A man walked into a bar and sat himself on a stool. He said, "I'll have seven whiskey shots, and make them doubles." The bartender obliged and watched the man slug them down one after the other. Staring in disbelief, the bartender asked why he was drinking so fast. "You'd drink them this fast too if you had what I have," he said. The bartender nervously asked what the man had, to which he replied, "A dollar."

Earth911 partners with IBWA to educate consumers

The International Bottled Water Association (IBWA) and Earth911.com have formed a sponsored partnership to encourage increased and more extensive recycling of all empty plastic bottles.

For the next year, IBWA will sponsor Earth911.com's plastic bottle section. IBWA's sponsorship includes contribution of research findings, video presentations and related information to help consumers better understand how to recycle these valuable materials.

Earth911.com hosts the nation's largest and most comprehensive resource for consumer recycling information through its Local Recycling and Proper Disposal Directory. The directory includes detailed data on how and where to recycle more than 240 products throughout 127,000 locations and programs in North America.

"Proper disposal of PET plastic bottles has become increasingly impor-

tant," said Earth911.com president Corey Lambrecht.

"The partnership will advance bottled water companies' on-going efforts to provide effective solutions for proper, post-consumer recycling for all plastic bottles, including empty plastic water bottles," said Joe Doss, president and CEO of IBWA. "This new partnership with Earth911.com gives our industry a valuable new way to communicate to consumers and provide them with education about the importance and effectiveness of plastic recycling," he said.

"According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, bottled water containers make up 1/3 of 1 percent of the domestic waste stream," Doss explained, "So for an effective solution to concerns about landfills, it is important to capture the containers of the thousands of products packaged in plastic, including bottled water containers, but extending far, far beyond it."

LA's BEST and the ACC educate students on plastic recycling

LA's BEST has teamed up with the American Chemistry Council (ACC) for a second year to rally thousands of students to transform the way they think about recycling and their health. Students will embark on the "Go H2O!" challenge to learn about the benefits of recycling and the importance of drinking water.

Eighty-nine LA's BEST school sites across Los Angeles are participating in the

"Go H2O!" Challenge through November 12. Students are challenged to drink one bottle of water each afternoon and increase their recycling knowledge through educational games and tips. To support this effort, ACC is donating 15,000 reusable plastic water bottles to participating schools and providing educational materials to support the recycling lessons.

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EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

Paper/Plastic Balers

by **MARY M. COX**

maryc@americanrecycler.com

Baling commodities, such as plastics and paper, is primarily for transportation purposes. Processors seek high-density bales that can be handled efficiently and safely during loading. Higher bale density leads to lower wire cost per ton and fewer bales to handle (reducing labor cost), which allows processors to more efficiently run their facilities.



American Baler Company

Roger Williams, national sales manager, said that American Baler manufactures balers used in the paper and nonferrous scrap industries. According to him, "We offer products to industries that include box plants, printers, converters, distribution centers, municipalities, trash haulers, recyclers, scrap metal yards, MRF's and plastic recyclers. We have also served unique markets that require balers for begasse – which is sugar cane by-product – mineral wool, alfalfa, corn husks and pulp.

"Our equipment is used around the world by customers who process as little as a ton per day, up to those who process 60 tons per hour." He added that the growing practice of going green indicates that the trend toward recycling will continue to grow in popularity.

"The United States must learn to increase effectiveness in handling the material we now send to landfills. One sensible solution might include the waste-to-energy model, although some in that burgeoning industry can also face large hurdles in ensuring air quality, relative to nearby residents. As long as the world economy can provide a viable product using recycled goods, there will always be a need for balers and similar equipment," he said.

Excel Manufacturing designs and manufactures horizontal balers for the recycling industry, including both single-ram and two-ram horizontal balers. "Both products are designed with a combination

of innovative engineering, virtually indestructible construction, and top quality materials and components. Our company is also unique as we build our own conveyor systems, which are designed to work in flawless conjunction with our baler designs," said Brady Bergey, regional sales manager.

He added, "We offer balers for a variety of materials – OCC, paper, plastics, cans and solid waste. General recycling, MRF's, distribution, municipalities, nonferrous metal applications and manufacturing encompass our primary markets."

