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## Metal theft legislation threatens industry

Legislation introduced in the Congress in February meant to address the issue of metal theft, falls short of adequately addressing the issue.

The Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI) has problems with legislation introduced in the Senate (S. 418) by Sens. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) and Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), and in the House (H.R. 1006) by Reps. Bart Stupak (D-Mich.) and Lee Terry (R-Neb.).

The bills contain onerous provisions regarding payments for purchases and enforcement targeted only at recyclers. Additionally, the bills would inappropriately attempt to regulate recyclers without any relationship to metal theft. Worse still, the bills are strangely silent regarding the real problem: metal thieves.

Unfortunately, the Metal Theft Prevention Act (H.R. 1006/S. 418) places the onus for solving the problem on the scrap recycling industry and not on the criminals. The scrap recycling

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## Electronic waste exports monitored

by Mike Breslin  
mbreslin@americanrecycler.com

Last November, CBS's 60 Minutes opened millions of eyes and minds to the problem of a Denver recycling company exporting container loads of whole electronic goods to the town of Guiyu in southern China, where primitive recycling was graphically shown to cause serious health and environmental hazards. While it sensationalized the unscrupulous practices of one exporter and the frightening dangers of primitive recycling techniques, it also gave a black eye to the American electronic recycling industry. It also failed to mention that China has some of the world's most innovative, sophisticated recycling parks located throughout the country.

For example, Chinese scientists recently developed a way to recycle printed circuit boards into a strong material to make park benches and fences. Circuit boards account for approximately three percent of the weight of all electronic waste. Current recycling methods primarily recover only metals, while resins account for 70 percent of the circuit boards that currently go to incineration or landfills.

All countries, whether highly developed or developing, face a common challenge when it comes to e-waste – how to recycle or responsibly export used electronic products that have value. What one country considers garbage, another may see as gold. Televisions, computers and cell phones are often thrown out, not because they do not function, but because they have been surpassed by better technology. The era of the electronic repair shop has faded. Busy, advanced economies find it is troublesome and expensive to have something fixed, and convenient to discard and replace.

Many items can be easily repaired and refurbished to extend useful life. This is recycling of the highest order – getting ultimate value out of labor and material that went into a product while reducing demand on raw materials.

It is also sound business to export used electronics to foreign recyclers that operate safe, environmentally sound facilities. Just

as many Asian countries have revolutionized consumer product manufacturing with low labor costs and modern plants, their attention is being refocused on the profitable demanufacturing of electronic goods, whether imported or their own increasing e-waste.

"We have to look to the most sustainable solution. A ban on the export of whole units is not the solution. What we need are the tools to find a responsible recycler anywhere in the world. Then we must ensure that materials only go to those types of facilities," said Eric Harris, director of government and international affairs at the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI).

If every country could handle its own electronic recycling within its borders in a safe and environmentally secure manner, the problem would disappear. The most difficult issue is the cost of recycling and who pays for it. Items that have positive value such as laptops, cell phones, CPUs and copiers are easier and profitable to refurbish or recycle and less likely to be exported from the United States. Other items such as computer peripherals and particularly televisions and monitors with CRTs and miscellaneous household electronics usually have a negative value to recycle, unless performed by a savvy recycling company using high technology equipment with a tight reign on overhead costs and ready markets for the recovered materials.

Taking bigger bites out of electronic exports are a quickly growing number of United States e-waste material recovery operations. Often requiring a multimillion dollar capital investment, these behemoth machines can ingest tons of electronic waste per hour to shred and separate components such as ferrous metal, copper, aluminum, precious metals and plastics.

Many believe that Homeland Security, EPA and other government agencies need to do a better job to control the export of e-wastes through stronger enforcement and more comprehensive regulations. The EPA's 2006 CRT rule was an early attempt to discourage the export of CRTs by simply making it difficult and cumbersome to do so.

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## RecycleBank grew in 2008

RecycleBank announced significant growth figures for 2008, expanding service from 35 municipalities and 100,000 homes in 2007 to over 90 municipalities and 210,000 households. RecycleBank expects over 100 percent growth in 2009.

“With the current downturn in the economy RecycleBank offers cities and families alike the opportunity to save money,” says Ron Gonen, CEO and co-founder of RecycleBank. “By revolutionizing the way people view recycling, and ultimately consumption, we are able to put an annual average of \$300 to \$400 dollars of reward value in people’s pockets.”

RecycleBank has more than doubled recycling rates in every community that deploys the program. To date, RecycleBank households have diverted over 60 million pounds of recyclables from the waste stream. These environmental footprint metrics resulted in over \$6 million in savings for municipalities in 2008.

RecycleBank motivates households and communities to recycle by rewarding them for the amount they’ve recycled at home. RecycleBank measures the amount of materials and then converts it into RecycleBank points that can be used at over 1,200 national and local RecycleBank reward partners, including brand giants like Kraft, Coca-Cola, CVS/pharmacy and Target.com, as well as local reward partner locations like grocery stores and restaurants. RecycleBank members also have the ability to donate their RecycleBank points to local schools for environmental initiatives, as well as dozens of local and national charities. In 2008, RecycleBank members donated 750,000 points, the equivalent of \$75,000 dollars, to local school environmental initiatives.



RecycleBank's website displays a representation of the number of trees saved and the gallons of oil saved through their recycling efforts.

Not only do RecycleBank households save money, but cities like Cherry Hill, New Jersey have turned to conservation efforts as a way to relieve pressure on tightening city budgets.

“Immediate savings have come from RecycleBank, the recycling initiative that began township-wide on July 1. The program triggered increased recycling participation and lowered landfill fees by \$200,000 in the current fiscal budget,” said Deborah Campbell, Cherry Hill’s chief financial officer.

In 2008, participating RecycleBank households redeemed 46,145,150 points for RecycleBank rewards, returning money directly back into the local economies in participating communities through reward redemption. This number is up 242 percent over the previous year.

RecycleBank, a for profit company, makes money as municipalities pay a cut of the savings generated by diverting waste from the landfill. For instance, if a municipality currently landfills 100,000 tons of waste per year at \$70 per ton, and RecycleBank gets people to recycle and divert half of that, it saves \$3.5 million.

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# Georgia survey reveals strong demand for recycling programs

According to a Georgia statewide survey conducted by Responsive Management and commissioned by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA), the majority of Georgians care about the environment and agree that they can make an impact through personal action.

Recycling was seen as an effective way to help the environment. Ninety-seven percent of Georgians feel that recycling should be a high priority for their fellow residents. Findings provide insight into residents' awareness and attitudes about recycling. With extremely tight budgets available to promote recycling, the survey results will serve as the foundation for developing a very targeted and cost-effective statewide recycling education campaign.

"We were pleasantly surprised to hear that 67 percent of Georgians strongly agree that they personally can have an impact on the environment by recycling," said Randy Hartmann, director of DCA's Office of Environmental Management. "The research reaffirms our belief that people do want to make a difference and believe they can, by taking a small step like recycling. We know we have work to do to increase recycling rates throughout the state, but this is a great place to start."

When it comes to current recycling behavior, the good news is that 84 percent of Georgia residents have recycled something in the past 12 months. In addition, 82 percent of Georgians also admitted to feeling guilty when they throw away an item that could have been

recycled. The bad news is that only 58 percent say they recycle always or often, with 21 percent recycling only sometimes and 22 percent doing so rarely or never.

A primary barrier to recycling in Georgia is the lack of curbside collection in many communities. Only two in five Georgia residents (41 percent) say they live in a community that offers curbside or bin pickup recycling. And 90 percent said they would recycle if it "were easier to do."

"We know that curbside is the most convenient way to recycle. This survey showed us that when communities lack these programs many would-be recyclers are deterred," says Hartmann. "Many communities offer alternative programs such as drop-off and workplace recycling, programs that many use. But convenience still plays a role, and having a program at your front door, literally, is the most effective option for the average resident."

The survey further revealed the extent to which accessibility to programs impacts where and how much Georgians recycle. More specifically:

- 70 percent of residents with curbside recycling take advantage of the program and recycle.

- When asked of those without curbside access, only 45 percent recycle "always" or "often."

- 55 percent of those without curbside access strongly or moderately agree that not having a program is a source of frustration for them.

- Two-thirds of Georgia residents take recyclables to drop-off sites (even if only once a year). Among those who do not have curbside recycling available, 89 percent take recyclables to drop-off sites.

- The average distance a resident drives to a drop-off location is six miles.

- 42 percent of Georgians who have recycled in the past 12 months and who work outside of home say they always recycle at work, with 31 percent saying often or sometimes; 16 percent never recycle at work.

"The global economic crisis has hit recycling markets hard. Yet, despite recent volatility, communities can rest assured there is strong demand for programs," says Gloria Hardegree, executive director for the Georgia Recycling Coalition. "When 76 percent of Georgians without a curbside program say they would be very likely to participate in a program if it were offered, that is a statistic that cannot be ignored."

The survey also indicated that lack of ongoing education is keeping many Georgians from participating; suggesting communities need to improve their communications efforts. Specifically, more than half of Georgians say they would be "very likely" to recycle or recycle more if they received more information about recycling in their community, indicating that knowledge increases participation in recycling.

To view full survey results, visit [www.americanrecycler.com/gasurvey](http://www.americanrecycler.com/gasurvey).

## Oregon DEQ approves soil removal Metals and PCBs contaminated the foreclosed property

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has approved a removal of metals and PCB-contaminated soil at an illegal hazardous waste disposal site south of Estacada in Oregon.

Jack Foster, now deceased, had used his property located at 27863 SE Skinner Road for an unpermitted, metal reclamation operation until approximately 2000.

DEQ investigated the site after receiving a complaint reporting that insulated wire was apparently burned there to reclaim copper and oil. Oil containing PCBs was reportedly stored in drums on site. Large piles of scrap metal and car bodies were widespread.

In December 2001, DEQ tested site soils, groundwater from a water supply well, and water from an offsite spring, used for residential water supply. Test results showed metals and PCBs in site soil. The test did not find groundwater or spring water contamination.

After receiving the property through foreclosure, Clackamas County hired an environmental contractor to clean up the site in Fall 2007. The contractor demolished all site buildings including a residence and removed all surface debris. Contaminated surface soil was stockpiled

for removal but a large, deep area of mixed waste and tire fill was discovered. Clackamas County exhausted their funding for the project and had to stop and reconsider their options.

