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WHAT'S INSIDE

- Cellphone unlocking policy a victory for recyclers. Page A6
- AF&PA releases paper reports. Page A7
- Novelis to expand global auto aluminum capacity. Page A14
- Metal recycler required to update technology to prevent chemical releases. Page A16
- College team constructs sustainable mini-mobile home. Page B3

Scrap Metals MarketWatch	15
Events Calendar	19
Business Briefs	18
AR Classifieds	20
Equipment Spotlight	B4
A Closer Look	B6

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Dealing with shrinking profit margins

by MIKE BRESLIN

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The main issue facing the scrap metal industry these days is deteriorating profit margins. It appears that increased competition for scrap metal has created bidding wars among large shredders resulting in premium scale prices to keep shredders running. This has resulted in tightening margins for large shredders, caused many to cut operating hours and some to shut down. In medium and large metro areas, small scrap dealers and feeder yards are in price wars with their competitors to acquire material, while at the same time playing one shredder against others to get top dollar for their scrap. Another dynamic is that medium to large scrap yards are being forced to pay top prices for heavy melting steel (HMS) that normally goes to make cut grades, but shredders are using it to feed their equipment.

Joseph C. Pickard, chief economist and director of commodities at the Institute of Scrap Metal Industries (ISRI) offered his input on current market conditions. "Margins are down partly due to competition for available feedstock. Not only for the last year or so, but competition has been rising for the last decade. The industry had developed a lot more capital equipment in terms of shredders and other processing capability pretty much widespread across the country. There are more people and more capacity competing for the same amount of metal, which can cut further into profit margins, especially when market prices are volatile. Although by historical standards prices today are not low, they are not where they were in 2011."



Marketing is playing a bigger role in increasing profits for metal yards in a competitive dynamic.

"The feedstock supply seems to be holding pretty steady. Steel being produced in the U.S. is down 1.4 percent from 2012. Export of steel is down overall, but I think 2014 will be a little better than 2013," Pickard continued.

"I think you are going to see continued interest in industry consolidation, especially given the current level of shredder capacity."

Over the long term, Pickard believes that the global marketplace will continue to expand, with growth throughout Asia with continued emphasis on infrastruc-



Competition to acquire scrap metal by paying higher prices is narrowing profit margins.

ture and populations moving from rural to urban areas. He thinks these long term trends bode really well for steel and scrap metal export.

"Any change in regulations like the Affordable Care Act will take time for people to figure out and deal with," said Pickard. "It's very competitive nationally and there's slower demand for export metal. "Through October, we saw a drop from Turkey of about 19 percent as compared to 2012. Taiwan is a big market as well and demand there was down 16 percent. South Korea was down 30 percent. India was down 58 percent. China was actually up 3.9 percent, but low demand compared to historic highs," Pickard concluded.

Greg Brown, is chief executive officer of Raleigh Metal Recycling, Goldsboro Metal Recycling and a new, third facility under an operating agreement in Wilson, North Carolina. He is also chief executive officer of Benlee Roll Off Trailers based in Romulus, Michigan. He weighed in on the state of the scrap industry in the southeast.

"We are having the worst year since I owned the company in six plus years, with margin being the issue. The number one driver is shredders fighting for material and paying too much for it. I only have a small shredder, so we sell approximately six or seven hundred gross tons a month of shred, but when the shredders fight for material we have to compete with them, even on HMS that we sell as cut grades. In the southeast, the margin issue is worse than in other parts of the U.S."

In fact, five scrap yards and a major shredder have shut down in North Car-

olina, in the past four months as reported by American Metal Markets (AMM).

Other weakness in the southeast was recently confirmed by one of the country's largest metal recyclers, Steel Dynamics, Inc., with their OmniSource operation. Its third quarter financial report stated "Operating income for our metals recycling operations decreased 29 percent to \$11 million in the third quarter 2013, as compared to the second quarter of this year, which was the result of decreased ferrous metal spread, as increased ferrous volume did not offset the decline in market prices. Profitability from our Midwest operations was actually slightly improved; however, the continued industry overcapacity of shredding locations in the Southeast resulted in deterioration in earnings for those locations."

Brown reported that in recent months, a number of shredders and scrap yards in his area have shut down because of the margin squeeze. Brown is relying on increasing productivity and offering superior customer service to cope with shrinking margins. "We are looking at every way to increase margin by reducing costs. We are not cutting back on people, but we're reducing overtime. We're trying to run our baler at off hours which is higher productivity when customers are not around. We're handling items less. We used to store our motors at the far end of the facility. Now we created an area right near the truck docks so we don't have to carry the material as far. We are looking at switching more products from lugger boxes to roll-offs so we do less trucking and save on transportation.

See PROFIT MARGINS, Page 4

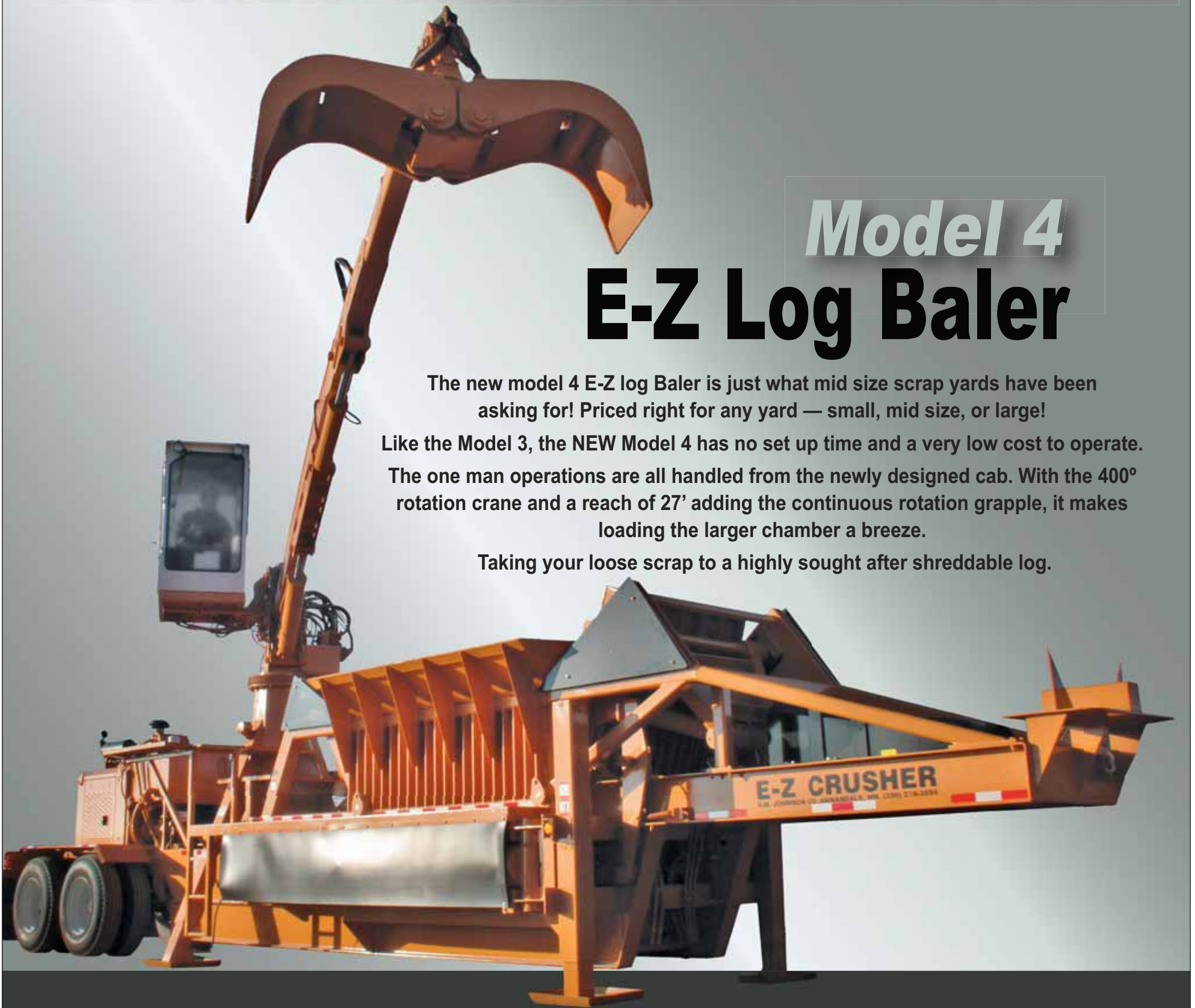
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New glass recycling center opens in Portland

A new recycled glass processing facility in Portland will use advanced technology and equipment to make more recycled glass available for use.

The new Glass to Glass facility opened in Portland, Oregon. Glass to Glass is a joint venture formed by Owens-Illinois (O-I) and eCullet, a technology-based recycled glass processing company.

The Glass to Glass facility will supply recycled glass to the O-I Portland plant located just a few miles away.

However, it is sometimes challenging for glass manufacturers to get the high-quality recycled glass they need. Ryan Modlin, O-I North America's vice president of government relations, explained that much of the recycled glass collected in North America comes from single stream recycling, which mixes paper, metal, plastic and glass. This collection

process often results in glass that is too contaminated to be successfully re-introduced into the manufacturing process.

One of the reasons that O-I and eCullet chose Portland as the site for their joint venture Glass to Glass facility is the steady supply of high-quality recycled glass available through the Oregon Container Deposit Program. The Glass to Glass facility will also process recycled glass from Washington that may have otherwise ended up in a landfill.

The joint venture began construction of the Glass to Glass facility in June. The construction supported 75 jobs and the facility will employ 15 people.

O-I's Portland plant employs about 200 people and produces more than one million bottles per day, primarily beer bottles for local microbreweries.

The Refinishing Touch recycles furniture for Georgetown University

The Refinishing Touch has completed a furniture refinishing and upholstery project for Georgetown University. The scope of work included the refinishing and reupholstery of a variety of public space pieces in Alumni Square, an apartment complex on campus.

The university sought to update Harbin Hall, by upcycling various assets including love seats, arm chairs, lounge chairs and sofas. The fabrics, furniture refinishing and re-upholstery needed to fulfill several objectives including budget,

project deadlines and building upon the university's focus on sustainability.

By investing in The Refinishing Touch's furniture asset management services, Georgetown reduced its total expenditure an estimated 55 percent – lowering the cost for the project from \$36,526 to \$16,241 – and completed the project on-site in less than a week and a half. The project also involved reupholstering stock furniture to be prepared to replace furniture that may become worn throughout the academic year.

Columbus, Ohio expands reach of recycling program

The City of Columbus, Ohio expanded RecyColumbus, its residential recycling program, to residents at eligible condominium and apartment complexes, along with rowhouses and townhomes along city streets. Prior to the expansion, only residents living in single-family homes or in a building with four units or less that were not part of a complex were eligible for the residential recycling program.

Entire condominium and apartment complexes that currently use only 90 or 300 gallon trash containers serviced by the city will be eligible for the expanded recycling program, along with attached townhomes along city streets. The properties must have enough room to store the 64 gallon recycling carts between biweekly recycling collections to be eligible. The expansion will add approximately 15,000 customers to the residential recycling program, bringing the total number of program customers to more than 200,000.

The city will begin distributing the blue 64 gallon recycling carts to newly eligible residences beginning in February, with cart distribution to be completed by the end of March. Collection will begin immediately.

In cooperation with the city's effort to expand their recycling program, the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO) will make recycling available for up to 20 select apartment and condominium communities that are not eligible for home pickup of recycling. Recycling drop-off containers will be provided to select communities in the north and north-

west part of the city that will provide convenient access to recycling. SWACO will provide recycling to these communities in addition to their current drop off locations already located throughout Franklin County.