Bergey noted, "From a small-town recycling center processing 30 tons per month to a scrap yard demanding thousands of tons per month, our product line can meet most any requirement. Excel's goal is to provide a baling system that will make you money, every second it is running. By selecting the right machine for the application, we assure a satisfied customer for life."

Bergey said there are many items to consider before making a baler purchase. "We always try to address space requirements at the proposed baler facility. We want to assure that the baler will meet the customer's needs, that the facility layout is appropriate for optimized operation and that all possible challenges are addressed well before a deposit check is ever written. An often-overlooked challenge is the time and cost that may be required to build a pit for an in-ground conveyor. We advise all of our customers to meet with a contractor in advance, so there are no surprises or delays. Once the homework is done and the baler is delivered, most installations will only take a day or two with time also dedicated to operator training, safety requirements, and start up needs," he explained.



Excel Manufacturing, Inc.

He said that Excel, founded in 1991, is a well-recognized name among baler manufacturers.

According to Bob Pfeffer, the firm's director of sales in the United States and Canada, "Recyclers today rely on our rugged processing equipment and there is simply no equipment brand more widely known to recyclers than Harris."

"We work with the recycling industry supplying the equipment that has helped the industry become what it is today. We offer equipment that offers innovations in performance and automation. That results in higher output for material processors. Our customer base can range from one ton per day to over 15,000 tons per month, depending on the size of baler and the number of operating shifts per day."



Harris

For the plastic and paper markets, Harris offers a variety of balers dependent upon application, including: vertical balers for very small volume applications, horizontal closed-door balers for low volume applications, open-end auto-tie balers for mid- to high-volume applications, and two-ram balers for mid- to high-volume applications.

"The most frequently utilized balers for plastic and paper are our open-end horizontal auto-tie balers – the HLO and HP Series, and the two-ram balers – Wolverine, Badger, Gorilla, Grizzly, HRB Centurion, HRB 1035, HRB 1245, HRB 1445 and HRB 1545 Series," Pfeffer said. Harris also offers size reduction equipment for the scrap metal, general recycling and solid waste industries. Products include guillotine shears, auto shredders, ferrous balers, two-ram balers, horizontal auto-tie balers, closed-door balers and vertical balers. Harris EHD System™ balers range from 40 hp to 300 hp.

Pfeffer stated, "We design products with attributes that are exactly what recyclers need. Our new hydraulic design produces a machine that is significantly faster, offering higher productivity. Other features also reduce and control ongoing operating costs. The Harris Bale Watch™ system has been enhanced with a larger

touch-screen control panel, increasing efficiency. Detailed production reporting and a range of pre-programmed settings to maximize baler productivity on selected materials are also standard. Our new Ethernet-driven online diagnostics tool allows engineers to interface with a machine in real time, accelerating diagnostics and allowing immediate adjustments to machine settings."

Manufacturer List

American Baler Company
Roger Williams
800-843-7512
www.americanbaler.com

Bace LLC
Fred Waite
877-506-2223
www.bacecorp.com

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

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

Excel Manufacturing, Inc.
Brady Bergey
800-475-8812
www.excelmfg.com

Harris
Bob Pfeffer
800-373-9131
www.harrisequip.com

International Baler Corporation
David Wilhelmy
800-231-9286
www.intl-baler.com

IPS Balers Mfg.
Ken Korney
800-280-2313
www.ipsbalers.com

Maren Engineering
Terry Stengel
708-333-6250
www.marenengineering.com

PTR Baler
Gregory Leon
800-523-3654
www.ptrco.com

Quality Bilt Equipment
Joe Fortune
888-773-9313
www.qualitybilt.com

Harris
BALERS



www.harrisequip.com

Hudson Color ordered to comply by EPA

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently issued a Complaint and Compliance Order against Hudson Color Concentrates, a division of L&A Molding, Inc., for violating state and federal hazardous waste management requirements.

Hudson Color, of Leominster, Massachusetts, produces custom color plastic pellet concentrates for the plastics industry by blending, mixing, melting, extruding, quenching, drying and chipping processed mixtures of color pigments.

EPA's complaint alleges that Hudson Color violated the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act by failing to conduct an adequate hazardous waste determination of waste pigment powders containing high concentrations of lead found in the facility's raw material storage areas, pigment room and blending area.