Clackamas County is applying for an Oregon Coalition Brownfields Cleanup Grant to finish the cleanup so they can sell the property for redevelopment.

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# E-waste

■Continued from Page A1

The rule requires that recyclers notify EPA when they plan to export used or broken CRTs. EPA then notifies the receiving country of the shipment. If the CRTs are intact and for reuse, the recycler must send a one-time notification to EPA before export. In this case, there is no requirement to notify the receiving country.

Failure to meet the complex conditions of the CRT rule is subject to enforcement action under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The rule also covers recycling done within the United States when recyclers disassemble CRTs for glass, lead or plastic and exempts CRTs from all hazardous waste requirements, if the recycler complies with certain conditions. At the same time, CRTs have a conditional exemption from the EPA and can be put in the majority of United States landfills with the exception of those states that have banned it.

So it seems that exporters are on an honor system in regard to CRTs. Those with the patience to understand complex regulations, invest time and energy filling out forms and willing to assume enforcement exposure can freely export. It is up to United States Customs to monitor, or inspect cargos being exported. Of all imported and exported cargo, Customs only physically inspects approximately two-percent – inspection meaning actually opening a container and looking inside.

With heightened homeland security concerns, most attention is focused on imports, not exports. Ninety-eight percent of containerized cargos are

approved electronically by Customs relying on the reputation of the freight forwarder and the description of the cargo on the declaration. Sneaky CRT exporters can, and do, provide nefarious descriptions of cargo to avoid detection by Customs. Containers arriving at foreign ports face the same problem and many developing countries have looser custom's inspections than ours. Hong Kong officials intercepted and returned 26 containers of illegally exported CRTs to the United States, but this is likely a small fraction of what is being shipped.

After the CRT rule went into effect, the United States General Accounting Office (GAO) did a study on used electronic exports. GAO operatives posed on the Internet as foreign buyers from Hong Kong, India and other countries and offered to buy broken CRTs from the United States. Forty-three United States companies responded and expressed willingness to export these items. EPA acknowledged compliance and enforcement problems with its CRT rule, but said that given the rule's relative newness, their focus was on educating the regulated community.

Beyond dealing with stricter enforcement of the CRT rule, the EPA is currently evaluating a number of options recommended by the GAO – expanding hazardous waste regulations to cover other exported used electronics; submitting a legislative package to Congress to ratify the Basel Convention (International treaty addressing cleaner production, hazardous waste minimization and controls on the movement of wastes); and working with departments within Homeland Security and other agencies to improve identification,

tracking and enforcement of exported used electronics.

The fate of e-wastes and exports is now in the hands of Lisa Jackson, the recently confirmed EPA administrator. No doubt EPA has the capability to write further complicated regulations to further confuse e-waste exports.

"One of the main issues that needs to be addressed is an honest examination of what waste is, what is non-waste and what hazardous waste is. Our ISRI members primarily process these materials into a specification grade commodity. At that point we don't consider those materials a waste. There are advocacy groups that will say it's all hazardous waste. That's a disservice and one of the problems that we are constantly working against," said Eric Harris.

Clearly, e-waste is a global problem. 60 Minutes could have easily done a story on a European country illegally exporting unprocessed goods to a developing country. 60 Minutes should also have given credit to states like California (seventh largest economy in the world), eighteen other states and New York City that have enacted e-waste recycling laws. The surest way for any country to prevent export of e-waste is to collect and recycle within its borders. California's groundbreaking Electronic Waste Recycling Act of 2003 sought that goal.

Under the Act, the state collects fees on the sale of new products with viewable screens. These fees reimburse recycling centers that provide no-charge recycling to consumers and businesses. Retailers and manufacturers can be fined for failing to collect and remit the fee to the state. In effect, the fee is a tax to pay for responsible disposal.

In 2009, the fees went up: a 4" screen went from \$6 to \$8, and those over 35" from \$10 to \$25, which are substantial increases. But someone must pay, be it the consumer, the manufacturer or a shared cost.

Another part of the California Act went into effect in January 2007 and it severely limits the amount of cadmium, hexavalent chromium, lead and mercury that can be contained in electronic products sold in the state. It applies to all CRT, LCD, and plasma displays in televisions, computers, and other electronic equipment with a diagonal screen size over 4". Minimizing the amounts of hazardous materials in products is another path being widely explored.




Manufacturers have also become proactive with a wide range of equipment recovery programs to manage end-of-life products, either to green their brand image, or because compelled by state laws. Some will take old products as trade-ins on new ones and either resell or responsibly recycle. Most major manufacturers offer free take-back programs to their customers and either recycle themselves or contract out the service to responsible e-waste recyclers.

"Ultimately, electronics recycling will be driven by the fundamentals of supply and demand. A ban on exports is a bad idea because the vast majority of all materials coming out of electronics have to be exported," Harris added.

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**American Recycler**  
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877-777-0737 Fax 419-931-0740

#### Publisher and Editor

**ESTHER G. FOURNIER**  
[esther@AmericanRecycler.com](mailto:esther@AmericanRecycler.com)  
[news@AmericanRecycler.com](mailto:news@AmericanRecycler.com)

#### Editorial Focus Section Editor, Production and Layout

**DAVID FOURNIER, JR.**  
[david@AmericanRecycler.com](mailto:david@AmericanRecycler.com)

#### Production and Layout

**MARY E. HILL**  
[mary@AmericanRecycler.com](mailto:mary@AmericanRecycler.com)

#### Marketing Representatives

**MARY M. COX**  
[maryc@AmericanRecycler.com](mailto:maryc@AmericanRecycler.com)  
**MARY E. HILL**  
[mary@AmericanRecycler.com](mailto:mary@AmericanRecycler.com)

#### Circulation Manager

**DONNA L. MCMANUS**  
[donna@AmericanRecycler.com](mailto:donna@AmericanRecycler.com)

#### Writers and Contributors

**MIKE BRESLIN**  
[mbreslin@AmericanRecycler.com](mailto:mbreslin@AmericanRecycler.com)  
**BRIAN R. HOOK**  
[bhook@AmericanRecycler.com](mailto:bhook@AmericanRecycler.com)  
**DONNA CURRIE**  
[dcurie@AmericanRecycler.com](mailto:dcurie@AmericanRecycler.com)  
**DAVID FOURNIER, JR.**  
[david@AmericanRecycler.com](mailto:david@AmericanRecycler.com)  
**MARK HENRICKS**  
[mhenricks@AmericanRecycler.com](mailto:mhenricks@AmericanRecycler.com)  
**IRWIN RAPOPORT**  
[irapoport@AmericanRecycler.com](mailto:irapoport@AmericanRecycler.com)  
**RON STURGEON**  
[rons@rdsinvestments.com](mailto:rons@rdsinvestments.com)

#### Production Offices

900 W South Boundary, Bldg 6  
Perrysburg, OH 43551-5235  
877-777-0737 fax 419-931-0740  
[www.AmericanRecycler.com](http://www.AmericanRecycler.com)

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## Legislation

■Continued from Page A1

industry employs over 85,000 people throughout the United States – most in blue-collar jobs manufacturing specification-grade raw materials that are used as direct substitutes for virgin ores in the manufacture of new basic materials.

In 2007, the last full year for which numbers are available, the industry processed over 150 million tons of materials, resulting in extraordinary energy savings and reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. This \$71 billion industry, which contributed over \$20 billion to the United States balance of trade with other nations, has been around for hundreds of years. The people in this industry are not criminals and don't deserve to be treated as such.

The Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI), the national trade association for the industry, strongly believes that the legislation fails to prevent metal theft, while imposing onerous burdens on recyclers and their legitimate customers.

"ISRI supports federal theft legislation that works, but the bills introduced will not work. We advocate measures that prevent theft and prosecute thieves," stated ISRI president Robin Wiener.

At a minimum, the bill must include penalties that target thieves, provide adequate incentives for local law enforcement training and establish regional coalitions to foster collaborative efforts between stakeholders, including law enforcement, victims and scrap recyclers.

The industry's national theft alert system at [www.ScrapTheftAlert.com](http://www.ScrapTheftAlert.com), and training programs for law enforcement and recyclers, along with recommended scrap industry business practices demonstrate the industry's ongoing commitment to preventing metal theft crime.

"Instead of targeting thieves, this bill places unwarranted blame on law-abiding businesses and provides little assistance to law enforcement," said Wiener. "This legislation, as currently drafted, is unacceptable. However, we are willing to work with the Congress to achieve legislation that will effectively combat metal theft."

■More on ISRI's Scrap Theft Alert, Page A9

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## CPI issues call for papers and posters for fall polyurethanes conference

The Center for the Polyurethanes Industry (CPI), of the American Chemistry Council, issued a call for papers and posters to be presented at the Polyurethanes 2009 Technical Conference on October 5, 2009 at the Gaylord National in Fort Washington, Maryland.

Paper abstracts are due March 2, 2009 with the deadline potentially extended dependent upon the number of submissions received.

In order to be included in the conference program, poster abstracts must be submitted by April 1, 2009, but abstracts will be accepted until September 1, 2009.

Submission instructions, paper guidelines and templates can be found at

[www.americanchemistry.com/polyurethane](http://www.americanchemistry.com/polyurethane).

The Polyurethanes 2009 Technical Conference represents an opportunity to reach an audience of more than 1,500 manufacturers and processors of polyurethane-based products across all industrial sectors.

Papers and posters may address innovations and developments in any area of polyurethane, including flexible slabstock, flexible molded, rigid foam, soy-based polyols, polyurethane waterborne dispersions, equipment/machinery, cast elastomers, thermoplastic polyurethanes, integral skin, RIM, binders/fillers, coatings, adhesives, sealants and more.

CPI also encourages paper and poster submissions on breakthrough technology and innovations in polyurethane markets or chemistry, developing markets such as medical and fiberboard, and product areas such as rigid foam insulation or coatings.

Presentation submissions also may focus on issues such as combustibility, transportation, recreation, security, as well as environmental and stewardship issues, including emissions, regulatory developments, waste management and related topics.

The Polyurethanes 2008 Technical Conference saw 22 authors receive awards at the conference for their papers and posters, as judged by their peers.

## Recycling program earns partnership award

Waste Management and the city of Manhattan Beach, California, have received the 2009 "Outstanding Award" for public/private partnerships from the Mayors Business Council, a division of the United States Conference of Mayors. The partnership combined Waste Management with the city, the Manhattan Beach Unified School District and Planet Pals, a parent volunteer group, to improve the environmental profiles and programs at the district's seven public schools.