Also beginning the week of March 3, 2014, Columbus will begin collecting yard waste and recycling on the same day rather than on alternating weeks. The change will make the bi-weekly collections of recycling and yard waste more efficient and make it easier for residents to keep track of their collection day. The collection day of the week will not change, but the week of collection may change. For example, recycling collected on the first and third Monday of a month may move to the second and fourth Monday of a month. Residents will be notified well in advance of the new collection schedule.

RecyColumbus customers can use a new Collection Day Reminder service widget to receive regular reminders about their trash, recycling and yard waste collection day. The tool lets residents choose a phone call, e-mail or calendar reminder about their collection schedule.

Apartment and condominium complexes that do not have 90 or 300 gallon trash collection service or have trash collection through a private company instead of the city are not eligible for the residential recycling program. Also, businesses are not eligible for the program. For properties not eligible for residential recycling, the city encourages residents to drop off recyclables at one of the SWACO drop boxes.

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Profit margins

■Continued from Page 1

Every month we are looking more carefully at rail costs versus trucking costs for outgoing. It's also putting pressure on us in terms of being less generous with salary increases, but we are not cutting health care as some others have done.

"In the Raleigh area over the last six years, six new scrap yards and four shredders opened up, said Brown. "I'm a real customer service nut. We were the first yard to offer ATMs. We went from two nonferrous scales to eight, three truck scales and two ATMs. Despite this, I was losing business to these other new scrap yards, but didn't get hurt too badly. Then in January, a new shredder opened up about 80 miles north in Reidsville, North Carolina. In March, another new shredder opened up in Rocky Mount, about 60 miles east of us. So when the price of steel went up about \$.75 in March, we heard our closest competitor with a big shredder in the Raleigh area raised the scale price \$3.25 per hundred-weight to keep their market share. We had to compete with them, which destroyed our margin.

"Competition among shredders is the number one issue killing margins. For us, nonferrous volume is down a bit. Part of that has to do with the housing slump. The other thing is the sheer number of scrap yards – the little guys. There's not a big barrier to entry into the scrap business. You buy a scale and you can open up a scrap yard," Brown concluded.

Brown also mentioned that his company has also seen more "weighting" of

incoming scrap loads with additions of dirt and concrete.

In southern California, Kurt Rexius, is the chief executive officer of P&T Metals, Inc. based in El Monte. P&T deals heavily in copper, aluminum, stainless and exotic metals. The company employs approximately 50 people. "California is pretty slack and scrap is seeing low volume for the last six months. Prices have also been very slack. Over the last couple of weeks it has picked up a little for copper. Other than that it's a pretty flat market for copper, aluminum and stainless steel. Both buy and sell prices have been low," said Rexius.

"Over the last year our margins have shrunk on copper, stainless steel and aluminum. To counteract this we are exploring every avenue. Everybody is hungry for scrap right now so all the dealers and buyers are reaching out for scrap, and a lot of our dealers are not doing very well. As long as prices are down, margins are going to stay down. If the economy gets a little better, that will help," Rexius ended.

In Green Bay, Wisconsin we caught up with Bruce Haws, owner of Midwest Scrap Metals LLC. Midwest is a small ferrous and nonferrous scrap operation doing approximately \$5 million in annual sales. "Over the past year a lot of my big industrial customers have been pretty slow and now with the colder weather coming in it has really slowed down," said Haws. Our overall business margin has narrowed over the past year or so. I would say it is down 5 to 10 percent. Everyone is trying to cut it closer. As compared to four years ago, we are doing worse. I'd say we're down about 20 percent."

Midwest is combating tightening margins by concentrating on superior customer service. "Customers worry about the service. You have to treat them fairly," said Haws.

On the east coast we interviewed Frank Lobascio, managing partner at Armor Metals & Recycling LLC in Pennsauken New Jersey, which serves the metro Philadelphia area and employs 16.

"We're a company that's about two and a half years old, but over the past year and a half I've found the margins to be squeezed. It's definitely gotten tighter, especially in copper. When there are big price drops it's hard for me to catch up, and I can't afford to sit on the material or hoard it and wait for the prices to go up. We do much better with a stable market. Actually, our margins have gotten a little better on ferrous with the wholesalers we sell to. A lot of them have increased their ability to process and have shredders that are very hungry. These shredders run 24/7 and their capabilities are so significant it's pretty tough to keep them fed. Because we are a feeder yard, it's actually helped us a little on iron. Here in the South Jersey-Philadelphia area you have a lot of big shredders in play. There are so many and there does not seem to be enough material to justify them. They are paying higher process and I sometimes wonder how they are making any money. That has helped us.

"In the retail part of this business you have people who are expecting a certain price for the material they bring in and there's also a squeeze there. You have the competition of many yards close together and now you have the whole world economy that's not bouncing back.

"Our major step to deal with tight margins is strong marketing and getting our name out there. We have a fantastic location. We also come from another industry where service was everything. So by implementing great service, we're trying to increase our market share and move ahead a little faster. We're watching every dime, of course. Forestalling pay raises, cutting hours, using part timers, considering health benefits are all things we are thinking about going forward," Lobascio concluded.

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CalRecycle sets new limits on container volumes

California has taken another step in the state's concerted efforts to combat fraud in its beverage container recycling program.

Revised regulations effective January 1, 2014, significantly reduce the volume of California Redemption Value bottles and cans an individual can redeem at recycling centers in a single day. As a result, importers of out-of-state containers, which are not eligible for CRV refunds, and scavenger fleets illegally removing the contents of residential curbside recycling bins will find it considerably more time-consuming and risky to reap any ill-gotten gains.

The change is the latest salvo in the state's vigorous effort to thwart beverage container recycling fraud.

The new per-person, per-day limits are 100 lbs. of aluminum or plastic CRV-eligible containers, and 1,000 lbs. of CRV glass. Previously, the limits were 500 lbs. of aluminum or plastic, and 2,500 lbs. of glass. Aluminum and plastic, due to their relatively light weight, are the most common materials found in truckloads brought across California's borders for illegal redemption.

For the vast majority of consumers, the change will not be noticeable. CalRecycle research indicates more than 99 percent of all transactions are for less than 80 lbs. of aluminum, while the average weight is 8.7 lbs. For clear plastic bottles, nearly 99 percent of transactions are for less than 80 lbs., and the average is 11.6 lbs.

CalRecycle is undertaking a major and multipronged effort to protect the state's beverage container recycling fund. Much of the emphasis is on preventing fraud before it occurs. In addition to the new load limits, two other program changes are pending. One such change would enhance training of recycling center operators. The other supports a new state law requiring importers of out-of-state containers to enter California through CDFA agricultural inspection stations and comply with stringent reporting and inspection requirements that include providing personal identification at the station and specifying the destination in California where they are taking the containers.

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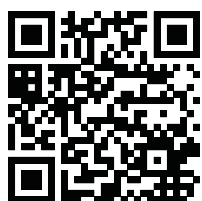


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ELECTRONICS

Cellphone unlocking policy a victory for recyclers

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and wireless carriers have recently agreed to allow consumers to "unlock" or circumvent cellphones at the end of their service agreement and switch carriers using the same phone. The agreement will also apply to electronics refurbishers, therefore making it easier and more profitable to return cellphones.

"The agreement is a move in the right direction that will help recyclers extend the life of used cellphones," said Robin Wiener, president of ISRI. "While we still must ensure that recyclers and refurbishers are allowed to unlock phones on their own, this agreement is good for the cellphone market and good for the environment."

The deal between the FCC and phone companies will allow consumers to request the provider unlock a phone at the end of the service contract.

This move comes after the ISRI board of directors in October approved a new policy supporting the ability of recyclers and refurbishers to unlock technological devices such as cellphones, tablets and other electronics. Current copyright law makes the U.S. the only country where recyclers do not have the ability to unlock devices, standing in the way of advances in the reuse of technological devices and new innovations and competitive uses.

The issue has bipartisan support on Capitol Hill. House Judiciary Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte (R-Va.) introduced the Unlocking Consumer Choice and Wireless Competition Act (HR 1123), with Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) sponsoring companion legislation. The Obama Administration also supports the ability to unlock devices.

Electronic cigarette maker launches recycling program

White Cloud Electronic Cigarettes has partnered with Big Green Box to ensure that the U.S. Department of Transportation and United Nations packaging standards are met for disposing of electronic waste.

Customers will have the ability to recycle their rechargeable electronic cigarette batteries and Fling disposable e-cigarettes.

"There are 20 to 50 million metric tons of electronic waste disposed of every year, worldwide," said company managing director Danielle Steingraber. "Right now, only 12.5 percent of e-waste is currently recycled, but we can do our part to help change that."

As the number of e cig users continues to rise, it will quickly become critical that electronic cigarette users recycle.

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PAPER

AF&PA releases paper reports

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

Containerboard

Containerboard production lowered 7.2 percent over October 2013 and was 4.5 percent lower compared to the same month last year. The month-over-month average daily production decreased 4.2 percent. The containerboard operating rate for November 2013 decreased 3.9 points from October 2013, from 94.7 percent to 90.8 percent.

Boxboard

Total boxboard production was flat when compared to November 2012 but increased 0.3 percent from October. Unbleached Kraft Boxboard production increased over the same month last year and increased compared to October. Total Solid Bleached Boxboard & Liner production decreased compared to November 2012 but increased compared to the previous month. The production of Recycled Boxboard decreased compared to November 2012 and decreased when compared to October.

Kraft paper

Total Kraft paper shipments were 114.7 thousand tons, 12.6 percent lower compared to the prior month. Bleached Kraft paper shipments increased year-over-year 9.1 percent, but the 3.7 percent year-over-year decline in unbleached Kraft paper shipments was enough to bring overall Kraft paper shipments down 2.1 percent year-over-year. Total month-end inventory increased 22.5 percent compared to October 2013.

Printing-writing paper report

According to the report, total printing-writing paper shipments were down

6 percent in November compared to November 2012. Total printing-writing inventory levels increased 4 percent from October.

Additional key findings:

•November coated free sheet (CFS) papers shipments decreased 13 percent compared to November 2012, with YTD shipments through November down 2 percent relative to 2012 levels. Exports of CFS were down 5 percent compared to the first 10 months of 2012.

•Uncoated free sheet (UFS) paper shipments decreased 4 percent in November, with year-to-date shipments lagging 2012 levels by 2 percent. UFS inventories increased 7 percent from October to November.

•November uncoated mechanical (UM) paper shipments increased 14 percent compared to 2012 and were down 8 percent YTD compared to the same period in 2012. Year-over-year imports of UM through October were up 8 percent, with exports also exceeding 2012 levels by 8 percent.

•Coated mechanical (CM) shipments in November decreased 10 percent compared to November 2012. Shipments of CM were down 10 percent for the year in 2013. Exports of CM increased 24 percent in October.

INTERNATIONAL

Cigarette butt recycling program started in Vancouver

TerraCycle and the City of Vancouver have launched a new pilot program to recycle cigarette butts.

The program will help keep Vancouver clean and move the city closer to its Greenest City 2020 Action Plan goals.

The Cigarette Waste Brigade® pilot program – the first of its kind in the world – launched with the installation of 110 new cigarette recycling receptacles on several blocks within 4 downtown Business Improvement Areas (BIAs).

“Cigarette butts are a real source of litter downtown, and this innovative pilot project with TerraCycle will help keep toxic butts off our streets and out of the landfill. This is a great example of how we can move closer to our Greenest City goals, provide job opportunities for low-income residents, and keep our downtown looking great,” said Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson.

The pilot program, funded by TerraCycle Canada, is a partnership between the City of Vancouver, United We Can, EMBERS, and the four BIAs, to make this pervasive waste easily collectable and recyclable.

“Cigarette waste is the most littered item across the globe,” says Nina Purewal, general manager of TerraCycle

Canada. “We are thrilled that the City of Vancouver has joined us to become the first city in the world to implement an integrated cigarette waste disposal and recycling program, and we are grateful for their commitment to help us eliminate this type of waste.”