In addition, the EPA inspectors found that the company did not handle universal waste in accordance with state and federal regulations by not properly managing mercury-containing fluorescent bulbs in a way that would prevent bulbs from breaking, potentially releasing mercury into the environment.

The failure to conduct adequate hazard waste determinations of the pigments could result in release of lead into the environment and unnecessarily expose the company's employees and others to hazardous wastes. In addition to proposing fines of up to \$68,466, EPA is ordering Hudson Color to correct these violations by conducting appropriate waste determinations: ensure that mercury-containing universal waste is managed so as to prevent releases of mercury; and, ensure that containers of universal waste are marked with dates of accumulation.

AR EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

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

Freudenberg Nonwovens finds creative ways to recycle PET bottles

PHOTO COURTESY OF FREUDENBERG



The Spunlaid Division of Freudenberg Nonwovens will recycle 12.4 million 2-liter bottles this year in the manufacture of their Lutradur ECO product. The factory responsible for producing the product employs a closed-loop process that reclaims and reuses all production scraps.

Freudenberg Nonwovens' Spunlaid Division will recycle 12.4 million 2-liter bottles this year, thanks to new research and a novel commercial product.

Lutradur® ECO is a polyester industrial backing made from 100 percent post consumer recycled (PCR) plastic. It's being produced in company facilities that recycle their scrap through a closed-loop manufacturing process, resulting in a high-quality product range that is helping customers and Freudenberg Nonwovens achieve sustainable, green operations and design.

Development of Lutradur ECO has evolved over the past 10 years as Freudenberg sought ways to help its construction, landscape and filtration customers achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) credits for their use of sustainable products. Material and manufacturing engineers pushed to increase the amount of post industrial recycled (PIR) material used to produce Freudenberg's traditional Lutradur material from 15 percent to 90 percent. When the company migrated to 100 percent PCR, Lutradur ECO material was born.

Lutradur and Lutradur ECO are used to produce building and construction substrates; landscaping and weed block materials; residential and commercial wallpaper and carpet backings; automotive floor mats and carpeting; and specialized filtration devices.

Lutradur ECO is also used in landscaping fabrics and secondary carpet backings for green carpet tiles.

The product is produced at Freudenberg's Durham, North Carolina plant. The process begins with the collection, bundling, shredding and cleaning of discarded beverage bottles made of polyethylene terephthalate (PET). Freudenberg Nonwovens then uses proprietary spunlaid manufacturing technology to make rolls of nonwoven polyester fabric from the shredded plastic. Every square yard of 85-gram-weight Lutradur ECO fabric produced keeps six 16-fluid-ounce plastic bottles out of a landfill. In most applications, this product performs as well as backing material made from virgin plastic.

Equally important, Freudenberg Nonwovens' Durham plant has implemented stringent guidelines to ensure that the nonwoven scrap produced in the manufacturing process is recycled back into the product, thus creating a closed loop industrial system that further reduces the operation's environmental footprint. Freudenberg's Durham facility recycles over 9,000 tons of waste polyester annually.

Demand for Lutradur ECO has been growing so steadily that Freudenberg Nonwovens will restart an idled spunbond line to increase production of the recycled fiber by the end of the year. The move will result in creation of 16 new jobs at the Durham plant.

Reveal crafts waste plastic into luxury bags

Reveal Handbags, an eco-luxury fashion accessories company devoted to preserving the planet's resources, has launched its new Recycled Collection made of recycled plastic bottles.

Reveal Handbags' Recycled Collection is innovative and sustainable, and perfect for a modern and mobile lifestyle. Its earth and animal friendly products include women's handbags and wallets, men's messenger bags and bamboo accessories, and eco-modern mobile accessories.

Reveal Handbags merges classic design with the most sustainable materials available, including:

- Recycled microsuede: soft, animal-friendly suede made from recycled plastic bottles,
- Recycled satin: luxurious satin made from recycled plastic bottles,
- Vegan leather: our trims and straps, like all Reveal's materials, are 100 percent cruelty-free,
- And recycled zippers: made from recycled polyester tape and recycled metal sliders.