Launched in November 2007, the partnership set out to enhance recycling programs, increase landfill diversion, reduce waste and educate students and school staff about sustainability. Waste Management performed a comprehensive district-wide waste audit and discovered numerous ways to increase recycling and reduce waste. The company audited seven schools – five elementary schools, one middle school and one high school.

"After the audit was complete, we created a comprehensive report for the district and city staff that included an individualized "green plan" for each school," said Susan Moulton, area director of municipal marketing. "We are

READER SERVICE #1221

thrilled to report that the district has realized about a 23 percent increase in recycling and diversion rates from last year. And we are honored by the Mayors Business Council's recognition and excited that the program may be replicated in schools across the country."

Elements of Waste Management's green plan included:

- 100 percent participation in office and classroom recycling;
- A district-wide recycling system in all school cafeterias and lunch areas, including training for cafeteria employees and education materials for students;
- Increased recycling service levels at five sites and increased recycling

capacity at all sites, including lunch tables, playground, classrooms and administrative areas;

•On-campus composting training for school staff and parents, and lunchtime composting programs led by Planet Pal parent volunteers at two sites;

•A \$5,000 grant awarded by Waste Management and its partnering agency, Keep America Beautiful, to help each school in its sustainability efforts;

•An "end of school year" recycling program for teachers to dispose of all leftover classroom materials;

•A district-wide "green procurement" policy.

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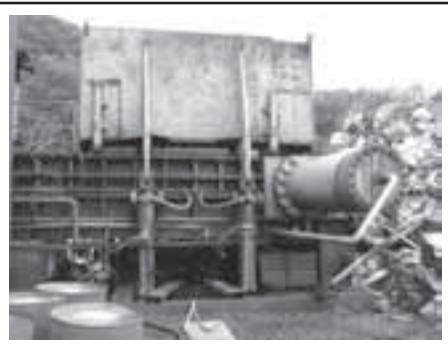
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# EPA settlement nets \$12 million for cleanup of Newburgh Superfund Site

Parties considered potentially responsible for the contamination at the Consolidated Iron and Metal Superfund site in Newburgh, New York agreed to pay the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) just over \$12 million toward cleaning up the site. An agreement with the cities of Newburgh and Poughkeepsie, Connell Limited Partnership, International Business Machines Corporation, and Northrop Grumman Ship Systems, Inc., as well as 13 other settling parties, was entered with the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York on February 3, 2009. EPA will use the funds to clean up the contamination at the site.

The Consolidated Iron and Metal Company operated at the site for approximately 45 years before closing in 1999. The company processed cars and other metals for resale and operated a smelter on the site primarily to melt aluminum scrap materials, transmissions and other metallic materials. These activities created contaminated soil, lead-contaminated ash and other by-products. The site was covered with piles of debris, scrap metal and numerous areas of dark-stained soil.

In the late 1990s, the New York State Department of Environmental

Conservation (NYSDEC) conducted several inspections at the facility and cited the owner for a number of violations. Subsequent inspections by NYSDEC revealed that the owner had not corrected the violations. In the fall of 1999, the New York State Attorney General shut down operations at the site.

In 1998, EPA sampled an ash pile at the site and found it was contaminated with lead and PCBs. Approximately 6,600 tons of materials were removed from the site in 1999 and placed in an approved treatment, storage, and disposal facility. EPA also constructed a mound at the site to prevent storm water from carrying contaminants into the Hudson River. The site was placed on the National Priorities List of the country's most contaminated sites in June 14, 2001.

EPA constructed a security fence and began removing thousands of tons of debris and contaminated soil from the site in June 2003. After an extensive investigation, EPA issued a final cleanup plan, called a Record of Decision, in October 2006. This plan includes removing and disposing of approximately 78,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil from the site and backfilling with clean

fill, groundwater monitoring, and institutional controls in the form of deed restrictions. This past fall, EPA began preparing the site for the final cleanup. These preparatory activities included the demolition and removal of remaining building foundations, the removal of scrap metal, debris, and contaminated soil. EPA plans to begin removing the soil later this year.

Under the agreement, EPA will get \$12,062,000 in three payments ending in January 2010. The money will be used, along with other Superfund and state money, to clean up the site, which will cost an estimated \$20 million. As part of the agreement, EPA won't sue the companies for any more cleanup costs for this site. The companies also agreed that any money they get by suing third parties would be split 50-50 with EPA, until each party has received \$1 million; with varying percentages beyond that dollar amount. Newburgh will give EPA the net proceeds from selling the property if the price exceeds the appraised value.

For more information about the Consolidated Iron and Metal Superfund site, including aerial photos, visit [www.americanrecycler.com/superfund](http://www.americanrecycler.com/superfund).

## NRRA'S annual Earth Day compost bin sale

In celebration of Earth Day, April 22, 2009, the Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA), New Hampshire, will once again sponsor

their Annual Compost Bin Sale to support nature's way of recycling.

As the first non-profit recycling cooperative in the United States, the

NRRA has been helping member municipalities and businesses advance their recycling efforts for over 27 years with the ultimate goal of reducing waste and increasing recycling regionally.

The Compost Bin Sale is an annual fundraiser and is one of many programs offered by the cooperative to help reduce waste in greater New England. It is estimated that 25 percent of an average household's waste contains kitchen scraps and yard trimmings. This material can readily be composted instead of thrown into overburdened landfills or burned at an incineration facility. New this year they will also be selling System Rain Barrels.

Utilizing the principal of cooperative purchasing, the NRRA is able to offer participating groups high quality Earth Machine compost bins for less than half the retail price.

The 80-gallon bins, which are made of 100 percent recycled plastic, enable residents to convert leaves, grass and table scraps into an abundant supply of rich garden soil.

Last year over 63 towns, businesses and groups participated with 1,800 compost bins being sold. Each bin diverts approximately 500 pounds of waste from the waste stream.

The 2008 sale helped divert a total of 900,000 pounds of waste from Northeastern landfills and incinerators. That is the equivalent of 38 garbage trucks full of waste.

View this article on [www.americanrecycler.com](http://www.americanrecycler.com) for additional details about how you can participate in the bin sale.

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METALS

Steel imports end year down

Based on preliminary Census Bureau data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that the United States imported a total of 1,987,000 net tons (NT) of steel in December 2008, including 1,771,000 NT of finished steel (down 17 percent and 20 percent, respectively, vs. November final data).

Imports of total and finished steel in 2008 were 31.8 million NT and 25.9 million NT, respectively. Total and finished steel imports for full year 2008 were down 4 percent and 3 percent, respectively, vs. the same period in 2007. However, the fourth quarter monthly average for finished steel imports was the same as it was in the first 9 months, even as sharply deteriorating market conditions caused monthly average fourth quarter domestic shipments to decline by 38 percent compared to the monthly average of the prior three quarters. As a result, while finished steel import market share was an estimated 24 percent for 2008 as a whole, this imports' share rose to 32 percent in the last quarter.

Key products with increases in 2008 compared to 2007 were Oil Country Goods (up 104 percent) and Plates in Coils (up 17 percent).

In December, the largest volume of finished imports from offshore was from China (476,000 NT, down 21 percent from November). This was 27 percent of all finished imports. Finished steel imports from China in 2008 were in excess of 4.8 million NT, which was 4.7 percent above 2007. This was also more than twice the import tonnage of any other offshore supplier. In addition, finished steel imports from China increased by over 100 percent in the second half of 2008 vs. the first half.

U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN (Thousands of Net Tons)					
	DEC 2008	NOV 2008	DEC 2007	2007 Annual	% Change 2008 vs. 2007
CHINA	476	602	182	4,597	4.7%
SOUTH KOREA	111	232	65	2,004	15.0%
INDIA	108	58	54	785	38.6%
JAPAN	107	148	88	1,481	8.5%
GERMANY	83	73	91	1,082	3.6%
TURKEY	72	156	0	568	45.5%
RUSSIA	50	57	2	370	-3.3%
AUSTRALIA	45	1	44	515	21.6%
TAIWAN	38	45	45	1,101	-39.9%
BRAZIL	27	32	19	1,203	-63.8%
All Others	653	818	1,018	12,882	-6.6%
TOTAL	1,771	2,221	1,608	26,587	-2.7%

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census

Much of the second half 2008 import surge from China was in tubular and other high-value products still receiving substantial government export tax rebates. Other major offshore suppliers in December were Korea (111,000 NT, down 52 percent from November), India (108,000, up 85 percent), Japan (107,000 NT, down 27 percent), Germany (83,000 NT, up 14 percent) and Turkey (72,000 NT, down 54 percent).

Aluminum cans see 50 years

MillerCoors celebrated their 50th anniversary of the seamless and recyclable aluminum can. After several years in development, the first can was introduced for use at the Coors Golden brewery in January, 1959. This invention revolutionized the beer and consumer packaged goods industry and spurred recycling efforts nationwide. MillerCoors continues that commitment to innovation and sustainable development today.

In 1957, William K. Coors, who at the time was president of Adolph Coors Company, began researching with his staff engineers, the feasibility of a recyclable aluminum container for beer. At the time, beer was packaged in tin containers that not only gave beer an aftertaste, but also resulted in an environmental issue due to waste. Aluminum allowed the company to deliver fresher tasting beer to consumers without needing pasteurization and was 100 percent recyclable.

After many prototypes, Bill Coors and his team finally succeeded in devel-



oping a seamless aluminum can, a version of which is still in use today throughout the industry.

This significant milestone underscores MillerCoors commitment to sustainable development and the environment. In fact, zero waste is a goal for all MillerCoors breweries. Through recycling teams, the company is actively working to bring landfill contributions down and increase recycling of glass, aluminum, cardboard, plastics and segregation of metals.

MillerCoors currently recycles approximately 98 percent of items used in brewing facilities that do not leave as finished product.

MillerCoors recently partnered with RecycleBank, an innovative national program that helps encourage recycling by awarding customers redeemable points for recycling and allowing them to redeem the points for gift certificates on MillerCoors branded gear.

■More on RecycleBank, Page A2

Sims South Carolina achieves ISO 14001:2004 certification

Sims Recycling Solutions' wholly owned subsidiary, Global Investment Recovery, Inc., added another ISO Certificate to its growing collection with the registration of their Salley, South Carolina facility.