Through the program, TerraCycle will supply the receptacles and cover costs related to installation, emptying receptacles, maintenance, collection and processing of waste, and evaluation.

The program will provide green jobs through two local Vancouver inner-city social enterprises. EMBERS staff will install and maintain the receptacles, while United We Can staff will service the receptacles and ship the cigarette waste to TerraCycle.

Regular evaluation will be conducted throughout the pilot program.

The Vancouver pilot program will also serve as a model for potential future TerraCycle receptacle placements in other municipalities.

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A teacher asked her student, “If I were to say, ‘I am beautiful,’ which tense would that be?”

The student replied, “It would obviously HAVE to be past tense.”

PLASTICS

Plastics Make it Possible highlights fashion choices

Many of today's hottest fashions come from an unexpected source: yesterday's plastics. New recycling technologies have enabled designers to incorporate fabrics and materials made with used plastic packaging into trendy clothing and accessories, which helps reduce waste. To encourage this eco-trend, Plastics Make it Possible® offers some tips on how to look fabulous this season while doing something fabulous for the environment.

"Plastic fabrics and materials have played an essential role in fashion and everyday clothing for generations," said Jennifer Killinger, senior director of sustainability and public outreach for the Plastics Division of the American Chemistry Council, which sponsors the Plastics Make it Possible initiative. "And now it's easier than ever for consumers to find clothing and accessories in a broad range of styles."

Some on-trend pieces made with recycled plastics available now include:

Bold patterns: Accessories such as a handbag with a bold print or snakeskin pattern can liven up an otherwise neutral palette. Whether it's a classic clutch or something more adventurous, a handbag made with recycled plastics in a vivid pattern can be a simple way to update a winter look while helping keep used plastics out of landfills.

Denim: Many jeans companies today are offering "blue" jeans with an added bit of "green" – fabrics made with recycled plastics that help used packaging live on as

stylish clothing. Plastic fibers such as spandex have long been used to give jeans a figure-flattering fit and now denim made with recycled plastics in a variety of vivid hues lets consumers be fashion-conscious and eco-conscious.

Faux leather: While leather is a sought-after fashion staple, it's not always budget-friendly, so many designers are turning to faux leather to make this classic look more accessible.

Metallics: Once reserved for dressy occasions, metallic pieces are refined enough for the office but make a seamless transition to evening.

Comfortable basics: It's important to find indispensable t-shirts that fit well and feel good against the skin. Today's t-shirts made with recycled plastics are resilient and surprisingly soft. Best of all, t-shirts made with recycled plastics let those used bottles live another life.

Cold weather gear: Fleece jackets made with recycled plastics have been growing in popularity since they were introduced in the 1990s to make cozy, cold weather gear. The lightweight recycled plastic fabrics minimize bulk without compromising warmth, and the durability of plastics helps them last season after season.



WASTE

National Waste & Recycling Association honors leachate disposal innovation

The National Waste & Recycling Association recognized groundwater consultant Brad Granley, P.E. of Leachate Management Specialists in Denver, and Tony Walker of Republic Services, Inc., as Community Changemakers for their work on a leachate disposal project in Biloxi, Mississippi.

Walker and Granley worked together to plant a vetiver grass system at Republic Services' Gulf Pines landfill site – the first of its kind in the U.S. – to remove leachate through a process called phytoremediation, turning the waste product into a resource. After 2 years of operation, the project has helped sustainably dispose of nearly 3.3 million gallons of leachate from the site, resulting in environmental benefits and saving approximately \$300,000 in hauling and disposal costs.

Leachate disposal to prevent leakage and other adverse effects typically requires a costly truck and pipeline operation to haul the leachate to a wastewater treatment plant. But through phytoremediation, hardy plants like vetiver grass and poplar trees planted on landfill sites consume the leachate, which contains nutrients the plants need to grow.

Granley said Walker, senior manager of environmental management with Republic Services, initially asked him about using vetiver grass for the phytoremediation system at Gulf Pines. Vetiver

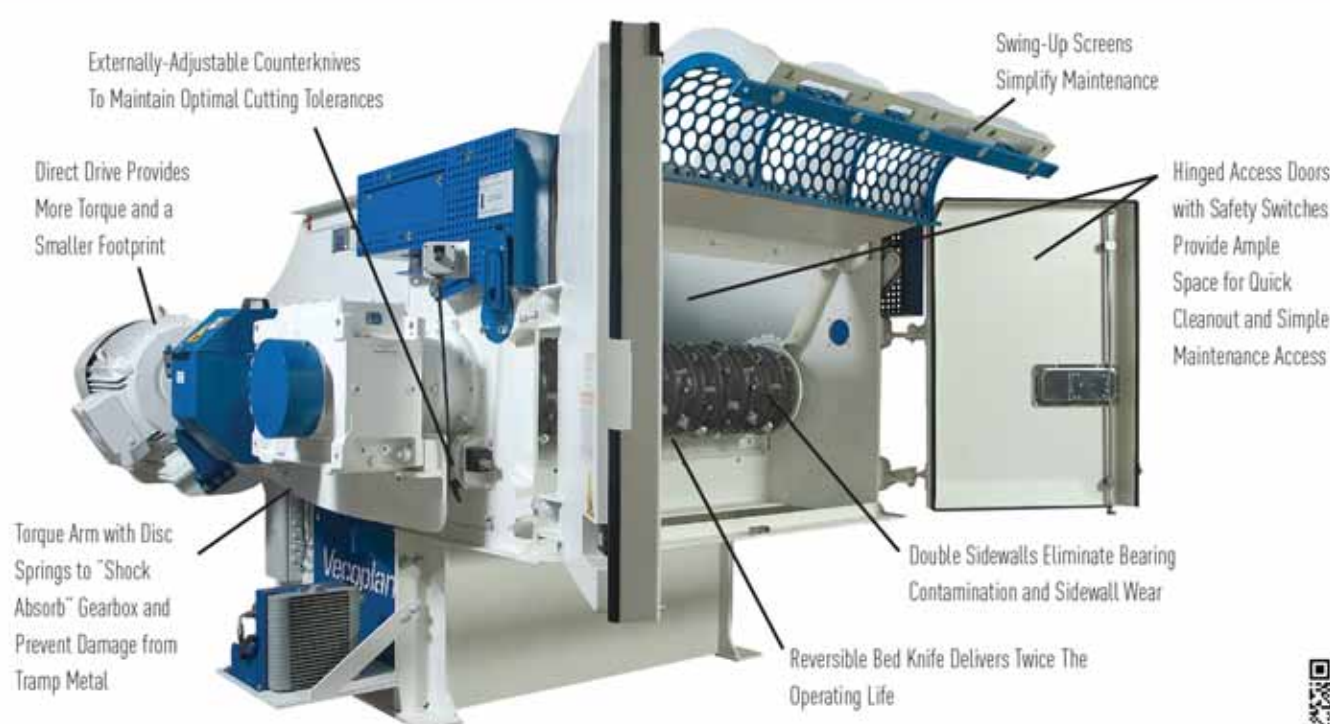
grass, often used for water treatment and erosion prevention overseas, is a versatile plant that can withstand very harsh conditions and can handle very concentrated materials, like leachate, that normally would have to run through a wastewater treatment plant. It is also noninvasive – so it only grows where it is planted – and is U.S. Department of Agriculture-approved.

"With companies like Republic Services and a number of the largest waste companies in the U.S. and the world willing to invest in a new technology, it's exciting to be a part of the endeavors," said Granley.

Walker called his work with Granley "a very sustainable green project" and said vetiver grass also has potential as an alternative biomass fuel resource. He said phytoremediation work is exemplary of the waste and recycling industry's efforts to develop new methods of sustainability.

Through its Community Change Makers program, the National Waste & Recycling Association recognizes companies and individuals in America's private-sector waste and recycling industry who are making notable impacts through new innovations and advancements in waste management, recycling, environmental protection and other related activities – achievements that go above and beyond the call of duty.

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WASTE

Record number of safe drivers nominated

The National Waste & Recycling Association has received a record number of nominations for its Driver of the Year (DOTY) Awards.

The annual DOTY awards program honors vehicle drivers in the waste and recycling industry that exhibit commitment and dedication to safety.

A group of safety and driving experts will begin judging nominees in January for the 2014 DOTY program. DOTY Award winners are honored at a breakfast held during the waste industry's national trade show, WasteExpo, to be held in 2014 at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta.

Alexandria extends contract with Covanta

Covanta Alexandria/Arlington Inc., owner and operator of the Alexandria/Arlington Energy-from-Waste (EfW) Facility, disclosed that the City of Alexandria and Arlington County, Virginia have exercised an extension option on their waste disposal and service agreement with the company. The decision continues a relationship between the City, County and Covanta which began in 1988 and that will now extend for a total of 50 years until 2038. The extension was approved by unanimous vote by both the Alexandria City Council and the Arlington County Board and is expected to provide significant savings to residents over the life of the contract.

The Covanta Alexandria/Arlington EfW facility processes up to 350,000 tons of municipal solid waste per year to produce approximately 185,000 MW hours of renewable energy and recycles approximately 9,000 tons of metals.

In 25 years of operation, the Alexandria/Arlington Energy-from-Waste facility has achieved some significant milestones.

•Since 1988, the facility has converted approximately nine million tons of municipal solid waste into over four million MW hours of electricity.

•Offset approximately nine million tons of greenhouse gases, the environmental benefit equivalent to planting over 180 million tree seedlings.

•Recycled 48,000 tons of ferrous metal, the equivalent amount of steel used to build approximately 40,000 cars.

In 2013, the facility was the recipient of the Governor's Environmental Excellence Award and received the Industrial Waste and Pretreatment Environmental Excellence Award from the Virginia Water Environmental Association. Also in 2013, the facility received the Occupational Excellence Achievement Award from the National Safety Council. The facility received its OSHA Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) STAR designation in 2004 and is also a member of the Virginia Environmental Excellence Program at the elite E4 status level.

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	OverBuilt	COMPETITION A	COMPETITION B
STANDARD CRUSHERS			
What is the size of the opening (length & height)?	20'3" L x 10' H	___' ___" L x ___' ___" H	___' ___" L x ___' ___" H
What is the setup time?	NONE	_____	_____
Do you use weather-tight electrical connections for automation controls and trailer lights?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
Does the crusher have fenders on the front of the machine?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
Are the guide frames tied at the top?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
How big is your fuel tank?	400 GALLONS	_____ Gallons	_____ Gallons
Do you have wear guides on the main cylinder pistons and glands?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
REMOTE CONTROL			
How quickly can you get me a replacement automation system?	NEXT DAY	_____	_____
How long does it take to replace the receiver on the machine?	10 Minutes	_____ Minutes	_____ Minutes
Can I start and stop the engine with the remote?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
Does the remote have individual up and down cylinder control buttons?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
Do you use rocker switches to limit the up stroke of the cylinders?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
OPTIONS			
High Speed	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
Maximum oil flow from your cylinders?	250 gpm	_____ gpm	_____ gpm
What is the maximum port size of the cylinders?	2.5"	_____"	_____"
Can I get an auxiliary fuel pump to fill my loader?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
SAFETY & HAZARDS			
Do the safety locks engage from the ground, without climbing on the machine or into the chamber?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
If one side of the lid is raised and the other side is down, will it damage the crusher?	NO	Yes / No	Yes / No
Does your waste oil recovery tank have sludge traps and large clean-out access panels?	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
Do you have lockable cabinets for the:			
Engine controls	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
Remote control	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
Valves	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No
Auxiliary fuel port	YES	Yes / No	Yes / No

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2008 ELECTRIC AL-JON 400XL BALER

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2005 SIERRA T700SL SHEAR / LOGGER / BALER

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2002 FUCHS MHL 350

17,000 hours, good working condition.