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

Smith went to see his supervisor in the front office. "Hey boss," he said, "we're doing some heavy house-cleaning at home tomorrow, and my wife needs me to help with the attic and the garage, moving and hauling stuff."

The supervisor looked at the schedule and replied, "We're short-handed, Smith. I'm sorry, but I can't give you the day off." Smith sighed with relief and replied, "Thanks boss. I knew I could count on you."

Center to study effects of plastics chemicals on children's health

A new research center based at the University of Illinois will investigate whether regular exposure to bisphenol A (BPA) and phthalates – chemicals widely used in plastics and other consumer products – can alter infant and adolescent development, cognition or behavior.

A \$2 million grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences at the National Institutes of Health and the United States Environmental Protection Agency will establish the Children's Environmental Health and Disease Prevention Research Center at Illinois. Four pilot projects will be conducted over the next three years at Illinois and Harvard University.

BPA and phthalates are endocrine disruptors. They mimic natural hormones and thus can interfere with hormone signaling in the body.

BPA is used to make shatterproof plastics and is a component of many containers and bottles, PVC pipes, dental fillings and electronics. Resins made with BPA line metal food and drink containers. Human studies have found BPA in many tissues and fluids, including urine, blood, breast milk and the amniotic fluid of pregnant women.

The National Toxicology Program conducted a review of laboratory studies on animals exposed to BPA in 2008 and reported that while there was little evidence that exposure to BPA was harmful to adults, there was "some concern for effects on the brain, behavior

and prostate gland in fetuses, infants and children at current human exposures to bisphenol A."

Phthalates increase the durability, transparency and flexibility of some plastics. They also are used as emulsifiers, lubricants, stabilizers, binders and coatings in cosmetics, building materials, food products, wrappers, textiles, toys and pills. Studies have found that high exposure to some phthalates can alter hormone levels and cause birth defects in rodents.

The four pilot projects will evaluate the effects of BPA and phthalate exposure on infants and adolescents. Two of the projects will focus on human subjects, and two will involve rodents.

The centerpiece of the studies is a project that looks at exposure to BPA and phthalates in relation to the physical and mental development of infants. Carle Physicians Group in Champaign-Urbana will collaborate on this project, called Illinois Kids (I-Kids). The researchers will follow pregnant women and their babies, measuring BPA and phthalate levels in the urine every month and collecting data on possible sources of exposure. The babies will also undergo physical, behavioral and cognitive tests.

"We're going to see the babies within the first 24 hours of birth and collect a lot of data about their growth and development but also about their cognitive function," said Susan Schantz, a professor of comparative

biosciences at Illinois, an environmental toxicologist and the director of the new center.

"These chemicals are endocrine disruptors," she said. "BPA is estrogenic and phthalates are anti-androgenic, so both are expected to disrupt sex hormones in the body."

Testosterone and estrogen are important for the sex differences that develop in the fetal and neonatal brain. Male and female babies normally differ in their physical attributes and also in their cognitive abilities and behavior, Schantz said. "We want to see if those sex differences are changed by the exposure to these chemicals," she said.

Two developmental psychologists at Illinois, comparative biosciences professor Andrea Aguiar and psychology professor Renee Baillargeon, will conduct the cognitive and behavioral tests. The researchers hope to follow the infants for many years.

In a separate project, a collaborator at Harvard Medical School, Susan Korrick, M.D., will assess the BPA and phthalate exposures of a group of adolescents she has been following since they were born.

Korrick will conduct neuropsychological assessments of her subjects and measure traits, such as verbal or spatial reasoning, known to differ between males and females at this age.

"Adolescence is another period where sex hormones have a big impact on brain development and behavior and even physical development," Schantz said. This project will allow researchers to determine if exposure to BPA and phthalates hinders normal hormone signaling and alters the development of traits that differ between the sexes.

Illinois psychology professor Janice Juraska will conduct similar studies in rats exposed to the same chemicals "at time periods in the rats' lives that parallel prenatal development and adolescence in humans," Schantz said. Juraska will evaluate cell density in various brain regions to get a fuller picture of any changes that accompany exposure to the chemicals.

A fourth project will look at potential changes in the reproductive systems of male and female mice exposed to BPA and phthalates. Illinois comparative biosciences professor Jodi Flaws, a reproductive toxicologist and associate director of the new center, and National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences researcher Humphrey Yao, a reproductive biologist, will use genetically altered mice to reveal the mechanisms by which these hormone mimics act on reproductive cells.