The Salley facility joins four other sites in having achieved an environmental management system certified to the ISO 14001:2004 international standard through ISO registrar, NSF International Strategic Registrations. Sims Recycling Solutions provides electronics recycling services and secure data destruction. Global Investment Recovery was purchased by Sims Recycling Solutions in October 2008.

"Sims Recycling Solutions takes environmental, health and safety issues very seriously and all of our employees undergo extensive training. Our ISO Certification requires continuous review and improvement to the benefit of our clients and for the protection of our employees," said Steve Skurnac, president of Sims Recycling Solutions.

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# ON TOPIC — Q & A

by Irwin Rapoport

## California's electronics waste practices shared

American Recycler recently spoke with Jeff Hunts, Electronic Waste Recycling Program manager at the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB), to learn more about the effects and progress of e-cycling legislation in California.

**Since SB 20 (California's Electric Waste Recycling Act) was enacted in 2003, what has been the volume of material processed in California and what are your expectations for growth in the future?**

**Hunts:** Beginning in January 2005 and continuing through mid-2008, the program saw continued growth in the volume of covered electronic waste (CEW) recovered and recycled, with over 500 million pounds of CEW having been processed and claimed in the first four years of operation. The volume of CEW recovery appears to have stabilized somewhat recently, and may even decline a bit due to current economic conditions. However the digital television (DTV) transition could provide for some increased volume in 2009, and there are certainly vast quantities of aging electronic equipment yet to be discarded.

The Act addresses only the handling on CEW. It is well understood that participating collectors and recyclers in California's electronic waste program are also handling significant quantities of mixed e-wastes – everything from CPUs and cell phones to printers and FAX machines – often in quantities similar to CEW. While certain notification and annual reporting requirements exist for miscellaneous electronic waste, the precise amount handled is difficult to determine, since the fate of that material ranges from repair and reuse/resale, to domestic processing, to export.

**How has the passage of SB 20 jump-started the e-cycling industry infrastructure in California? Do you have any numbers in terms of jobs created, capital investment and tax revenue generated?**

**Hunts:** The Act has definitely fostered growth in the state's electronic waste recycling infrastructure. California currently boasts over 60 approved recyclers that are supplied by a network of nearly 700 approved collectors. This infrastructure is also supplied by a substantial universe of material handlers (asset managers, scrap dealers, thrift organizations, waste operations, etc.) that may not be directly participating in the program. The CIWMB has not calculated the entire economic impact of the program, however the State has paid out close to \$250 million for the recovery and recycling of CEW.

**It has cost the State of California several million dollars to administer the SB 20 program since the law was passed. Has the CIWMB found ways to reduce the cost and paperwork and has the expense been justified in terms of the amount of material processed?**

**Hunts:** To implement and administer the program, the CIWMB works in partnership with the California Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) and the California Board of Equalization (BOE),

which is the business tax and revenue agency responsible for collecting the remitted consumer fees from retailers. Obviously there are costs for State oversight of the program: ensuring that proper payment is disbursed for eligible operations, that materials are properly handled, and that revenues from the consumer fee are secured. Of the approximately \$120 million budgeted to the program in fiscal year 2008/09, far less than ten percent was used for State operations. The balance was passed through as payments.

The CIWMB works in partnership with the participating recyclers to find efficiencies within the scope of the governing regulations. The State must balance any initiative to reduce the documentation and recordkeeping requirements with the need to maintain fiscal integrity in the program and to detect and deter fraud. Requiring the name and address of a generator of a television or monitor is a small burden to bear when the State may be paying out \$20 to \$30 to see that the device is properly recycled.

The success of the program can be judged by the availability of recycling opportunities for all Californians – over 35 million of them – and by the way organizations are finding ways to incorporate the cost relief offered by the program into the services they offer to their clients.

**How has SB 20 helped to extend the lifespan of landfills in California and what are some of the positive effects for the environment within the state and neighboring states?**

**Hunts:** Electronic waste in general, and covered electronic waste in particular, is considered hazardous waste in California and is not allowed to be disposed in municipal landfills. Because of that, the CEW recycling program is not considered to be saving vast amounts of disposal capacity.

No doubt some CEW ends up improperly disposed, and the program provides financial relief for CEW recovered through load check activities. The less difficult it is to properly recycle an old television or monitor in the first place, the more likely it will be correctly managed.

**While other states have a preference for producer responsibility, what would you say are the advantages of an upfront fee system and is it possible to blend SB 20 with the producer responsibility philosophy?**

**Hunts:** The CIWMB is watching with interest the operational experience of other states that have adopted different approaches. The CIWMB is also actively evaluating producer responsibility models for a range of other problematic wastes. The variety of materials, political landscapes and economic conditions in different locations warrant experimentation with a variety of approaches. One size probably does not fit all.

## METALS

# Aleris files Chapter 11 while operations continue

Aleris International, Inc. announced that it and its wholly-owned United States subsidiaries have filed petitions for voluntary reorganization under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code as a result of financial constraints related to deteriorating demand, earnings, and liquidity caused by the steep decline in global economic conditions. The filing was made in the United States Bankruptcy Court in Delaware. The Company's European, Asian, South American, Mexican and Canadian operations were not included in the filing.

To fund its global operations during the restructuring, Aleris has secured \$1.075 billion of debtor-in possession (DIP) financing. Subject to court approval, the DIP credit facilities include a new \$500 million term loan and a \$575 million revolving credit facility that replaces the Company's previous revolving credit facility. These will be used for the Company's normal operating and working capital requirements, including wages and benefits, supplier payments and other operating expenses during reorganization. The Company believes that the DIP credit facility provides sufficient funds for its reorganization effort under Chapter 11.

"We have moved aggressively to reduce our costs and eliminate capacity to offset the negative effects of the global economic slowdown. However, given the unpredictability of the speed and severity of the downturn over the last few months, these actions were not sufficient to counter the combination of challenges Aleris faces, including a sharp deterioration in demand for our products by the automotive, housing, and general industrial products sectors and an unprecedented decline in aluminum prices which limited our borrowing ability," said Steven J. Demetriou, Aleris chairman and CEO.

"Aleris is conducting business as usual across the Company," continued Demetriou. "Our customers can continue to have confidence that they will receive their orders on time and as specified. Our suppliers can expect timely payment in full for all goods and services provided from today forward. Furthermore, we have petitioned the Court for customary first day orders, which will ensure that our employees will be paid in full and on the normal schedule and that our operations will function normally and without any disruption."

Further details and links are available through this article located on [www.americanrecycler.com](http://www.americanrecycler.com).

## Oregon company penalized

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has issued an \$11,200 penalty to Hamilton Metals, Inc., for failing to clean up oil and fuel spills at its metal recycling business.

On August 13, 2008, DEQ staff inspected the facility and observed large areas of soil saturated with heavy oils and diesel fuel released during scrap metal recycling operations. Additionally, four 55-gallon drums and a large tank used to store used oil did not have a "used oil" label as required by state environmental law. Releases of used oil were visible on the ground around the drums.

Soil samples taken at the property revealed high levels of petroleum contamination. Petroleum products pose a significant risk to human health, particularly in areas of shallow groundwater like that on the property. Used oil and fuels can contain cancer-causing agents, metal contaminants and organic compounds that may filter into the groundwater supply. For this reason, spilled oil must be immediately contained and cleaned up.

The company is taking steps to correct the violations and start cleanup at the site. DEQ considered these efforts in determining the amount of the penalty.

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# METALS

## Steel import permits up 12%

Based on the Commerce Department's most recent Steel Import Monitoring and Analysis (SIMA) data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that steel import permit applications for the month of January totaled 2,233,000 net tons (NT). This was a 10 percent increase from the 2,030,000 permit tons recorded in December 2008, and a 12 percent increase from the December preliminary imports total of 1,987,000 NT. Import permit tonnage for finished steel in January was 2,035,000 NT, an increase of 15 percent from the preliminary imports total of 1,771,000 NT in December. January 2009 total and finished steel import permit tons would annualize at 26,801,000 NT and 24,422,000 NT, down 16 and 6 percent, respectively, from the 31,847,000 NT and 25,876,000 NT imported in 2008.

In January 2009, the largest finished steel import permit applications for off-shore countries were for China (404,000 NT), South Korea (274,000 NT), Japan (149,000 NT) and Turkey (113,000 NT).

Major finished steel import products that registered large increases in January vs. the December preliminary include Reinforcing Bars (up 370 percent), Heavy Structural Shapes (up 319 percent), Cold Rolled Sheets (up 42 percent), Hot Rolled Bars (up 35 percent), and Line Pipe (up 33 percent).

## ISRI provides internet-based system for scrap recyclers and law enforcement Alerts law enforcement about stolen materials

The Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI) has introduced the newest tool in the recycling industry's effort to fight material theft. ScrapTheftAlert.com is a new internet-based theft alert system that will allow law enforcement to alert recyclers of reported stolen material and allow recyclers to alert area law enforcement when they have received materials they believe might have been stolen.

ScrapTheftAlert.com represents another significant improvement in theft reporting procedures that have been available through ISRI for more than two decades. The original system, known as FaxNet, allowed ISRI to notify recyclers in the immediate area of a theft via fax. ISRI's Theft Alert system, developed in 2006 moved the service from fax to email and sent alerts to a far broader audience that included all recyclers on ISRI's contact list in the state where the theft occurred and to all surrounding states.

"The ISRI Theft Alert system worked well early on," said Chuck Carr, ISRI Vice President for Member Services, "but we noticed two major drawbacks that needed to be addressed. First,

using a statewide, multi-state reporting system was not an efficient means of distributing reports, and second, the volume of reports requiring action by ISRI staff was significantly slowing down the alerts."



ISRI provides the alert site free to law enforcement and to recyclers regardless of ISRI membership status.

ScrapTheftAlert.com is faster and easier than any previous reporting program. Once a potential user completes registering for the system, law enforcement (and certain corporate security personnel) will be able to post alerts immediately, without the delay caused by intervention/review by ISRI staff. The system even accepts up to 4 photographs

(limited to 2 MB in size) of the stolen material. The system sends reports to all contacts located within approximately 250 miles of the theft location.

While preapproved law enforcement personnel can submit alerts without intervention by ISRI staff, other individuals can submit alerts for potential broadcast upon review by ISRI staff.

ScrapTheftAlert.com is available free of charge to law enforcement and to recyclers regardless of ISRI membership status.

Any recyclers wishing to receive theft alerts in their area can simply register with the site with their name, address, and email information.

ISRI members who were already receiving theft alerts under the old system have been preregistered to receive the reports.