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\$65,000



2005 SENNEBOGEN 850M

5,000 hours on new motor.

\$215,000



2005 LABOUNTY MSD2500R

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\$69,000



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2010 AL-JON 580CL CAR LOGGER

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1996 AL-JON 400 METAL BALER

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1999 Sierra 500 ton shear/logger/baler.

\$127,500



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2002 FUCHS MHL 360

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2005 LABOUNTY MSD4500R ROTATING SHEAR

Great shape!

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METALS

Don B. Daily Memorial Fund selects 2013–2014 recipients

The Association for Iron & Steel Technology (AIST) Foundation and the Steel Manufacturers Association (SMA) have selected the 2013-2014 recipients of the Don B. Daily Memorial Fund to Promote Steel Industry Safety and Health. The fund was created to commemorate the life and industry service of Don B. Daily, a compassionate man who truly cared about the safety of all employees working in the steel industry. His enduring mark on the steel industry of North America has been the establishment of numerous safety and health initiatives that have significantly improved the workplace.

Ron Ashburn, executive director of AIST and secretary of the AIST Foundation added, "The Daily Fund directly connects students with the steel industry to leverage new and different perspectives to provide our companies with a safer work environment. The Fund benefits everyone working in steel manufacturing."

The 2013–2014 recipients are as follows:

•Purdue University – John Moreland, Ph.D., mentored by Daniel J. Brisson, melt/cast manager, Nucor Steel-Indiana, "Enhancement of Steel Industry Safety Training Through Incident Visualization Development"

•University of Alabama at Birmingham – Amber Genau, Ph.D., mentored by George P. Miljus Jr., plant metallurgist, Nucor Steel Birmingham Inc., "Enhancing the Safety of Vertical Tensile Machines by Reducing Pinch Points"

•Lorain County Community College – Larry Waller, mentored by James Hardy, plant manager – steelmaking and casting, Republic Steel, "A Student-Based Research Project to Address Safety Prevention in a Steel Plant"

•West Virginia University, – Xiaopeng Ning, Ph.D., mentored by Robin E. Birk, department manager – safety and IH, U.S. Steel – Mon Valley Works, "Ergonomic Assessment of High Risk Tasks in the Steel Manufacturing Industry to Prevent Back Injury"

The Don B. Daily Memorial Fund challenges North American university teams (students and professors) to submit proposals for grant funding in the theme area of safety and health awareness within the steel manufacturing industry. The dual objective of the fund is to promote a safe workplace for the steel manufacturing industry and to increase the number of students studying health and safety awareness relative to the manufacturing environment.

Q: Why does a chicken coop only have two doors?

A: Because if it had four, it would be chicken sedan.

Novelis to expand global auto aluminum capacity

Novelis will invest an additional \$205 million to further expand its global manufacturing operations serving the rapidly growing automotive market. The company will build new finishing lines at its plants in Oswego, New York and Nachterstedt, Germany, dedicated to the production of aluminum automotive sheet.

The two new lines will each have a capacity of 120,000 metric tons per year. The latest expansions are in response to the escalating global demand from automakers for aluminum sheet, which the company expects to grow by more than 30 percent per year through the end of the decade. When the new lines are commissioned in late 2015, Novelis' global automotive sheet capacity will reach approximately 900,000 tons per year, a three-fold increase from just a year ago.

Novelis aluminum can be found in more than 180 different vehicle models produced by automakers around the globe. Aluminum is becoming the sustainable choice for the latest generation of vehicles because of its low weight and recyclability enabling reduced life cycle emissions.

"With the addition of these two new lines, we have invested nearly \$550 million to expand Novelis' global automotive capacity in the last 2 years alone," said Phil Martens, Novelis president and chief executive officer.

The company is investing around the world to boost its automotive finishing capabilities. In addition to the two new lines, the company recently commissioned

two new finishing lines at its Oswego, New York plant. In addition, a new plant is under construction in Changzhou, China, which is expected to commence production in mid-2014. The company also recently certified automotive production at its Gottingen, Germany, plant that complements the company's existing automotive facilities in Kingston, Ontario, Canada; Sierre, Switzerland and Nachterstedt, Germany.

Both expansions will further the ongoing development of the company's automotive closed-loop business model. Today, as much as 50 percent of automotive sheet sold to automakers is left over after a manufacturing plant stamps out automotive parts. The company is working closely with its customers to return this material directly back to Novelis for recycling, streamlining the materials supply chain while reducing the total carbon footprint of the entire automotive production cycle.

The company will invest approximately \$120 million to install a third aluminum automotive sheet finishing line at its Oswego plant. In addition, the company will expand its recycling operations for automotive scrap, while making other upgrades. This new investment will result in 90 new jobs at the plant and will increase the company's North American automotive sheet capacity to more than 400,000 metric tons in just two years.



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METALS

Steel imports increase in November

Based on preliminary Census Bureau data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that the U.S. imported a total of 2,584,000 net tons (NT) of steel in November, including 1,906,000 NT of finished steel (down 16.7 percent and 16.2 percent, respectively, versus October final data). Year-to-date (YTD) total and finished steel imports are 29,636,000 and 22,933,000 NT, respectively, down 4 percent and 5 percent respectively, versus 2012.

A key finished steel product with a significant import increase in November 2013 compared to October is reinforcing bars (up 26 percent). Major products with significant YTD import increases versus the same period last year include reinforcing bars (up 23 percent), hot rolled bars (up 14 percent) and sheets and strip all other metallic coatings (up 12 percent).

In November, the largest volumes of finished steel imports from offshore

U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN (Thousands of Net Tons)					
	NOV 2013	OCT 2013	2013 Annual (est)	2012 Annual	% Change 2013 Annual vs. 2012
SOUTH KOREA	244	395	3,724	3,651	2.0%
CHINA	163	214	1,915	1,652	15.9%
JAPAN	139	126	1,905	1,931	-1.3%
TURKEY	75	73	1,264	1,347	-6.1%
GERMANY	103	109	1,110	1,279	-13.2%
TAIWAN	58	109	781	833	-6.2%
INDIA	27	117	727	762	-4.6%
All Others	1,096	1,131	13,593	14,372	-5.4%
TOTAL	1,906	2,274	25,018	25,826	-3.1%

were all from Asia and Europe. They were from South Korea (244,000 NT, down 38 percent versus October final), China (163,000 NT, down 24 percent), Japan (139,000 NT, up 11 percent), Germany (103,000 NT, down 5 percent) and Turkey (75,000 NT, up 3 percent). For

eleven months of 2013, the largest offshore suppliers were South Korea (3,413,000 NT, down 2 percent), China (1,755,000 NT, up 18 percent), Japan (1,746,000 NT, down 5 percent), and Turkey (1,159,000 NT, down 11 percent).

North East Auto assets acquired by Metalico

Metalico, Inc. has agreed to acquire the assets of Furlow's North East Auto, Inc., an automotive salvage and parts provider in Pennsylvania. Terms were not disclosed.

The transaction includes Furlow's junk car and parts inventory and real estate located in northwestern Pennsylvania near Erie. The site will be operated by Metalico's subsidiary Goodman Services, Inc.

Metalico plans to grow the facility's salvage car buying capabilities and continue its "pick-and-pull" auto parts business while taking advantage of additional access to scrap metal to feed its shredder in Buffalo, New York. Metalico is also aggressively looking at other properties in the auto salvage industry in Western New York and northwestern Pennsylvania to support its shredding operations.





Commodity		Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5
#1 Bushelings	per gross ton	\$305.00	\$312.00	\$330.00	\$350.00	\$400.00
#1 Bundles	per gross ton	305.00	312.00	330.00	350.00	415.00
Plate and Structural	per gross ton	300.00	290.00	335.00	348.00	420.00
#1 & 2 Mixed Steel	per gross ton	299.00	290.00	329.00	345.00	395.00
Shredder Bundles (tin)	per gross ton	278.00	265.00	260.00	295.00	300.00
Crushed Auto Bodies	per gross ton	278.00	265.00	260.00	295.00	300.00
Steel Turnings	per gross ton	200.00	201.00	205.00	199.00	275.00
#1 Copper	per pound	3.05	2.87	3.00	3.01	3.17
#2 Copper	per pound	2.95	2.79	2.96	2.97	3.03
Aluminum Cans	per pound	.58	.56	.65	.68	.70
Auto Radiators	per pound	2.11	1.98	2.00	2.05	2.08
Aluminum Core Radiators	per pound	.59	.59	.60	.65	.66
Heater Cores	per pound	1.79	1.65	1.51	1.50	1.70
Stainless Steel	per pound	.53	.55	.62	.61	.70

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

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November steel shipments increase 2.8 percent from previous year

The American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that for the month of November 2013, U.S. steel mills shipped 7,604,428 net tons, a 9.0 percent decrease from the 8,287,553 net tons shipped in the previous month, October 2013, and a 2.8 percent increase from the 7,397,149 net tons shipped in November 2012. Shipments year-to-date

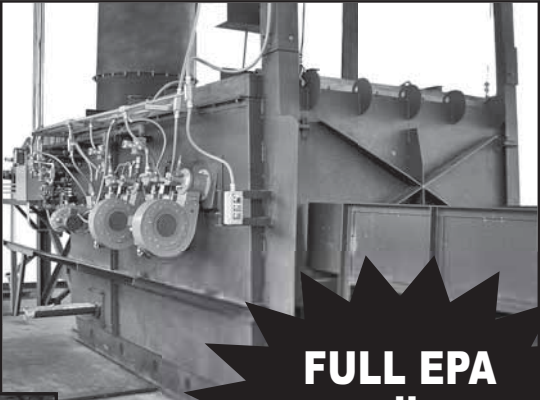
in 2013 are 87,790,788 net tons, a 0.8 percent decrease vs. 2012 shipments of 88,465,543 net tons for eleven months.

A comparison of November shipments to the previous month of October shows the following changes: hot dipped galvanized sheets and strip, down 7 percent, hot rolled sheet, down 7 percent and cold rolled sheet, down 8 percent.

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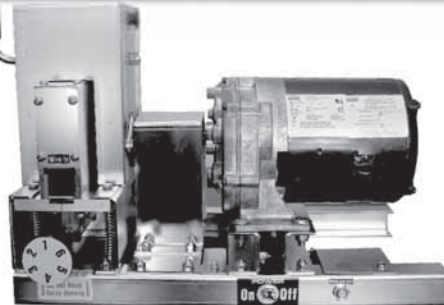
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METALS

Metal recycler required to update technology to prevent chemical releases

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) disclosed that AL Solutions, a West Virginia based metal recycler, has agreed to implement extensive, company-wide safeguards to prevent future accidental releases of hazardous chemicals from its facilities, resolving alleged Clean Air Act violations (CAA) stemming from an explosion at the company's New Cumberland, West Virginia facility that killed three people.

AL Solutions recycles titanium and zirconium raw materials for use as alloying additives by aluminum producers. The company currently operates facilities located in New Cumberland and Weirton, West Virginia, Burgettstown, Pennsylvania and Washington, Missouri.

In December 2010, three employees who had been handling zirconium powder at the company's former plant in New Cumberland, West Virginia died following an explosion which may have been caused by an accidental release of the chemical. Debris from the explosion, which destroyed the production area of the facility, was scattered into the yards of local residents. Earlier this year, the company opened a new, automated facility in Burgettstown, Pennsylvania which includes modern technology to safeguard employees and reduce exposure to hazardous metallic dust.

The EPA estimates that the company will spend approximately \$7.8 million to implement extensive measures to ensure compliance with environ-

mental requirements, assess the potential hazards associated with existing and future operations and take measures to prevent accidental releases and minimize the consequences of releases that may occur. In consultation with EPA, the company has already completed significant portions of the work required by the settlement and a prior administrative order.