"Investigators from all four projects will work together closely to obtain a cohesive picture of the effects of bisphenol A and phthalates on infant and adolescent development, cognition, and behavior," Flaws said.

A key focus of the center will be education and outreach to the community.

Plant-based plastic used in consumer cups

Stonyfield Farm, an organic yogurt company, introduced the first yogurt cup made from plants. Beginning in October, every Stonyfield Farm multipack yogurt cup, including YoBaby, YoToddler and YoKids (as well as B-Healthy, B-Well, Probiotic & O'Soy), will be made from plant-based plastic. The new cup slashes carbon emissions by nearly half (48 percent) and places Stonyfield on the front lines of the growing sustainable packaging industry, a field expected to reach \$142 billion by 2015.

Stonyfield made the packaging change with no increase in price on any of its multipacks. The new cups look and feel just like the petroleum-based polystyrene cups they replace, the only difference is the new "Made From Plants" stamp on the bottom.

Stonyfield's new plant-based cup is made from 93 percent polylactic acid, which at this time is made from corn. Within five years, the United States Department of Energy predicts that non-food plants will be viable alternatives. Until that time, Stonyfield uses an offset program to produce a sustainably grown amount of corn equal to the amount used for the cups. Thus, by taking an equivalent amount of genetically modified organism (GMO) corn out of production, Stonyfield is not supporting GMOs.

Like the polystyrene plastic packaging it is replacing, the new plant-based cup is not recyclable in most communities due to lack of recycling infrastructure. As demand increases, this will improve but, for now, Stonyfield's new multipack cups should be placed with the non-recyclables. Currently there are only two facilities that can process the material from recycling centers. As more plant-based plastics begin to be used by manufacturers, recycling centers will have enough demand to add recycling systems for plant-based plastic, and the ability to process the material will expand.

Nancy Hirshberg, Stonyfield's vice president of natural resources explained, "Even without a recycling option in the early stages, plant-based plastic is already better for the planet than polystyrene because it produces lower carbon emissions and requires less fossil fuel to make. As this new type of plastic becomes more commonplace, the potential environmental benefits only get better."

To demonstrate its commitment to sustainability, Stonyfield is open-sourcing everything the company has learned about plant-based plastic so that other companies can give consumers what they really want – packaging that allows them to have their food and their planet, too.

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Bag bans

■Continued from Page 1

in Hawaii, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Oregon, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin. A ban law was rejected by Ann Arbor, Michigan. Taxing bags failed to pass in Alaska, California, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, Vermont, Virginia and West Virginia. A tax in Baltimore, Maryland was also rejected. In this economy, even a tax on a plastic bag is onerous.

Instead of taxing or banning plastics, shopping bags and other thin films like newspaper and dry cleaner bags, product wraps for cases of beverages, and other thin-film polyethylenes, many jurisdictions have instituted mandatory recycling laws, or implemented voluntary programs.

"We see an increasing number of jurisdictions choosing recycling over taxes and bans. Additionally, this year, we saw an increasing number of jurisdictions choosing voluntary recycling initiatives over bag bans or taxes," said Shari Jackson, director of the Progressive Bag Affiliates, a self-funded group within the plastics division of the American Chemistry Council, that works to promote increased recycling of plastic bags as well as their proper use, reuse and disposal.

Mandatory bag recycling legislation has already been adopted by New York, California, Rhode Island and Delaware, as well as by more than a dozen cities and counties around the country. In 2010, Florida became the first state to institute a voluntary recycling program, although a number of major cities in Arizona had elected that route as have cities in California, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and Texas, and a county in Illinois and one in Washington.

Whether voluntary or mandatory, the trend appears strongly towards the free choice of recycling rather than bans or taxes. The reality is that thin-film polyethylene is here to stay because it is cost-efficient to make, lightweight, reusable, requires less energy to transport and is a more sustainable alternative

than paper packaging made from virgin fibers.