The system has been well received by law enforcement. Many agencies are now contacting non-ISRI recyclers in their area encouraging them to register to receive the reports.

For more information on the ScrapTheftAlert.com system, visit [www.isri.org/theft](http://www.isri.org/theft).

## EPA and Mexican agencies complete cleanup of smelter

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) joined Mexico's environmental ministry, SEMARNAT, to celebrate the cleanup of Metales y Derivados, a former Tijuana lead smelter that was abandoned with over 42,000 tons of lead in open pits or buried in drums and sacks, which posed significant public health risks to the residents of nearby Otay Mesa.

Starting in the late 1980s, Metales y Derivados was a United States-owned, lead smelting facility. In 1992, the facility was cited by Mexico's PROFEPA for environ-

mental non-compliance, and in 1994, the site was abandoned by its owner. In 2004, a binational partnership workgroup established as part of the United States-Mexico Border 2012 Program, implemented a four-phase cleanup plan which included the initial removal of 2,000 tons of high risk wastes and the recent construction of a cap over 42,000 tons of lead waste.

The Metales y Derivados property is now owned by Baja, California as a result of the cleanup and land-transfer agreement established in 2004.

READER SERVICE #1090

*A lawyer was well into a lengthy cross-examination when he stopped and stated with disgust, "Your honor, a juror is asleep." The judge ruled, "You put him to sleep — you wake him up."*

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### 2009 Tire Recycling Business Summit

**April 29 & 30**  
Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino, Las Vegas

When you attend ISRI's Tire Summit, you are making an investment in your business. Whether you're a processor, collector or broker, the Tire Summit has been developed with your needs in mind.

Over the course of two days, hear from tire recycling industry experts discussing topics important to your business. Among the topics covered will be:

### Fire Safety And The Operation Of A Scrap Tire Recycling Facility

ISRI's Tire Chapter has been developing a Fire Safety Recommended Guidelines document to help tire processors avoid potentially devastating fires from occurring in their yards. Hear about proper fire safety techniques from industry leaders, insurance professionals and fire fighters who have battled these blazes.

### Government Regulation of Athletic Turf and Playground Surfacing

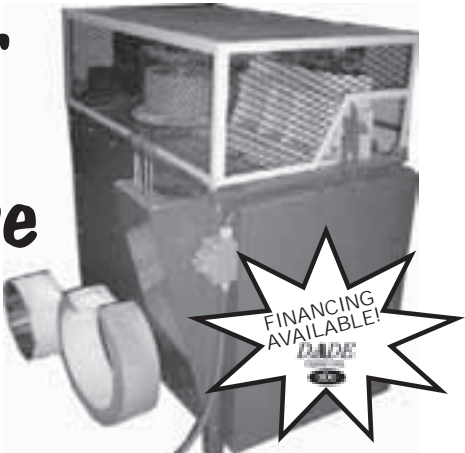
Crumb rubber as used in playgrounds and athletic field applications is an ever growing segment of the tire recycling industry. The responsibility to comply with long standing and recently enacted laws will affect how you market this material.

These and other workshops will be held at the Tire Summit. Go to [www.isriconvention.org](http://www.isriconvention.org) for details.



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METALS

Cities recycle over 115 million cans during national challenge

The U.S. Conference of Mayors, Novelis, Inc. and Keep America Beautiful, Inc. (KAB) announced the winners in the fifth annual Cans for Cash: City Recycling Challenge at the U.S. Conference of Mayors in Washington, DC.

To encourage recycling, the program challenges like-sized cities to compete against each other in aluminum can collection for monetary awards. During October 2008, more than 40 cities collected over 115 million used beverage cans.

The winners of the \$5,000 awards for the most aluminum cans recycled are:

- Division One (population 250,000+) Milwaukee, Wisconsin – 1,750,595 pounds, Mayor Tom Barrett.
- Division Two (population 100,000-249,999) Fontana, California – 266,271 pounds, Mayor Mark Nuami.

- Division Three (population 50,000-99,999) Hesperia, California – 1,120,660 pounds, Mayor Mike Leonard.
- Division Four (population below 50,000) University City, Missouri – 56,211 pounds, Mayor Joseph L. Adams.

To help mayors engage their communities in recycling and raise awareness about its importance over the long term, cities submitted innovative education and marketing ideas for an additional \$5,000 award. The cities being recognized for the most innovative campaigns are as follows:

- Division One: Lexington, Kentucky, Mayor Jim Newberry.
- Division Two: Irvine, California, Mayor Sukhee Kong.

- Division Three: North Miami, Florida, Mayor Kevin Burns.
- Division Four: Troy, Ohio, Mayor Mike Beamish.

The following winning cities will be awarded \$5,000 and their local Keep America Beautiful, Inc. affiliate will be awarded \$2,500:

- Division One: Louisville, Kentucky, Mayor Jerry E. Abramson.
- Division Two: Newport News, Virginia, Mayor Joseph Frank.
- Division Three: Gastonia, North Carolina, Mayor Jennie Stultz.
- Division Four: LaGrange, Georgia, Mayor Jeff Lukken.

For a complete list of cities that participated in the 2008 Cans for Cash program, view this article on [www.americanrecycler.com](http://www.americanrecycler.com).

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Georgia utilities offer reward for identification of copper thieves

Georgia's electric utilities are offering \$500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of individuals involved in the theft of copper and other metals from their property.

Copper thefts from substations, utility poles and lines continue to be a growing problem for the industry. These thefts threaten the reliability of the electric system. In addition, damaged lines pose a danger of electrocution to anyone in the area, including utility workers.

Any information could be vital to the identification of thieves. This problem affects many businesses throughout the

state, and the utilities are aggressively working with law enforcement agencies and scrap recyclers to apprehend the perpetrators. This reward is one tool to encourage the public's assistance.

Details such as a tag number, a physical description of a person or a car could be especially helpful. Anyone who observes suspicious activity around an electric substation or other utility facility is asked to contact the statewide copper theft hotline at 877-732-8717. If a theft is in progress, the witness should notify 911 first, then contact the hotline.



*Scrap Metals*  
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Commodity		Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5
#1 Bushelings	per gross ton	\$192.00	\$150.00	\$149.00	\$189.00	\$225.00
#1 Bundles	per gross ton	189.00	150.00	148.00	189.00	225.00
Plate and Structural	per gross ton	190.00	140.00	147.00	178.00	215.00
#1 & 2 Mixed Steel	per gross ton	220.00	135.00	150.00	185.00	175.00
Shredder Bundles (tin)	per gross ton	165.00	135.00	105.00	125.00	150.00
Crushed Auto Bodies	per gross ton	165.00	130.00	110.00	128.00	160.00
Steel Turnings	per pound	—	90.00	110.00	60.00	100.00
#1 Copper	per pound	1.30	1.32	1.38	1.34	1.35
#2 Copper	per pound	1.23	1.25	1.24	1.30	1.27
Aluminum Cans	per pound	.28	.33	.50	.38	.45
Auto Radiators	per pound	.92	.78	.73	.75	.87
Aluminum Core Radiators	per pound	.25	.22	.23	.30	.32
Heater Cores	per pound	.50	.59	.60	.69	.68
Stainless Steel	per pound	.35	.38	.39	.40	.44

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

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

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## AUTO

# Justice Department issues final VIN reporting rules

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) issued its final rules requiring scrap recyclers, junk yards, salvage yards and insurers to report salvage and junk vehicle identification numbers (VINs) to a national database. The rules can be found at [www.isri.org/nmvtis](http://www.isri.org/nmvtis).

By no later than March 31, 2009, and continuing on a monthly basis, any individual or entity engaged in the business of operating a junk yard or salvage yard, which by statutory definition includes scrap recyclers and shredders, within the United States shall provide, in a format yet to be determined, an inventory of all junk automobiles or salvage automobiles obtained in whole or in part during the prior month to the NMVTIS operator, which is currently the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA).

While the final rules outline the various responsibilities and reporting requirements for states, scrap recyclers, junk

yards and salvage yards, and insurance carriers, the rules do not outline how exactly this information must be transmitted to NMVTIS.

ISRI noted in its comments to the DOJ last fall that, unlike junk and salvage yards that use parts locator inventory systems referenced by DOJ as a likely reporting conduit, scrap recyclers do not sell parts and have no such uniformly-designed system in place to report this data to NMVTIS. What is certain is that, if a vehicle has been previously reported, a scrap recycler will not have to report to NMVTIS.

ISRI will be communicating the industry's concerns about the reporting mechanisms to the NMVTIS operator and working to ensure any system approved by the operator is compatible with current industry practices if at all possible.

Information on the NMVTIS system and approved reporting mechanisms is posted at [www.nmvtis.gov](http://www.nmvtis.gov).

## Opportunities fuel growth in the starters and alternators aftermarket

The demand from older vehicles continues to fuel replacement opportunities, especially for starters and alternators. Remanufacturing has evolved steadily over the years in North America.

New analysis from Frost & Sullivan North American Starters and Alternators Aftermarket, finds that the market earned

revenues of \$1.36 billion in 2007 and estimates this to reach \$1.27 billion in 2014.

Trends in the aftermarket indicate a preferred approach is to carry a single line, which will be the sole manufactured line, encompassing a host of vehicles.

For an overview brochure, see this article on [www.americanrecycler.com](http://www.americanrecycler.com).

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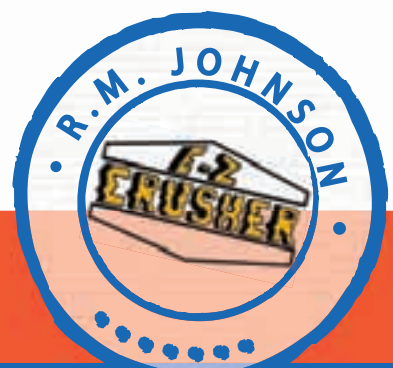
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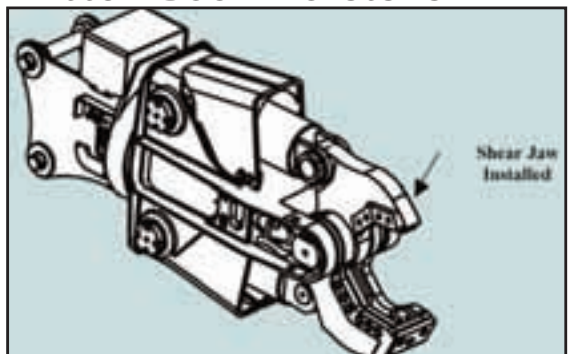
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## PLASTICS

### Program offers recycling option for Polypropylene #5

Recyclers with no place to go with their #5 polypropylene plastics have had few options – until now. The Preserve Gimme 5 program gives shoppers a convenient drop-off location for containers often not accepted at municipal recycling centers. The program, created by Preserve and offered through a partnership with Whole Foods Market, organic yogurt maker Stonyfield Farm, and Organic Valley, an organic, farmer-owned cooperative, launched January 27 in select Whole Foods Market locations.