Among other requirements, AL Solutions must use advanced monitoring technology, including hydrogen monitoring and infrared cameras, to assess hazardous chemical storage areas to prevent fires and explosions. They must also process or dispose of approximately 10,000 drums of titanium and zirconium, or 2.4 million lbs., being stored at facilities in New Cumberland and Weirton, both of which are overburdened communities, by December 2014 to reduce the risk of fire and explosion.

The company will also pay a \$100,000 civil penalty to resolve the alleged CAA violations documented during EPA inspections of the New Cumberland and Washington facilities following the explosion. At the Washington facility, inspectors noted evidence of previous fires, burned insulation, fire-affected wiring and titanium sludge covering large areas of the floor.

EPA's complaint alleged that AL Solutions failed to conduct adequate hazard analyses, and failed to design

and maintain the facilities to take account of the extremely hazardous substances there by providing safeguards consistent with industry codes and standards relating to these substances. The State of West Virginia is expected to file a separate complaint soon alleging that the company violated various provisions related to the unlawful storage of waste at the New Cumberland facility. The settlement will resolve those separate allegations.

In a related action, AL Solutions recently agreed to pay the U.S. Department of Labor a total of \$97,000 to resolve alleged violations of the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OSHA). The OSHA settlement, which is subject to final approval by an Administrative Law Judge, requires expanded abatement measures that are consistent with the safeguards in EPA's settlement to provide ongoing worker safety protection at the company's four facilities. These measures require adequate fire detection systems, process hazard analyses for production areas, regular safety and health inspections, and restrictions on stockpiling combustible materials.

Since the explosion, EPA and OSHA have coordinated their investigations and shared information, which has resulted in settlements designed to protect workers, communities and the environment.

AUTO

GM to invest in landfill gas

General Motors (GM) disclosed a \$24 million investment in electrical generation equipment that will allow the company to use more landfill gas at its Fort Wayne, Indiana and Orion, Michigan assembly plants.

The new equipment will generate more than 14 MW of electricity from landfill gas, a renewable energy source, which will help GM avoid producing more than 89,000 metric tons of CO₂ per year. GM will save a combined \$10 million in energy costs each year at the facilities.

The investment will provide powerhouse construction at each assembly plant, as well as generation equipment and machinery.

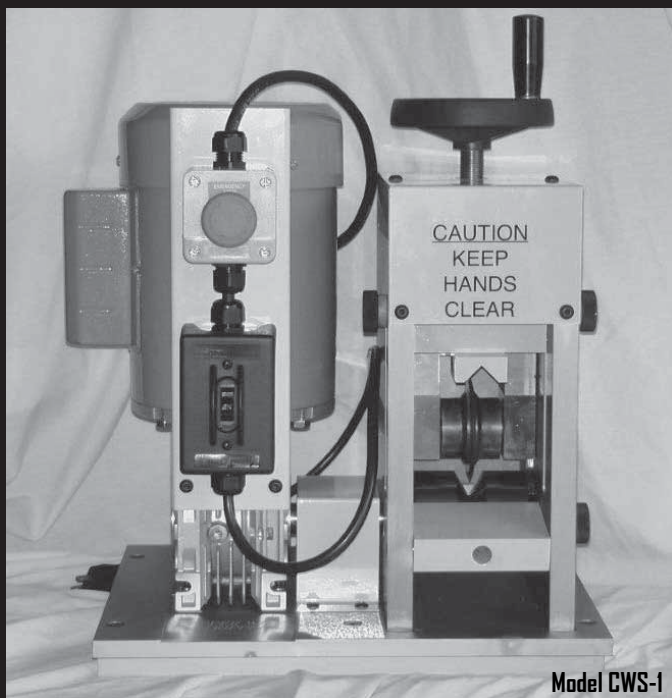
Orion Assembly has used landfill gas since 1999. Currently it helps heat a portion of an upgraded paint shop that uses half the energy per vehicle as the one it replaced. When the electric-generation project is completed, 54 percent of Orion's energy will come from renewable landfill gas.

Fort Wayne Assembly has used landfill gas since 2002. The investment will increase its landfill gas use 4-fold, to 40 percent. Earlier this year, Fort Wayne was named a U.S. EPA Energy Star certified facility for its prudent energy management.

Construction on both projects has begun, and is expected to be complete and operational by May of 2014.

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AUTO

Renaissance Center sends zero waste to landfill

The General Motors (GM) Renaissance Center now recycles, reuses or converts all its daily waste, diverting five million pounds of trash annually from landfill.

The drive to make the Renaissance Center landfill-free took more than two years. The process included coordination with employees, recycling partners, business tenants and their employees, and property management company, CBRE.

The Renaissance Center is the most complex among GM's 110 landfill-free sites to reach the milestone. It's the company's only facility open to the public. Covering 5.5 million sq.ft., the building

houses a tall all-hotel skyscraper, 11 other businesses, 20 restaurants and 27 retailers.

The journey began with a dumpster dive, searching through trash to identify recycling opportunities. GM teamed with all the business tenants, environmental staffs and CBRE to engage people in increasing paper, plastic and battery recycling.

The Renaissance Center now recycles 49 percent of its waste, an improvement of 127 percent since the drive began in 2011. The remaining waste is converted to energy through a facility located a few blocks away; creating renewable energy that powers other Detroit businesses.



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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Organic Waste Solutions names new CEO

■ Evan Edgar has been named chief executive officer of Organic Waste Solutions, a Sacramento, California-based sustainability consulting firm that focuses on managing organic waste with innovative, closed loop technologies and sustainable problem solving for businesses.

Edgar has 30 years of experience in all aspects of solid waste management as principal of Edgar & Associates, Inc., an environmental engineering firm. He has advocated for green energy incentives, compost market development and greenhouse gas reduction policies before legislative committees, regulatory agencies and local commissions on issues involving the collection, hauling, processing and composting of urban green and yard waste and food waste. He has advised private industry, state and local governments and non-governmental organizations on recycling and organic waste project development matters.

Edgar served as the director of Regulatory Affairs for the California Refuse Recycling Council, a California non-profit trade association representing the interests of over 100 solid waste management companies involved in collecting, hauling, processing, recycling, composting and landfilling organic waste. Edgar co-founded the California Compost Quality Council and the California Compost Coalition.

What happens to a frog's car when it breaks down?

It gets toad away.

Advanced Disposal acquires waste haulers

■ Advanced Disposal has completed the acquisition of the assets of DC Disposal, Inc., further expanding the company's Indiana footprint. The official asset acquisition was December 31, 2013.

The acquisition includes 900 residential carts, 130 rear load containers and 3 mixed residential and commercial routes that will be serviced by Advanced Disposal's Evansville, Indiana hauling location. All waste will be delivered to Advanced Disposal's Evansville Transfer Station and then properly disposed of at the company's Blackfoot Landfill in Winslow, Indiana. In addition to these assets, four employees will be joining Advanced Disposal, including David Mckeethen, DC Disposal's owner, as residential/construction sales representative.

Advanced also completed the acquisition of the assets of Sherman Sanitation, Wisconsin. The acquisition includes six commercial routes. The waste will be disposed at Advanced disposal's Mallard Ridge Landfill in Delevan, Wisconsin.

Bunting Magnetics makes executive appointments

■ Bunting Magnetics Co. has made appointments at its headquarters operation.

Rod Henricks has been named director of sales reporting to Bunting Magnetics chief executive officer and president, Bob Bunting. Robert Bunting, Jr., succeeds Rod Henricks as product manager-metal detection, reporting to Barry Voorhees, general manager of the Bunting Newton, Kansas, operation.

Cascade Engineering promotes Kenyatta Brame

■ Cascade Engineering (CE) promoted Kenyatta Brame to executive vice president. Most recently, Brame served as CE's group services senior vice president and chief administration officer (CAO).

In his new position, Brame will remain CAO and continue overseeing the services group, which includes legal/risk management, human resources, marketing, IT and several other key departments. His additional responsibilities include managing the following business units: IWS, Decade, Xtreme RFID, Cascade Consulting Group and Triple Quest. He will also continue his role as a member of the office of the president and report to Mark Miller, president of Cascade Engineering.

Brame joined CE in 2006 and has been crucial in leading several of CE's Employer of Choice initiatives. Prior to joining CE he was the senior vice president for operations and merchandising at Sysco Food Services of Grand Rapids, LLC and served as a practicing attorney for Miller, Johnson, Snell & Cumminsky, P.L.C. He has also served as an adjunct professor at Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

Brame holds numerous degrees including a juris doctorate from the University of Michigan Law School, a master's degree from Michigan State University, and a bachelor's degree from Wabash College. He has also studied abroad at the University of Nairobi in Kenya.

Association adds director of administrative services

■ Steven Siesser has been hired as the National Waste & Recycling Association's director of administrative services, responsible for human resources, information technology and finances.

Siesser is a seasoned chief financial and operating executive with more than 20 years of experience in national trade associations and retail distribution. He has a long background in accounting, information technology and human resources management.

As a tax practice and business consultant, Siesser has aided businesses with budgeting, operational efficiencies, employee benefits and human resource issues. He has also provided individual and business clients with tax preparation and estate planning services.

In his role as the vice president for finance and administration at the Council on Foundations, and earlier at a similar role with the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors, Siesser was responsible for business operations for organizations with dozens of employees and thousands of members. In those positions he drove non-dues revenue, implemented a pay-for-performance program and renegotiated tenant, vendor and banking relationships to boost revenue and lower costs.

A mom and a son come home from the grocery store. The boy emptied out a box of animal crackers and his mom asked him why. The boy said, "You can't eat them if the seal is broken, so I'm looking for the seal."

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Waste Pro appoints new chief operating officer

■ Waste Pro has appointed Chris Ciaccio as chief operating officer.

With more than 17 years of experience in the solid waste industry, Ciaccio has served in virtually every facet of the business, ranging from sales and marketing to director of operations.

Prior to joining the Waste Pro Team in 2011, Ciaccio was the director of operations and business development for Veolia Environmental Services, where he assisted with their acquisition program by implementing an industry database and acquisition tracking program. In addition, while serving as the region manager for the southern region, he was instrumental in increasing their EBIT by \$13 million in a 3 year period.

Prior to being named chief operating officer, Ciaccio served as Waste Pro's chief information officer, overseeing technological and data management processes and procedures.

Avis Industrial acquires Harris Waste Management

■ Avis Industrial Corporation has acquired The Harris Waste Management Group, Inc. Harris has been in the recycling industry for over 100 years and manufactures ferrous and nonferrous processing equipment. Manufacturing facilities are located in Baxley and Cordele, Georgia, with additional offices in Texas and the United Kingdom.

IROCK adds Mustang CAT to dealer network

■ IROCK Crushers has added Mustang CAT to its dealer network in the southern U.S.

Mustang CAT, which is headquartered in Houston, is an authorized dealer for Caterpillar with more than 60 years of experience in heavy machinery, power systems and product support. The dealership serves southeast Texas.

Ecoverse acquires interest in Harvest Quest

■ Ecoverse Industries, the Avon Ohio parent company of DoppstadtUS, has acquired an interest in Longmont, Colorado based Harvest Quest International.

Harvest Quest International has been supplying microbial treatments for the efficient management of compost operations for over 15 years.