And just as it took many decades to develop paper, plastic and metal recycling programs, it is likely to take time to educate consumers on recycling polyethylene films. It will not take as long, however, because the habits and benefits of recycling have become stronger among consumers. But it will not only take more education – it will also require segregation of the material from solid waste and many more highly visible thin-film recycling bins in communities and retail establishments.

Greater in-store recycling is being driven by regulations and voluntary initiatives among states, localities and major retailers like Wal-Mart and Target. The New York State Plastic Bag Reduction, Reuse and Recycling Law, which went into effect in January, 2009 and applies to all stores with more than 10,000 square feet or at least 5 locations with more than 5,000 square feet. The law requires these stores to comply with and set up collection programs for their customers to recycle plastic carry-out bags and film.

This year, Target implemented a voluntary collection program for plastic bags and other materials in all of its 1,400 stores throughout the country. This effort is showing good results.

One company, the Newark Group, has come up with a novel mail-back program for collecting plastic bags that may be the seed for a more general solution. "We have not heard of any program like ours that is specific to retail plastic bags," said Kathy Hogan in account services at Newark's Recycled Products Division.

"We came up with this program to offer to corporations or anyone else interested in recycling their bags. We are offering communities an option. We will take the plastic retail bags, dry cleaner bags, veggie bags, bubble wrap and we will take it however they can get it to us. Bring it to our facility at no cost, or ship it to us. We are willing to take it in and recycle it."

This mail-back program has been in effect for a little over a year and is being used by over 1,000 retailers, primarily in



Loose bags are compacted into bales for easier processing and storage of an otherwise unruly material.

New York, Maryland and Illinois, and is showing promising results. The company's motives for instituting such a program are economically-driven, understandable and customer-focused, making this a free-market solution rather than a mandated one.

The Newark Group is comprised of a network of vertically integrated, 100 percent recycled paperboard operations. Their recovered paper operations supply all of the recovered paper used in its domestic paperboard mills and nearly all the needs of its converting operations. In North America, they operate 11 recovered paper plants, 8 paperboard mills and 22 converting plants, and handle approximately 2.5 million tons of paper a year.

Johnny Gold, Newark's senior vice president, explained how the program developed: "One of the big items we use in making recycled paperboard is residential mixed paper. No matter what the recycling programs say to residents, no matter how much due diligence we do in telling people that plastic bags cannot be in curbside collections they wind up in our residential paper mix. Our mills go crazy when they get plastic bags mixed in with the paper. We were also getting inquiries from our recycled cardboard customers asking if we had a way to handle their plastic bags, so we came up with our way to recycle them."

Newark provides its Plastic Bag Return Program Level 1 Starter Kit for a minimal cost, which also includes the return UPS shipping charges. It consists of a heavy-duty cardboard recycling bin imprinted with the recycling logo and displays recycling information. The top has a circular opening to deposit plastic bags. It comes with four, 10 mm clear plastic liners and three pre-paid postage return cartons. When the bin is full of clean, dry bags, the liner is removed, the air squeezed out, put into a return carton and returned to Newark via UPS. A refill kit of four liners and three return boxes is also available. The average weight for a returned box is 5.5 pounds. In addition to drop-offs, thus far the program has

recovered more than 2,000 return boxes. It takes approximately 300 boxes to make a 1,500 pound bale, which Newark sells to a plastics recycler. Besides the plastic bags, Newark also recycles the liners and the cardboard return boxes.

Currently Newark has one receiving location Salem, Massachusetts. Another is being set up in Newark, New Jersey, but the company is planning to roll out the program nationwide to reduce shipping costs. Other locations in Dayton, Ohio; Green Bay, Wisconsin; San Jose and Stockton, California; Mobil, Alabama and Tallahassee, Florida will handle mail-backs or receive drop-off loads.

"On the baled plastics we are breaking even and sometimes making up to a penny a pound plus we get the cardboard back in the shipping box. We are not losing anything. It's a customer service that also helps us get more material. More importantly, we are helping keeping them out of the residential mixed paper stream," said Gold. "We do not want to spend the time and labor on a conveyor line pulling out plastic bags from residential paper."

Recycling does work and it can work even better. In 2008, more than 832 million pounds of plastic bags and film were recycled, a 28 percent increase since 2005. More significantly, during this same period the recycling rate for plastic bags and film doubled to 13 percent. If that recovery rate can be sustained, or even increased, the environmental issues may be resolved without the need for outright bans.