Polypropylene #5 is a strong, lightweight, food-grade, easy-to-recycle plastic. It's commonly found in everything from yogurt and other dairy containers to hummus containers and medicine bottles. Grocery stores sell hundreds of products packaged in #5 plastic and it finds a home in millions of pantries and refrigerators. Yet, few communities have curbside #5 plastic collection. For those that do, many ship that plastic to Asia to be burned as energy. Collecting #5 plastic in stores and sending it to Preserve will limit the environmental footprint of this material and give it a second life as a new and useful Preserve product.

"This program will save thousands of pounds of #5 plastic from being sent to

landfills. We're thrilled to join this program and to empower our customers to increase their recycling efforts," said Jeremiah McElwee, senior Whole Body coordinator for Whole Foods Market.

The partnership between Preserve, Organic Valley and Stonyfield Farm reflects the three companies' shared commitment to protecting the environment. Preserve is the leading maker of performance-driven and stylish 100% recycled household products, including the Preserve toothbrush, razor, tableware, and the award-winning Preserve Kitchen line. Stonyfield has had an ongoing relationship with Preserve. Since 2000, the yogurt-maker has provided millions of yogurt cups and scrap plastic from its manufacturing facility and consumers to Preserve.

Common #5 plastics include packaging for yogurt, cottage cheese, cream cheese, ricotta cheese, margarine and hummus containers; medicine bottles; some plastic ice cream containers; and food storage and take-out containers. The number 5 should be plainly marked on the bottom of the container.

For additional items accepted by the Preserve program, visit [www.americanrecycler.com/gimme5](http://www.americanrecycler.com/gimme5).

*While attending a wedding, a young girl whispered to her mother, "Why is the bride dressed in white?"*

*"Because white is the color of happiness," her mother explained. "And today is the happiest day in her life."*

*The child thought about this for a moment. "So why is the groom wearing black?"*

## CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION

### New concrete offers lower-cost construction

Cement manufacturing is the fourth largest generator of greenhouse gases, but that may change thanks to a construction method that makes a new concrete without using cement.

A West Virginia Company just patented for a new construction technique that creates concrete using the tensile steel found in everything from used tires to mesh fabrics. This new process provides a tremendous cost-savings to builders for the construction of walls, foundations, site pads, driveways, roadways, dams and levees. But this method also finds a new purpose for one of the world's most plentiful waste products – tires. Developed by The Reinforced Aggregates Company of Morgantown, West Virginia, Mechanical Concrete combines crushed stone particles into a solid by using a thin cylinder – like you would find in a used tire – into a concrete building block. The process takes advantage of the natural way pieces of gravel and stone flow under pressure to instantly combine small stones into a solid concrete.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office awarded a patent to civil engineer and company founder, Samuel G. Bonasso, who discovered this unique method. "I discovered this idea while looking for a better way to dispose of used tires," Bonasso said. At the time, Bonasso was Secretary of Transportation for West Virginia and faced disposing a huge backlog of used automobile tires. "What a surprise to find that by removing the side-walls,



New concrete reduces cost by a minimum of 25 percent and is much faster.

I could make a mechanical version of concrete. Mechanical Concrete changes how we build with stone. From testing in the lab and with full scale projects, it's proven to be fast, simple, easy and economical."

Laboratory tests and field demonstrations of Mechanical Concrete have been conducted at West Virginia University College of Engineering and Mineral Resources, by the West Virginia Division of Highways, private engineers and in the natural resource industry. These projects show that Mechanical Concrete is not only much faster than regular concrete, but it also offers a minimum of 25 percent reduction in cost. "It can be designed to be as strong as necessary to support the desired loads," Bonasso said. "As an engineered material, its strength depends on the materials selected for the specific use."

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# Salvaging Millions

by Ron Sturgeon  
Autosalvageconsultant.com

## Virus on your computer? Yes, it can happen.

Week after week, one of my clients or friends loses their computer to a virus. They end up spending hours or days trying to get back to a state of normalcy. Fortunately, I have never lost a computer to a virus, but to make sure that you don't, you must:

- Have good virus detection software: I use Norton, but McAfee is just as good. There are a lot of "free" anti-virus programs out there, but saving a few dollars won't mean much if you lose vital computer data. Make certain you have set the software to scan frequently.
- Have a good software firewall to protect your network.
- Set your virus program to check for and install updates automatically.
- Update your operating system and other software.

No matter how good your virus protection is, you should be on guard against spoof e-mails. No one is fooled by a request from the Nigerian royal family to help get 100 million out of the country, but more sophisticated scammers can send e-mails that appear to be from reputable companies. PayPal sent out an excellent list of tips for detecting spoof e-mails.

### Ways to recognize spoof e-mails

**Generic greetings:** Many spoof e-mails begin with a general greeting, such as: "Dear PayPal member." If you do not see your first and last name, be suspicious and do not click on any links or button.

**A fake sender's address:** A spoof e-mail may include a forged e-mail address in the "From" field.

**A false sense of urgency:** Many spoof e-mails try to deceive you with the threat that your account is in jeopardy if you don't update it ASAP.

**Fake links:** Always check where a link is going before you click. Move your mouse over it and look at the URL in your browser or e-mail status bar.

If you click on a fraudulent link, it could:

- Direct you to a spoof website that tries to collect your personal data.
- Install spyware on your system. Spyware is an application that can enable a hacker to monitor your actions and steal any passwords or credit card numbers you type online.
- Cause you to download a virus that could disable your computer.

**E-mails that appear to be websites:** Some e-mails will look like a website in order to get you to enter personal information. PayPal never asks for personal information in an e-mail.

**Deceptive URLs:** Only enter your PayPal password on PayPal pages. These begin with <https://www.paypal.com/>

If you see an @ sign in the middle of a URL, there's a good chance this is a spoof. Legitimate companies use a domain name (e.g. <https://www.company.com>).

Even if a URL contains the word "PayPal," it may not be a PayPal site. Examples of deceptive URLs include: [www.paypalsecure.com](http://www.paypalsecure.com), [ww.paypal1.com](http://ww.paypal1.com) and [www.secure-paypal.com](http://www.secure-paypal.com).

Always log in to your bank or PayPal by opening a new web browser and typing in their web address. Never log in from an e-mail link.

**Misspellings and bad grammar:** Spoof e-mails often contain misspellings, incorrect grammar, missing words, and gaps in logic.

**Unsafe sites:** The term "https" should always precede any website address where you enter personal information. The "s" stands for secure. If you don't see "https," you're not in a secure web session.

**Pop-up boxes:** Beware of a pop-up box in an e-mail as pop-ups are not secure.

**Attachments:** Like fake links, attachments are frequently used in spoof e-mails and are dangerous. Never click on an attachment. It could cause you to download spyware or a virus.

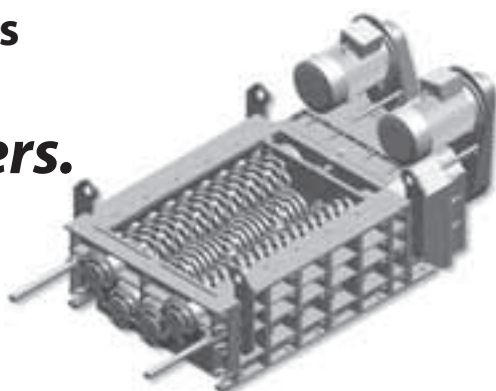
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*This article was provided by autosalvageconsultant.com, which was formed in 2001 by recyclers for recyclers, to help them improve their businesses.*

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## WASTE

# Senator introduces bill to promote biogas production

Nebraska's Senator Ben Nelson has introduced legislation that promotes the development of biogas through tax incentives.

"We already have the technology to break down these wastes to create biogas but it needs encouragement from the federal government to become a commercially-viable alternative to natural gas," said Nelson. "We shouldn't waste the waste; we should promote biogas development."

This legislation is cosponsored by Senators Mike Crapo of Idaho, Mike Johanns of Nebraska, Sherrod Brown of Ohio, John Thune of South Dakota, Ron Wyden of Oregon and Debbie Stabenow of Michigan.

Biogas is produced through technologies such as anaerobic digestion that can convert animal wastes and other agricultural or organic wastes into at least 50 percent methane. Biogas can be used as is on the farm or co-located with another facility such as an ethanol plant, or as a renewable substitute for natural gas, propane or other fossil fuels.

Nelson's legislation, the Biogas Production Incentives Act of 2009, would encourage greater production of biogas for energy purposes by providing biogas producers with a tax credit of \$4.27 for every million British thermal units of biogas produced. This could mean more jobs and a boon for rural communities.



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WASTE

Republic scales back expansion for Ohio landfill

Apex Environmental, LLC, has submitted a significantly revised application to Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for its proposed landfill expansion in Jefferson County. The revised application reduces the scope of the expansion request for Apex Sanitary Landfill, located one mile north of State Route 646 in Amsterdam.

The new application includes the following changes:

- Reduced daily waste receipts request – Apex is now requesting an increase from 5,250 tons per day to 7,500 tons per day.
- Reduced vertical expansion for Northern Slope of landfill – Apex has proposed to alter its engineering plans to keep the existing 4-to-1 grade in place on the northern slope of the landfill. This means that the buried waste under 12 acres of the northern slope would not receive any new waste and would not need to be uncovered. Apex is still asking to vertically expand the landfill by 75 feet by changing the other three sides of the landfill to 3-to-1 grades for both existing and yet-to-be constructed areas of the landfill.

•Commitment to install odor control measures – Apex has provided additional information on what measures it plans to employ in order to control odors at the landfill. The company has proposed an odor management plan that includes controlling odors from the active disposal operations and installation of the landfill gas collection and control system. This system will work to capture migratory gas that may contribute to any odors.

The company's original application requested permission to increase its authorized maximum daily waste receipts from 5,250 tons per day to 10,000 tons per day. Apex also had requested permission to increase the height of the landfill by 75 feet by increasing the steepness of the slopes. Ohio EPA held a public information session on November 13, 2008, regarding Apex's original application.