Events Calendar

March 4th-8th

CONEXPO-CONAG. Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nevada.
630-585-7530 • www.conexpoconagg.com

March 9th-12th

27th Annual Southeast Recycling Conference & Tradeshow. Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa, Destin, Florida.
800-441-7949 • www.southeastrecycling.com

March 12th-13th

Association of Postconsumer Plastic Recyclers. 2014 Spring APR Membership Meeting, Orlando, Florida.
202-316-3046 • www.plasticsrecycling.org

March 18th-20th

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

March 19th-21st

14th International Automobile Recycling Congress IARC 2014. Brussels, Belgium.
www.icm.ch

March 31st-April 2nd

Aluminum Association Spring Meeting. Omni La Mansion Del Rio, San Antonio, Texas.
703-358-2960 • www.aluminum.org

April 6th-10th

ISRI. Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada.
202-662-8544 • www.isri.org

April 15th-16th

NERC Spring Workshop: Urban & Rural Organics Management Programs. Harraseeket Inn, Freeport, Maine.
www.nerc.org

April 29th-May 1st

WasteExpo. Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta, Georgia.
800-927-5007 • www.wasteexpo.com

May 4th-7th

The Federation of New York Solid Waste & Recycling Conference with Trade Show. The Sagamore, Lake George, New York.
518-541-2548 • www.nyfederation.org

May 5th-8th

AISTech 2014, The Iron & Steel Technology Conference and Exposition. Indiana Convention Center, Indianapolis, Indiana.
724-814-3068 • www.aist.org



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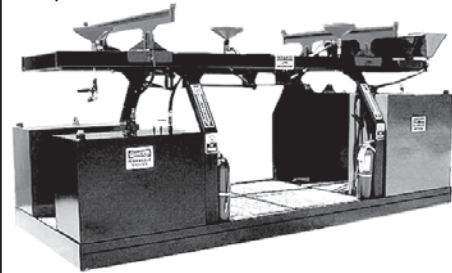
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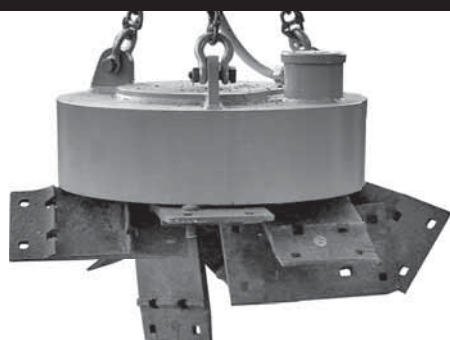
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Construction spending buoys C&D recyclers

by MARK HENRICKS

mhenricks@americanrecycler.com

In March 2006, U.S. spending on construction peaked at an annual rate of \$1.2 trillion dollars. By February 2011, as the global financial crisis worked its way through the economy, that figure had slumped to barely \$750 billion. Construction and demolition recycling generally tracks spending on construction, so for C&D recyclers that five-year period was largely one of unrelieved cutbacks.

Since then, however, the news from construction has been mostly good. And last November, seasonally adjusted construction spending hit \$934 billion. That was up nearly six percent from a year earlier, and total construction spending appeared likely to top the trillion-dollar mark again early this year for the first time since the downturn.

For C&D recyclers, that means the sources and markets for recyclable and recycled construction and demolition materials have come a long way up from a long way down. "It definitely is back," said Patti Hamilton, vice president at Sun Recycling in Davie, Florida. "2013 was a phenomenal year for us."

While construction has rebounded nicely in some regions, however, nationally it has a long way to go before it starts charting new highs. In fact, November's recent annual spending rate is only slightly more than the industry was posting 10 years ago, in November 2003. Still, that's much better than the lows of 2011, 19 percent below where it is now.



The private construction sector saw an impressive 36 percent year-over-year increase in spending for multifamily residential projects. Since C&D recycling generally tracks construction spending, the rebound in the construction markets has led to better numbers for recyclers too.

Despite the national picture, recyclers in other regions are also having banner years. For instance, 2013 was a record year for Zanker Road Resource Management in San Jose, California, according to Michael Gross, director of sustainability. One reason is that San Jose's building market didn't collapse during the 2008-2009 recession as many other regional building markets did. "We

saw a downturn in the economy but not like anybody else," he added. "We've been swamped for several years and last year was our best year ever."

Another factor in Zanker's strong year is the tech-fueled construction boom in Silicon Valley. Locally based Apple and Google both have billion-dollar building projects going on in the Valley, and they're not the only ones.

"Within a mile radius of our area, we have more than six large construction projects going on," Gross said.

Nationally, this construction bounce-back is showing a divergence between public and private sector spending. Although overall construction spending was up, public outlays for building projects actually fell during the

See CONSTRUCTION, Page 7

EPA orders company to stop removing asbestos

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has ordered Olivet Management LLC to stop all work that could disturb asbestos at its facility, The Olivet Center in Dover, New York. Buildings at the former Harlem Valley Psychiatric Center are being renovated for future use as a research institution and information technology hub by Olivet University. Olivet Management did not notify the EPA about the

asbestos work and did not handle or dispose of asbestos-containing materials properly during the renovations, as required by law.

Asbestos was once used in insulation and other building materials. The inhalation of asbestos fibers can lead to cancer and asbestosis, a serious respiratory disease. The removal of asbestos-containing materials during demolition requires strict adherence to procedures

outlined in the Clean Air Act to protect public health.

Federal regulations require property owners or operators to notify the EPA before the demolition or renovation of buildings that could contain a certain amount of asbestos. Demolition and renovation work involving asbestos must be done carefully. Before demolition and construction activities can begin, inspections must be conducted to

identify the presence of asbestos and materials that may pose a threat to the health of workers or the public must be removed.

Materials containing asbestos must be wet down until they are collected and disposed of properly to prevent fibers and dust from becoming airborne during renovations and demolitions. Asbestos-containing materials must be

See ASBESTOS BUST, Page 6



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A Letter from the Editor

Readers,

In an effort to assuage the concerns of privacy advocates, President Obama recently proposed some changes to how the government should handle the surveillance methods and data collection practices of the National Security Administration (NSA).

The President was unapologetic about the NSA's practice of sweeping up the metadata and phone records of United States citizens. However, he proposed that a third party should hold and maintain the collected data, as if that would somehow make the domestic spying more palatable.

The problem is, who would we trust to hold this data? The major phone companies have already expressed the desire to avoid the chore. And if a company did hold the data at the government's request, wouldn't they, by definition, become an agent of the government? Would they have government-level security to safeguard the data, or would they be left to establish their own security protocols? Hopefully they wouldn't use the same security measures as Target.

And since they wouldn't technically be a government agency (in theory), would they be expected to operate within the same legal parameters as a governmental agent, or would their actions be scrutinized under the less stringent standards applied to non-governmental conduct? Meaning, would Constitutional protections keep the private company from using the data, or could they mine it for marketing purposes like some government-sanctioned Google? Could they analyze a person's call history to determine whether they're likely to make a purchase in the near future and sell that to other companies, or compile marketing lists for sale to other organizations? The very suggestion that a third party maintain custody of such data creates more problems than it solves.

So while the President didn't offer citizens any real reassurances, he did offer foreign heads of state some courtesies: he agreed to place some new limitations on our methods of collecting data on them. What?! Isn't espionage and national security about what the other guys are doing? Why should we afford foreign officials protections that aren't extended to citizens?

I don't know about you, but the recent initiatives don't make me feel less scrutinized by the government. Now if you'll excuse me, I need to go wrap my cellphone in some tinfoil.



Dave Fournier
Focus Section Editor
david@americanrecycler.com

Duke Energy implodes smokestacks at retired H.F. Lee coal-fired power plant

PHOTO COURTESY OF DUKE ENERGY

Duke Energy Progress' demolition specialist have imploded the smokestacks at the retired H.F. Lee Steam Plant as part of the company's ongoing effort to transition to cleaner energy sources.

It was the first of two implosion events that will occur at the site. The second will demolish the boilers and is scheduled for the spring of 2014.

Duke Energy's ultimate goal for retired coal-fired sites such as H.F. Lee is to dismantle the equipment and buildings, and restore the site to ground level. After the second implosion event, Duke Energy will be able to complete demolition activity and begin restoring the land.

Restoration involves filling, grading and seeding the land. The company plans to complete this phase by late-2014 and will continue to own and

steward the land in the future.

Duke Energy replaced the coal plant with a new 920 MW natural gas-fired combined cycle plant that began serving customers in December 2012.

Duke Energy's investment in 5 new plants, including the one located at the H.F. Lee Energy Complex, totals \$9 billion.

The new, state-of-the-art technology allows the company to retire approximately 3,400 MW of older coal units by the end of 2013. That number will



grow to nearly 6,300 MW over the next few years.

These retired plants will enter the decommissioning and demolition program and move through a process similar to H.F. Lee's.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

David,

Your recent polemic on the ACA in the American Recycler Magazine was a perfect example of the fear mongering, and lack of fact based reporting that seems to dominate the right wing media empire. But somehow, I thought I was reading a magazine/newspaper about recycling. I do NOT read this periodical to get my daily dose of Fox News talking points, they provide that quite nicely, and loudly, without your assistance.

What I DO read the magazine for is informative articles about the Recycling industry. Now, I have to suspect that your "news" stories might hide a political agenda. That is quite sad.

You might think twice before you let your typing fingers out run your brain, or at the very least do some real research into the issues instead of repeating the same tired lies the Right Wing Media pounds into our brains every day. It's not difficult to find the

truth, but if your eyes are closed, it's bloody near impossible.

A saddened reader,

Dave W., Kansas

Dave,

Thanks for the response. It's good to know that people are reading, even if they don't agree with me. My monthly letter is, and always has been, an opinion piece – my politics have zero to do with the rest of the paper or its content.

You honestly believe that there is a vast, right-wing media empire? My perception is that most of the major media outlets skew largely to the left.

—Editor

"President Obama's approval rating is down to 39 percent. And Toronto Mayor Rob Ford, who admitted to smoking crack cocaine, went up to 49 percent. How does this make Obama feel? He'd be better off smoking crack than passing Obamacare."

—Jay Leno

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College team constructs sustainable mini-mobile home

PHOTO COURTESY OF GREEN MOUNTAIN COLLEGE

When it comes to building a living space, how small can you go? Three years ago, professor Lucas Brown's students in Green Mountain College's Renewable Energy and Ecological Design (REED) class built a custom-designed tiny house, a 96 sq.ft. structure with a sleeping loft "upstairs" and a 300-watt solar powered electrical system.

This semester, his class went one better, constructing a 70 sq.ft. "living system" that can be towed on a standard 5 x 8' trailer. The pod-shaped tiny house includes indoor plumbing in the form of a composting toilet, a rainwater collection system, and a single 120-watt solar panel to provide electricity. The class has

dubbed the structure Optimal Traveling Independent Space (OTIS).

The class of 16 students challenged itself to design and build a living space with enough room for one person, that could be easily towed behind a typical 4-cylinder vehicle, and could provide its own water and electricity.

Environmental sustainability is the foundation of the college curriculum, and REED students are interested in finding ways to reduce consumption of fossil fuels and leave a smaller ecological footprint. But Brown thinks there is something more at work behind his students' enthusiasm for the project.

"The appeal of living a more nomadic lifestyle represents a new take on the American Dream, especially among students in this millennial generation," he said. "Lots of writing on the millennials suggests that our suburban growth model perpetuated over the last 50 to 60 years is starting to come to an end. They (students) aren't interested in being tied down with rent or a mortgage right after college. Something about having their own living space which is very low maintenance and very mobile suggests a different set of priorities."

"It's got its own solar system to power itself, and a bath and kitchen are independently supplied by rainwater," said senior Mike Magnotta. "At the end of the day, you just need the environ-



The OTIS, designed and implemented by Green Mountain College's REED class, is a mere 70 sq.ft, but manages to include amenities such as indoor plumbing and electricity.

ment to sustain yourself. You're not tied down to a piece of land and stuck somewhere. You can really go anywhere and do anything."

Students broke into teams to study and develop water, energy, heat and build-

ing envelope systems. Kellin Banks was charged with managing the water systems. "How to turn something that most people don't want to think about and turn it into a valuable resource – that was an interesting challenge," she said.