Creating a consumer culture for thin-film recycling, mail-back programs and a greater number of drop-off locations are parts of the solution to make sure that plastic bags are recycled rather than become litter. Mail-backs can provide small retailers, schools, institutions and community organizations, and even households with a convenient way to collect and recycle plastic bags. Reducing, reusing and recycling plastic bags, a valuable commodity, can be done without more of the fourth R, regulations.



Multiple bales of plastic bags await shredding and further processing. The finished product may be used in the manufacture of new bags or other useful products.

DADE Capital Corp.
800-823-9688
 Perrysburg, OH



Visit DADECapital.com for a complete list of current equipment and more photos.



2006 AL-JON 400XL METAL BALER
 Excellent condition with 3,900 hours. \$250,000



2004 MOROS HS 500-TON PORTABLE SHEAR
 Throat is 30 x 24. The height is 13'9" and box length is 97". Runs well. \$295,000



2001 CAT 345B II WITH SHEAR
 With LaBounty 70R III SV rebuilt. 9,000 hours. Very nice condition. \$225,000



1995 FUCHS MHL 350
 With 49'6" reach and hydraulic cab. Engine and pump were rebuilt in 2007. 20KW generator, solid tires and 5-tine rotating Fuchs grapple. \$122,000



1997 SIERRA 700-TON S/L/B
 17,000 hours, electric power. Runs well. \$440,000

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SMALL BUSINESS JOB ACT OF 2010

On September 27th the Small Business Job Act Of 2010 was signed into law. It contains some important provisions for those small businesses interested in saving money on their 2010 taxes.

1) The Section 179 deduction for the purchase of equipment has been increased to \$500,000.00. What does this mean?

Let's say you purchased a baler in 2010 for \$300,000.00. The new bill allows you to write off 100% of the cost of that machine. Assuming you're in a 30% tax bracket:

$$\$300,000.00 \times .30 = \$90,000.00 \text{ in Tax Savings For 2010}$$

2) The 50% Bonus Depreciation on the purchase of new equipment has been extended through the end of 2010. What does this mean?

Let's say that in 2010 you purchase a total of \$750,000.00 in new equipment. You can use the new Section 179 deduction above and take 50% Bonus Depreciation on the balance plus your 1st year Depreciation Allowance of 20% on the remainder.

Total purchase of New Equipment:	\$750,000.00
Section 179 Deduction:	(\$500,000.00)
Balance:	\$250,000.00
50% Bonus Depreciation:	(\$125,000.00)
First year Depreciation Allowance:	(\$25,000.00)

Your total taxable cost on the purchase of \$750,000.00 in new equipment is \$100,000.00. Assuming you're in a 30% tax bracket:

$$\$650,000.00 \times .30 = \$195,000.00 \text{ in Tax Savings For 2010}$$

Please note that the 50% Bonus Depreciation portion of the bill expires on 1/1/2011. As always, we highly recommend that you consult your accountant before making any decision with regard to your tax liability.

MAKE THESE TAX SAVINGS A REALITY

DADE CAPITAL CORP. WILL BE PLEASED TO ASSIST YOU WITH ANY NEEDED FINANCING. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL US TODAY!



2008 LABOUNTY SHEAR
 UP30SV shear and crushing jaws. Excellent condition, very little use. \$95,000



2005 FUCHS MHL350 MATERIAL HANDLER
 49' Reach, A/C, solid tires 85%. 20 KW generator, .8 Cu-Yd 5-tine rotating grapple. \$195,000



1988 AL-JON 400 METAL BALER
 Great condition and very sharp, runs well. \$95,000



2006 FUCHS MHL350
 In good operating condition. 20Kw gen-set, central lube system, 4,952 hours. \$197,000



2000 LIEBHERR A932 HD
 20 KW gen-set, Young grapple. New Rotec bearing. \$120,000



JEFFERY 62 X 90 HAMMERMILL SHREDDER
 REBUILT. 800 h.p. electric motor (accepts up to a 2,000 h.p. motor) and has an extra base, reversible hammers and an oscillator table. It also has a pin puller, slope feed table, drive sheaves, tilt cylinders, extra bearings and eddy system. \$450,000