Ohio EPA is currently reviewing the technical aspects of Apex's newly submitted application. If the application meets all requirements, Ohio EPA will issue Apex a draft permit-to-install and will hold another information session and public hearing.

EPA orders company to end operations at Louisiana site

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in coordination with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ), has ordered Global Environmental Methods to cease all operations at their waste oil and industrial process waste management and treatment facility in New Iberia, Louisiana.

The facility, located at 4918 South Lewis Street, is in violation of its discharge permit issued by the LDEQ.

On February 4, 2009, EPA and LDEQ representatives conducted an inspection at the facility during which numerous deficiencies and discrepancies were observed, all in violation of the requirements of their state issued permit.

These deficiencies and discrepancies included inadequate treatment of process wastewater and waste oil, and discharge volumes significantly greater than the total available treatment and storage capacity. Inspectors also noted the current treatment process varied significantly from the treatment process described in the discharge permit application submitted to LDEQ and were unable to determine the facility's compliance status with the permit due to lack of documentation.

Inspection also observed 27 55-gallon drums in poor condition and some were leaking. The contents of the drums were not consistent with drum labeling. Soil staining, indicating a release of petroleum waste, was observed in several areas throughout the facility and included a path that led directly to Commercial Channel which discharges to Vermilion Bay. The facility's wastewater treatment system was leaking pollutants suspected to be hazardous waste.

Based on these findings, EPA has ordered Global Environmental Methods to cease all operations at the facility, including discharges of wastes or any process water and stop accepting any waste material for storage or treatment. Global Environmental Methods has also been ordered to notify EPA and the state within 15 days of the details and efforts conducted to cease and desist all operations at the facility and within 30 days submit a report to EPA and LDEQ detailing all actions to comply with the order.

Global Energy Systems acquires WoodTech

Global Energy Systems, a subsidiary of Global Energy Holdings Group, Inc., announced the execution of a definitive agreement to acquire Georgia-based wood fuel and landscape materials processor, WoodTech, LLC, and affiliated entities.

Currently, the Canton-based company has equipment capacity in operation to produce over 900,000 tons of biomass per year and has the planned expansion in Ball Ground, Georgia to be completed later this year. At completion, the facility will result in one of Georgia's largest independent wood biomass products producers with capacity to produce over 1,225,000 tons of biomass products per year.

Adjacent to the biomass recycling center, Global Energy plans to install a wood waste gasifier capable of converting up to 20 percent of the facility's biomass into syngas. This syngas will be used to fuel a steam boiler that will power a steam turbine generator. Fully operational, the biomass power plant will generate approximately 20MW of green electricity for sale to a local utility.

Waste Connections reports on fourth quarter

Waste Connections, Inc. announced its results for the fourth quarter 2008. Revenue totaled \$259.6 million, a 4.8 percent increase over revenue of \$247.7 million in the year ago period. Operating income was \$49.3 million versus \$49.7 million in 2007. Net income in the quarter was \$27.9 million, or \$0.34 per share on a diluted basis of 81.0 million shares.

For the year ended December 31, 2008, revenue was \$1.05 billion, a 9.5 percent increase over revenue of \$958.5 million in the year ago period. Operating income was \$212.4 million versus \$207.0 million for the same period in 2007.

Net income for the year ended December 31, 2008, was \$105.6 million, or \$1.48 per share on a diluted basis of 71.4 million shares.

Waste Connections also announced its outlook for 2009 assuming no change in the current economic environment or additional transaction costs.

•Revenue is estimated to increase 14.5 percent to approximately \$1.2 billion.

•Depreciation and amortization is estimated to be 10.5 percent of revenue.

•Operating income is estimated to be approximately 20.5 percent of revenue.

•Capital expenditures are estimated to be approximately \$125 million.

•Diluted shares outstanding are expected to average approximately 81 million.

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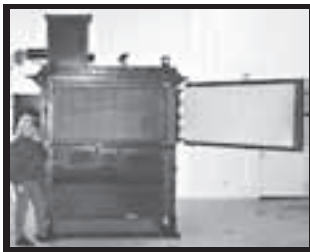
AK8500



AK8000



AK7000



AK6000



Model No.	Capacity Example	Holding Chamber (approx. weight)
AK3500	8-9 transmissions	500-600 lbs.
AK5500	15-16 transmissions	750-800 lbs.
AK6000	20-22 transmissions	850-900 lbs.
AK7000	40-45 transmissions	1,200-1,500 lbs.
AK8000	50-55 transmissions	3,000-3,200 lbs.
AK8500	70-80 transmissions	4,500-5,000 lbs.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Helmut Wiedemann joins MeWa board of directors

■ Helmut Wiedemann was appointed a director of MeWa and Helmut Oberguggenberger has been given power of sole representation.

In line with corporate growth, MeWa has adapted its organizational structures further to increased market demands. In this context, Helmut Wiedemann was appointed a member of the board of directors, effective at the beginning of 2009. In future, Wiedemann will manage the company alongside the managing partners Heimo Wabnig, Helmut Oberguggenberger and Ulrich Hink. Helmut Wiedemann has already been active in the company for several years as the head of design engineering and operations.

Oberguggenberger joined the company as a management assistant. It was only a short time before he was given power of attorney, and Helmut Oberguggenberger has been a member of the company management since 2005.

NRRA announces new interim executive director

■ Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA) appointed Michael Durfor of Harbor Hill Consulting, Sunapee, New Hampshire as their interim executive director to carry out the executive director responsibilities while the board of trustees searches for a permanent replacement.

Durfor is in charge of completing a full and comprehensive review of NRRA operations with the goal of charting the future course for the organization. In addition, he will assist the board in outlining a long-term strategic plan. Durfor brings a lifetime of commitment to the environment and recycling, and a wealth of professional management experience with which to assess and recommend goals and objectives given the current volatility in all NRRA markets.

*Don't take life too seriously; No one gets out alive.*

Universal Stainless hires William Beible, Jr.

■ Universal Stainless & Alloy Products, Inc. announced that William W. Beible, Jr. has joined the Company in the newly-created position of senior vice president of operations. Beible will be responsible for all of the Company's manufacturing operations, Bridgeville, Titusville and Dunkirk Specialty Steel, as well as engineering and supply chain management.

Beible has broad and in-depth experience in manufacturing, engineering, capital project management and systems development. At his most recent employer, Carpenter Technology Corporation, he served as vice president of manufacturing, specialty alloys operations.

From 2003 to 2005, Beible was with Glatfelter, a global supplier of specialty papers and engineered products, serving as vice president of business improvement and vice president of information technology.

Vega Promotional acquires Natural Fuels Industries

■ Vega Promotional Systems, Inc. announced it has completed its acquisition of Montana based, alternative energy manufacturer, Natural Fuels Industries in an all stock transaction.

Natural Fuels Industries (NFI) manufactures various products including energy efficient pellet fuel made from organic waste bi-products. The Company's current expansion includes building manufacturing plants in various international locations that will produce bio-mass products and bio-diesel products for power generation units. It is estimated that in the next five years the bio mass industry will become a \$20 billion industry.

MONTHLY CROSSWORD

BY Myles Mellor

SOLUTION FOUND ON PG A22

ACROSS

1. The end product of a compaction process

4. \_\_\_ ton, 2,240 pounds

7. Plastic bottles and petroleum products are turned into this material for clothing and carpet

11. Conceptions

13. Great boxer

14. "He's a good \_\_\_ boy..."

16. \_\_\_colysis, a process that stops short of complete depolymerization

17. It's in a jamb

18. Unusual

19. Waste \_\_\_\_, a program initiated by EPA in 1994 to assist businesses in taking cost-effective actions to reduce waste through waste prevention

21. Designate

22. Formal address

24. Event controller (abbr.)

25. Waste \_\_\_\_, the total flow of waste materials from homes, industry and community activities

26. Temperature control

27. Environmental group

28. Land tract

30. Person, place or thing

32. Recycling cart color

33. \_\_\_ cards, the components of Municipal Solid Waste remaining after recovery for recycling and composting

35. Waste \_\_\_\_, the process of identifying types of items in a waste stream

37. Retriever, for short

39. Type of plant that provides simultaneous generation of heat and power

41. \_\_\_ and void

42. Refers to a plastic used to make bottles for milk, juice, water and laundry products

43. Get used to

46. Battery size

47. Gold symbol

48. Behold's partner

49. Long time periods

52. Berkeley, for example

53. Crushed glass

55. Shredded rubber description

57. Dangerous metal for health

59. Time approximation

61. \_\_\_ amenity site, an area where members of the public can bring rubbish to be thrown away, recycled or reused

64. Trendy

65. Most of these are polymers

66. \_\_\_ waste, garbage

DOWN

1. \_\_\_ molding, a widely used process for the production of hollow thermoplastic shapes

2. \_\_\_- ion battery

3. Perimeter

4. Be in bed

5. Operating system, abbr.

6. \_\_\_ warming, the increase in the average measured temperature of the Earth's near-surface air and oceans

7. Organic veggies origin, perhaps

8. Obama state

9. \_\_\_degradable, items which decay naturally into harmless substances

10. Recycle, \_\_\_\_, re-use

12. \_\_\_ Capitan

15. Without firmness

17. Owing

20. Glances over

21. Humor type

23. Authentic

25. Be quiet!

26. Surface space

27. \_\_\_ market, any product that utilizes post-consumer plastic

29. Select

31. Quality surrounding a person

32. Heat measurement

34. Lead by influence

36. Deeply invested

38. Sheep cry

39. This, in Paris

40. These are manufactured primarily from solid lumber

42. A company that transports post-consumer plastic and other materials to another processor

44. Airhead

45. A common plastic resin used in beverage containers

46. Banking machine

50. Raleigh locale

51. The elder

53. \_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_, construction and demolition debris

54. All, individually

56. \_\_\_ paper, commonly called white office paper

58. Paid announcements

60. Type of ray that SPF's target

62. The way it \_\_\_

63. \_\_\_-collection, the collection of bagged recyclables together with other municipal garbage

64. 2nd in a line of kings

Events

Calendar

March 22nd-24th

C&D World 2009 Exhibition & Conference, Annual Meeting of (CMRA). Tampa Convention Center, Tampa, Florida. 630-585-7530 • www.cdrecycling.org

April 26th-30th

2009 ISRI Convention. Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada. 202-662-8500 • www.isriconvention.org

April 29th-May 1st

7th Annual CARE Conference. The National Conference Center, Lansdowne, Virginia. 706-428-2127 • www.carpetrecovery.org

May 3rd-6th

Battery Council International's 121st Convention. Red Rock Resort, Las Vegas, Nevada. 312-644-6610 www.batterycouncil.org

May 17th-19th

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

May 26th-29th

Wastetech-2009. International Exhibition Center Crocus Expo, Russia. +7 495 225 5986 • www.w2009.sibico.com

June 3rd-4th

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

June 8th-9th

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

June 8th-11th

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

August 7th-9th

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

October 28th-29th

Canadian Waste & Recycling Expo. Vancouver Convention & Exhibition Centre, Vancouver, British Columbia. 877-534-7285 • www.cwre.ca



BUSINESS BRIEFS

SCADA celebrates fifty years in existence

■ The State of California Auto Dis-mantlers Association (SCADA) is celebrating its fiftieth year as the statewide voice of the vehicle recycling industry in California throughout 2009.