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EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

Demolition Equipment

by **MARY M. COX**

maryc@americanrecycler.com

Atlas Copco Construction Equipment is just one of many manufacturers that offer products for the construction and demolition industries. Keith Becker is product development specialist at the firm. He explained that for hydraulic attachment purchases, the EU is the world leader but North America is catching up. Becker said, "European countries require that as much as 70 percent or more of demolition materials be recycled. North America has no government recycling requirements. So in the EU you won't see many wrecking balls. Contractors 'reverse construct' buildings piece by piece due to spatial limitations, dust and noise regulations and the economy of on-site recycling."

He also said that, "90 percent of reinforced concrete demolition in the U.S. involves carrier-mounted breakers, though material is usually hauled off site for secondary processing." Becker claims that Atlas Copco product lines serve both the demolition specialist and the hybrid contractor who performs both construction and demolition, providing everything from the simplest grapples to universal processors such as the Atlas Copco CC 6000 Combi Cutter.

Becker said, "exposing demolition contractors to unfamiliar equipment and features can be a challenge. For instance, there has not been much market here for bucket crushers. These excavator-mounted crushers for confined job sites process 30 to 40 tons of material per hour without having to haul it out, crush it and bring it back." Despite that, just a year after introducing its bucket crushers to North America in 2012, Atlas Copco sold 70 units.

Atlas Copco representatives serve as fleet consultants, drawing from experience with customer operations in both hemispheres. "The right equipment isn't

about biggest or most expensive. It's about your current application and also what you'll need going forward. That may mean a combination of a Combi Cutter and a bulk pulverizer, with its 24" wide jaws for secondary demolition, or a dual-purpose machine like the demolition pulverizer. The demolition pulverizer is a hybrid tool with a larger biting surface – more like a bulk pulverizer, but with a straight jaw design like the Combi Cutter. Where demolition will consist of tilt-walls, 6" thick or so the demolition pulverizer shines. Our products are not temporary solutions," said Becker.

He added, "The inevitable dust and noise-reduction regulations ahead are not things we'll need to adapt our equipment to later. They are in our inventory right now, ready today to bid jobs with the demanding requirements of tomorrow."

A-Ward designs and delivers total systems for bulk material handling and recycling around the globe. The A-Ward rebar shear turns tangled re-bar into profitable scrap. Mike Ganier, general manager, Excavator Attachments, North America, said the shear's patented sequenced cutting action allows for three cuts per cycle and maximum productivity.

Ganier noted that value and speed are the star attributes of the product and that it is the preferred tool for many demolition contractors, concrete recyclers and scrap processors for cutting tangled rebar. "It has superior speed at 30-36 cuts per minute, is a fraction of the cost of comparable hydraulic units and the

bucket linkage design is inexpensive to purchase, install and maintain. It contains thick, high-tensile jaw material that provides greater durability and extra jaw



A-Ward North America

stiffeners to ensure zero jaw flex for ultra-tight blade tolerance," Ganier reported.

He said that a 40 ton excavator can process 6 to 8 tons per hour of tangled rebar, reducing it to pieces with an average size of 1'. "Our studies show the break-even point for this product occurs at 150-200 hours of operation, and the maintenance is simple. The shear uses 12 identical blades, each with 4 useable edges. Maximum

utilization means fewer consumables. The Power-Positive attachment coupling system creates 25 percent more power and allows fast changeovers to OEM buckets and other A-Ward attachments such as the grapple jaw, concrete shear and pulveriser jaw," he said.

Ganier also explained how the A-Ward concrete pulveriser "is a very versatile tool for demolishing concrete structures, processing concrete and rebar removal. The mechanical pulveriser jaw makes fast work of concrete debris, operating at 10 to 12 working cycles per minute and is priced at less than half the cost of comparable hydraulic units."

Additional features include: a Power-Positive attachment coupling system, amplified bucket ram force and raised center tooth design which focuses crushing power at the point of engagement; oversize, fiber, semi and self-lubricating bushings that aid rigidity and reduce maintenance; and replaceable, abrasion-resistant teeth on a one piece slide-in rack.

Breaker Technology Inc. has served the hydraulic breaker business for over 50 years. The firm has expanded its demolition attachment product line over the last 15 years. "With the growing decay in public roads and bridge infrastructure, the trend toward demolition and reclaiming of base metal reinforcement and aggregate materials will only increase. BTI manufactures and supports a wide range of hydraulic shears and mechanical jaw pulverizers for the construction and demolition industry," said Mike McFarthing, marketing

See SPOTLIGHT, Page 5

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Spotlight

■Continued from Page 4

manager. Having listened to real operator feedback regarding the need for faster jaw operation, superior tip force and longer duty cycles, BTI has enhanced the MCP (mechanical, crushing, pulverizing) range of mechanical, hydraulic pulverizers offered. The company offers the small MCP300 product as well as the whopping MCP1300-IT unit. "One of our most popular units is the MCP910-IT (interchangeable tips), weighing in at 6,834 lbs. and it delivers a pulverizing force at the tip of 99 tonne. The MCP910-IT offers increased wear life and speed of repair. It is also one of the fastest cycling hydraulic jaw pulverizers. It is capable of taking massive chunks of reinforced concrete up to 39'4" down to a depth of 37.4". A combination of reliable operation, robust body construction, a variable speed valve and an interchangeable tip results in a real producer. It can reduce maintenance cost and downtime for any demolition and rebar reclamation job," McFarthing stated.

LaBounty is a manufacturer of non-impact hydraulic attachments for contractors, scrap metal recyclers and demolition experts. The company's mobile demolition processor (MDP) is a high-powered, single-cylinder attachment used to crush

and process concrete quickly and easily. Each MDP product incorporates a patented quick-change jaw pivot, 360° powered rotation, reversed cylinder, swift-lock teeth and multiple machine mount capability. The first MDP was launched in 2011 but the product line is now compatible with 18 to 70 ton carriers. With an interchangeable cracker and pulverizing jaw, MDP product claims include maximum productivity in primary and secondary concrete demolition and recycling applications.

According to Nathan Buckert, product line manager, "With an unmatched power-to-weight ratio, our customers are able to use smaller attachments and excavators to do the work, providing them with significant savings. The MDP design is based on the time-tested, proven LaBounty shear so it exemplifies the benchmark quality and performance that is expected from LaBounty attachments."

Buckert said the unique design of the MDP provides power and speed unlike any other tool in the market, making it ideal for the most difficult applications. The MDP has been



Stanley LaBounty

used and proven to efficiently process the hardest concrete bunkers across Europe, cut through concrete pillars that are filled with thick rebar, or even cut 15" I-beams using the apexed blade system. "Once the primary demolition is complete, the separation of concrete from rebar using the pulverizer jaw is quick, even with the larger jaw opening on the bigger units because of the cylinder mounted speed valve," Buckert noted. He explained how the most critical component in a hydraulic attachment is generally the cylinder: "Cylinders must be protected from debris, and be in perfect order to withstand the high pressures of the excavator hydraulic system. Using a single cylinder attachment reduces the complexity of the attachment, reducing maintenance costs and possible damage from the rigors of demolition. With demolition work, no job is the same, so versatility is highly valued; and there are several quick-change technologies accepted around the world which enable a user to change from one tool to another in minutes. LaBounty incorporates a patented, quick change jaw pivot on the MDP which helps enable the end-user to quickly transition from a primary concrete demolition application to a secondary concrete crushing, rebar separation application."



Breaker Technology, Inc.

Masco earns sustainability award

In recognition of their role in advancing home sustainability and energy-efficient home construction, Masco Home Services (MHS) has been awarded the 2013 KB Home Sustainability Leadership Award for their efforts to transform how builders view energy efficiency and indoor air quality.

"Masco Home Services has helped educate our industry on building science and energy efficiency programs, and is also actively working to enhance the process of rating services," said Dan Bridleman, senior vice president of Sustainability, Technology and Strategic Sourcing for KB Home. "In 2013 MHS worked with us in Orlando, Tampa, Phoenix and Tucson. However, their services go well beyond rating homes that we build. They are a trusted 'sounding board' for new initiatives that we evaluate, and are very diligent in helping us improve the quality of our program."

The award was announced during KB Home's 2013 Strategic Supplier Conference and accepted by Larry Laseter, Senior Vice-president Sales and Marketing, and Dave Bell, Director of Building Science for Masco Home Services. Masco Home Services was 1 of only 3 recipients of this award, from a group of over 40 strategic partners.

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

NYC hauler charged with illegal dumping

The Business Integrity Commission (BIC) has issued a 47 count administrative violation for illegal dumping of non-hazardous construction waste to J. Scaramella Trucking, Ltd. which carries a maximum penalty of \$470,000. Scaramella is registered with BIC, and is authorized to provide trade waste removal services to commercial establishments in New York City. Since July 2013, Scaramella had been performing

trucking services as a subcontractor as part of the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey's Outerbridge Crossing Paving Replacement Project in Staten Island and New Jersey.

BIC investigators and the Port Authority Office of Inspector General (OIG) investigators documented the illegal disposal of 47 truckloads of construction millings at various private locations in Staten Island.

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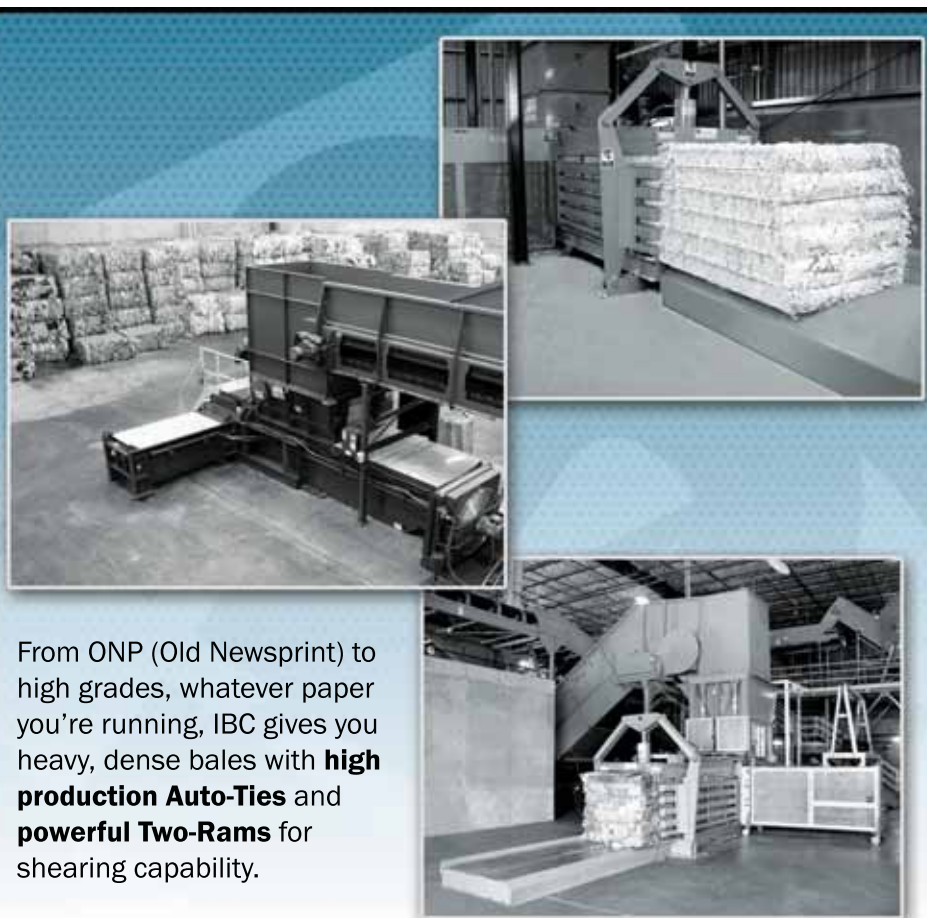


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A Closer Look

by Donna Currie

Kenco

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Kenco got its start in the early 80s in a garage, when owner Bill Douglas started making excavator lift attachments that could lift and move barrier walls, according to Duane Webb, the company's director of marketing and advertising.

Douglas decided to sell the attachments, so he put one in the back of his pickup truck and drove it from his location near Pittsburgh all the way to Philadelphia where there was a lot of construction happening.

Now, Kenco has 12 employees, including engineers who design the products. A nearby shop does the fabrication. Products are delivered worldwide to construction, recycling, farming, mining, and utility companies, among others. "No one else is making similar items," Webb said.

The lift attachment products are manufactured to standard excavating equipment made by a variety of manufacturers, so there's no need to customize to fit to individual machines – customers can order what they need and know the attachments will work.

While the fit isn't customized, the products are – rather than building more common buckets, the company makes uncommon attachments, like the "Barrier Lift," a scissors-type attachment that is put on top of a barrier wall that needs to be moved. The lift grabs the wall and "won't release until the wall is set down again," according to Webb.

Besides the Barrier Lift, there's also a pipe lifting attachment that works in a similar fashion, but it is designed to lift pipes rather than walls.

Besides the company's regular products, the engineers can design custom products for specific industries and for individual customers. One specialty item is a lifter for OSB walls, which are softer than standard walls. A client asked for equipment that could lift those walls without damaging them – something that's not an issue when demolition companies need to move walls. Kenco designed that lifter and now sells them to customers who need that feature.

Kenco has also made many custom variations of the pipe lift, using the same basic design, but customizing it to fit different sizes and shapes of pipe and similar materials.

One of the more unusual requests was a lifter that could handle smooth granite without damaging it. That lifter has been dubbed the "tombstone lifter" for obvious reasons.

Kenco once designed a 3-prong grapple for a customer who needed to remove tumbleweed from deep pits. Since that's not a huge market, those grapples are now being sold for moving rocks and similar round or irregular objects.

Over the last few years, Webb said that new technology has changed the way the company markets and sells products. A new smart phone app lets customers figure out what type and size of lifter will fit their equipment, and lets Kenco know what the customer hopes to do, all before the first phone call is placed.

"A lot of searches are happening online," Webb said, particularly over the past two years. He credited some of the company's growth to that ability for people to search for, and find, the custom products they need.

But even so, Webb said that one of the big challenges is "trying to get Kenco out there and seen." Besides an online presence, the company attends trade shows, which is one of Webb's favorite parts of his job.

He said that he uses his art background to help build trade show displays, and that designing them using Photoshop is fun – and much different than when it had to be done with cut-and-paste.

Along with Webb's design work, the company also sends working machinery to shows, so customers can see exactly how the lifting is accomplished.

Besides selling equipment, Kenco also services what it sells, but Webb said that the company seldom needs to bring equipment in for repairs. The products are designed so that "wearable items can be replaced by the customer." For example, gripping pads come off with bolts, and new ones are simply bolted on. Even better, parts can be purchased online, making it easy for customers to maintain their own equipment at their own location, without needing technical assistance for the purchase, and without needing to ship the products back to Kenco.

"There are few actual repairs," Webb said, which gives the company plenty of time to work on new and unusual lift products for their customers.



Insteel Industries reports first quarter financial results

Insteel Industries, Inc. released financial results for its first quarter ended December 28, 2013.

Net earnings for the first quarter of fiscal 2014 were \$2.7 million, or \$0.15 per share compared with \$2.4 million, or \$0.13 per diluted share in the same period a year ago. Net sales increased 1.5 percent to \$87.2 million from \$85.9 million in the prior year period. Shipments increased 6.4 percent year-over-year while average selling prices decreased 4.6 percent. On a sequential basis, shipments decreased 11.3 percent from the fourth quarter of fiscal 2013 reflecting the usual seasonal slowdown in construction activity while average selling prices increased 0.1 percent.

Insteel's first-quarter results were favorably impacted by widening spreads between selling prices and raw material costs and higher shipments relative to the same period a year ago. Capacity utilization for the quarter was 47 percent compared with 46 percent in the prior year quarter and 50 percent in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2013.

Operating activities provided \$6.3 million of cash compared with \$23.5

million in the prior year period primarily due to the relative changes in net working capital. Net working capital provided \$0.5 million of cash compared with \$17.0 million in the same period a year ago largely due to the increase in inventories in the current year. Capital expenditures were \$2.0 million and are not expected to exceed \$12.0 million for fiscal 2014. Insteel ended the quarter debt-free with \$19.0 million of cash and cash equivalents, and no borrowings outstanding on its \$100.0 million revolving credit facility.

"We are encouraged by the continued improvement reflected in the most recent macro indicators for our construction end-markets," commented H.O. Woltz III, Insteel's president and CEO. "Customer sentiment appears to be on the rise and there are growing signs of a broader based recovery developing for nonresidential construction which should favorably impact our financial results over the remainder of the year. We also expect to benefit from the ongoing initiatives that are underway to achieve further improvements in our costs, productivity levels and customer service capabilities."

Asbestos bust

■Continued from Page 1

disposed of at facilities licensed to receive the waste.

On November 4 and 5, 2013, EPA inspectors, in coordination with inspectors from the New York State Department of Labor and the United States Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration,

inspected the site after being refused access three days earlier. The inspectors examined six buildings and the surrounding areas, sampled materials appearing to contain asbestos and observed numerous potential violations of the asbestos requirements. Many of the buildings contained significant amounts of asbestos.

The EPA legal order alleges that Olivet Management violated the federal Clean Air Act asbestos regulations by failing to provide adequate notice to EPA of construction projects involving asbestos, adequately wet all regulated asbestos-containing material that had been removed or stripped from the site and ensure that all of these materials remained adequately wet until collected and contained in preparation for proper disposal.

In addition to halting work at the site, the EPA order requires Olivet Management to prepare a comprehensive site cleanup work plan, submit the plan to EPA for review and approval to ensure it conforms with asbestos requirements and ensure that future demolition and activities at the site comply with EPA's order. The EPA's investigation is ongoing.

A man was not feeling well, so he went to his doctor for a complete checkup. Afterward, the doctor came out with the results.

"I'm afraid I have some terrible news," the doctor said. "You're dying, and you have very little time left."

"Oh, that is terrible!" said the man. "How long have I got?"

"Ten," the doctor replied gravely.

"Ten?" the man asked. "Ten what!?"

"Nine..."

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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.

First Potomac Realty Trust earns LEED Platinum Certification

First Potomac Realty Trust, an owner of office and business park properties in the greater Washington, D.C. area, announced that 440 First Street, NW was awarded Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Platinum Core & Shell (LEED CS Platinum) certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. The building is also the first in Washington, D.C. to utilize a Dedicated Outdoor Air System (DOAS).

Located in the prominent Capitol Hill submarket, 440 First Street is only the ninth LEED CS Platinum certified building in Washington, D.C. The LEED Platinum designation recognizes a building's sustainable design and construction practices, which increase profitability while reducing a building's negative environmental impact.

Douglas J. Donatelli, chairman and CEO of First Potomac Realty Trust, said, "A LEED Platinum certification for 440 First Street, NW is another tool in attracting tenants as they continue to

seek newer buildings that are energy-efficient and well-located in strong submarkets with access to amenities and transportation."

The 140,000 sq.ft., Class A redeveloped building boasts a glass curtain wall design that allows an abundance of natural light into the space and provides views of the Capitol and the Washington Monument. 440 First Street also features two rooftop terraces, a conference center/boardroom, a state-of-the-art fitness center and underground parking, as well as ground floor retail and restaurant space.

440 First Street utilizes the first ever DOAS HVAC system in Washington, D.C. The installation by First Potomac makes use of an innovative HVAC system that provides a superior level of air quality for tenants and uses far less energy than a traditional HVAC system.

While the LEED CS Platinum certification represents one of First

Potomac's most significant environmental accomplishments, 440 First Street adds to First Potomac's growing list of energy-efficient buildings. Three Flint Hill, First Potomac's project in Oakton, Virginia, achieved LEED Gold certification in 2012, joining four other Gold-certified First Potomac buildings in Maryland and Virginia. In November, First Potomac announced that three of its buildings in Chesapeake, Virginia received Energy Star Certification, adding to the company's three Washington, D.C. buildings that earned the Energy Star Certification in 2012. As a result, First Potomac now has almost 1.7 million sq.ft. of LEED or Energy Star certified office space, and 55 percent of First Potomac's multi-story office port-



folio is either LEED or Energy Star Certified.

Construction

■Continued from Page 1

12 months ending in November, according to the latest figures. But the government pullback was more than made up for by the private sector, which was led by a blistering 36 percent year-over-year increase in spending for multifamily residential projects.

Construction and demolition recyclers as a group aren't particular about what gets built or who's paying for it, so except for regional variations, differences in public versus private or multifamily versus single family aren't major concerns. However, another issue is that this return to an improved construction industry is different from past rebounds.

One change is that recycling is much more popular and accepted than it has ever been before, said Hamilton. For instance, in Florida, during the years since the last peak in construction spending, the state has legislated a goal of recycling 75 percent of the total waste stream by 2020. That has a major effect on C&D recycling in the state because C&D material represents a large percentage of Florida's total waste stream. Normally it is 24 percent to 30 percent, Hamilton said, and during hurricane season it can be as much as 45 percent. So C&D recycling is central to reaching that 75 percent goal.

The legislation has encouraged members of the community to appreciate the importance of the role C&D plays in achieving recycling objectives, Hamilton said. "People are more focused on how they can recycle C&D material," she said. "It's been a huge help and a big plus to the C&D recycling industry."

The growing acceptance of recycling is in some ways a mixed blessing. Today, more construction projects are recycling materials – especially concrete – on-site when existing structures are demolished to make way for new buildings. That's helped to limit supplies of concrete, Gross said.

"Sales of base rock from our concrete recycling operation has been flat, because more of the projects that are going on now are tearing down existing buildings before putting up new structures," he explained. "When that happens, we lose the concrete coming into our site and the sales of products out from our site."

Markets for other recycled C&D materials, including mulch, biomass and sheetrock, have also been relatively flat compared to the growth in construction, the recyclers said. "We're moving everything but we're not making a ton of money on stuff," Gross said.

Recyclers who rely on construction to provide them with materials and markets are well aware that it's cyclical and affected by many factors, including weather. For example, after construction sector employment in November hit the highest level since August 2009, and the industry unemployment rate fell to 8.6 percent, freezing weather in December resulted in a loss of jobs and the industry unemployment rate ballooned back up to 11.4 percent.

The temperamental nature of construction is one reason C&D recyclers are viewing the recent rebound with some caution. Rather than attempting to expand C&D recycling capacity, Zanker has focused on improving efficiency and acquiring certification from the Recycling Certification Institute in anticipation of new rules from the US Green Building Council. "That's going to have a dramatic effect on us because we're the only ones certified around here," Gross said.

In the Florida market, where building has been climbing up more strongly from a deeper trough, Sun Recycling has responded to the improvement by cautiously increasing its C&D recycling capabilities. "We've definitely expanded," said Hamilton. "We've added equipment, we've added people. But it's a very strategic and planned expansion."

ACA decoded at NDA meeting

Business leaders attending the National Demolition Association's (NDA) 41st Annual Convention February 22-25 will gain valuable insight into the impact that the new Affordable Care Act will have on small businesses in the U.S. The presentation, "Understanding Obamacare: Making Sense of the Affordable Care Act," will take place at The Mirage in Las Vegas.

Jennifer Berman, a labor and employment attorney with the Philadelphia law firm Venable, will present an educational session at the convention, providing compliance strategies for employer-sponsored

medical benefits plans under the new health care rules. She will focus her presentation in large part on the special needs of small business and entrepreneurial companies.

"We want our members and other professionals who attend our convention to know what they need to do to fully comply with the new rules and regulations," said Michael R. Taylor, CAE, executive director of the NDA. "By the time the session ends, we hope all their questions will be answered."



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