ADVERTISER INDEX

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A17	Aluminum King	#1004
A8	ARPI	#1017
A10	Call Shaughnessy	#1037
A5	Caster Ranch	#1214
A6	CF Forks	#1029
B5	CRT Heaven	#1247
A13	DADE Capital	#1000
A6	Ely Enterprises	#1049
B1	Excel Manufacturing	#1050
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A14	Government Liquidation	#1057
A11	Granutech-Saturn	#1199
A17	Heartland Aluminum	#1081
A9	International Fabricating	#1090
A23	Iron Ax, Inc.	#1091
A9, B7	ISRI	#1085
B3	Jordan Reduction	#1117
A2	Maurer Mfg.	#1059
A7	National Recycling	#1087
A24	OverBuilt, Inc.	#1125
A4	Pemberton	#1132
A5	Recycle Depot	#1207
A10	Recycling Services	#1134
A12	RM Johnson Co.	#1143
A2	SAS Forks	#1147
A3	Sebright	#1194
A15	Sierra	#1140
A11	Steco	#1159
A19	Sterner	#1161
A7	Taylor Machinery	#1168
A3	Tire Service Equipment	#1174
A16	Tryco Intl.	#1176
A5	Windsor Barrel Works	#1221
B4	MeWa	#1079

State-of-the-art recycling facility opens in Pittsburg

■ Mt. Diablo Recycling Center is fully enclosed, and at 90,000 square feet in size is the “next generation” in recycling facilities. Operated by high-tech computers, Mt. Diablo Recycling Center is a series of belts, filters and slides that separate the incoming materials. There is even a new machine which uses heavy-duty magnets to automatically separate out aluminum, tin and other metals.

The facility is owned and operated by Mary Garaventa and the Garaventa family in Pittsburg, California.

“Going green is not new to our family,” said Sil Garaventa, Jr., CEO of Garaventa Enterprises. Garaventa’s grandfather, Andrew Moresco, operated a one-truck garbage route in the 1930s. “My grandfather was the original recycler – recycling glass bottles, cans, rags and other products,” Garaventa said.

Because Mt. Diablo Recycling Center processes all recyclables in a single stream, utilizing new high-tech computer equipment, recyclable materials no longer need to be manually separated – significantly increasing the amount of materials recovered and turned into new products.

AssetNation appoints Dave Dawson as CEO

■ AssetNation, Inc. announced that Dave Dawson will lead the company as chief executive officer.

A seasoned executive with more than 20 years of experience working with supply chain, procurement and technology-enabled auction platforms, Dawson brings a wealth of expertise to the AssetNation team and its global network of customers. Dawson will provide oversight, direction and leadership to AssetNation’s business lines including SalvageSale and AssetAuctions.

Prior to joining AssetNation, Dawson was an executive at Dell where he was responsible for inbound supply chain strategy, supply chain services and a global sourcing organization that managed \$45 billion in online commerce. Prior to joining Dell he was the vice president of Global Sourcing Services for Ariba-FreeMarkets where he led teams in Asia, Europe and the Americas executing \$35 billion of online auctions.

Brian Nadel promoted to president of Marathon

■ Marathon Equipment, a division of Dover Industrial Products, announced the promotion of Brian Nadel to the position of operating company president, effective February 9, 2009. Nadel will be working through a transition with Gordon Shaw who recently announced his retirement.

Nadel has served as the vice-president and general manager of Paladin Heavy Construction since June 1, 2007. During that time, he implemented a number of business improvement activities, rationalized the product offering and initiated several very effective new product development programs.

Prior to joining Paladin and Dover, Nadel was the general manager of Parker Hannifin’s Hydraulic Gear Pump Division. Before Parker Hannifin, he spent 12 years with TRW in a number of increasingly responsible roles including two years in England as director of operations for Europe.

Nadel will be relocating to Marathon’s headquarters located in Vernon, Alabama area.

Safety-Kleen acquires Atlantic Industrial Services

■ Safety-Kleen Systems, Inc., has acquired the assets of Atlantic Industrial Services, Inc. (AIS), headquartered in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, one of the largest collectors and recyclers of used oil, oil filters and antifreeze in the Southeast. The acquisition includes ten Atlantic locations.

Neenah Enterprises closes Gregg Industries

■ Neenah Enterprises, Inc. announced the decision of NEI’s board to close its Gregg Industries, Inc. facility due to the poor economy and declining sales. Gregg Industries, Inc., located in El Monte, California, is a manufacturer of iron castings for trucks and heavy machinery.

“Most of the remaining 225 workers at Gregg will receive notices this week that the plant will close approximately in mid-May 2009. We are acting in accordance with the United States Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act (WARN) and California regulations, giving employees 60 days notice of our closure,” stated Jeff Hillier, vice president and general manager of Gregg Industries.

Oakleaf appoints senior VP, general counsel

■ Oakleaf has appointed Greg Pastore to the position of senior vice president, general counsel. Pastore will be responsible for managing all the legal matters of Oakleaf and its four subsidiaries.

Prior to joining Oakleaf, Pastore served as vice president, general counsel and secretary for Friendly Ice Cream Corporation. He was chiefly responsible for all legal, employee relations, and security matters for the publicly traded restaurant, manufacturing, and retail distribution company. Pastore was instrumental in negotiating the sale of Friendly’s in 2007.

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www.andelaproducts.com



## CHICAGO PNEUMATIC LAUNCHES HYDRAULIC POWER PACKS

Chicago Pneumatic's new hydraulic power packs are built with foldable handles and large wheels for simple maneuverability, allowing hydraulic tools to be used in confined spaces and remote areas. With service weights ranging from just 143 to 256 lbs., the packs can be easily moved.

The PAC P9 and PAC P13, equipped with 9 h.p. and 13 h.p. Honda gasoline engines, feature a power-on-demand (POD) system. POD increases the engine speed only when a tool is being used, which reduces fuel consumption and extends equipment service life.

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www.cpconstructiontoolsusa.com



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Heil introduced an improved design of the MultiTask SL drop frame side loader that increases efficiency. The MultiTask SL is a 3-in-1 refuse collection vehicle featuring dual side-loading capability that allows operators to collect containers in manual, semi-automated and automated modes. It reduces the time needed to collect a standard route of residential waste by 20 percent with single-operator capability.

An optional, TeleGrip™ lift arm can be utilized on automated and semi-automated vehicles to increase efficiencies. The TeleGrip arm features cycle time ranging from 8-20 seconds and 88" of reach.

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## MOHAWK LIFTS' JACK STANDS MEET ANSI/PALD STANDARDS

Mohawk Lifts has announced the certification of their low, medium, and full height Mobile Jacks Stands, which have been ETL certified to pass ANSI/PALD standards.

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1993 Liebherr R932 (Crawler) 45' Reach Elev Cab, Gen Set & Grapple

2000 Caterpillar M318 MH (Rubber) 35' Reach Hyd Cab, Gen Set

2002 Caterpillar M325B MH (Rubber) 50' Reach Elev Cab, Gen Set & Grapple

2004 Caterpillar 345B MH (Crawler) 56' Reach Elev Cab, Gen Set

1994 Caterpillar 375L MH (Crawler) 55' Reach Elev Cab, Gen Set

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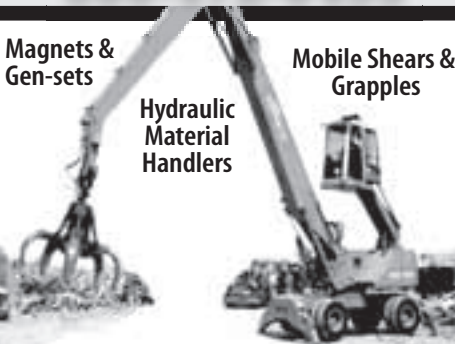
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2001 & 1998 FUCHS MHL 331 (rubber), 35' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.

2001 FUCHS MHL340 REBUILT (rubber) 41' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.

Rebuildable 2004 FUCHS MHL360 (rubber), hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple, 14,000 hours but is operational.

1994 & 1995 FUCHS MHL350 REBUILT (rubber) 50' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.

2004 & 2008 COLMAR 5500 AUTO LOGGER/BALER with 18 1/2' chamber, crane and grapple.

1997 MAC portable car crusher.

2003 SENNEBOGEN 835M (RUBBER), 54' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.

2003 SENNEBOGEN 830R REBUILT (crawler), hydraulic cab, A/C, gen-set and grapple.

2000 & 2001 SENNEBOGEN 830M REBUILT (rubber), 50' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.

2005 CAT M325C REBUILT (rubber) with 50' reach, hydraulic cab, A/C, gen-set and grapple.

2003 CAT M322 (rubber), 42' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.

2005 ATLAS 1905M (rubber), hydraulic cab, A/C, gen-set and grapple.

2003 & 2004 ATLAS 1804 (rubber), 53' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.

2005 LIEBHERR R934BEW (crawler) 50' reach, 4' cab riser, gen-set and rotating grapple

2001 LIEBHERR A934 REBUILT (rubber) 49' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.

2001 LIEBHERR A924 REBUILT (rubber), 40' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.

2001 LIEBHERR A904 REBUILT (rubber), 38' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple

2000 LIEBHERR R914 REBUILT (crawler), 38' reach, 4' cab riser, gen-set and grapple.

2000 LIEBHERR A904 REBUILT (rubber), 35' reach, 4' cab riser, gen-set and grapple.

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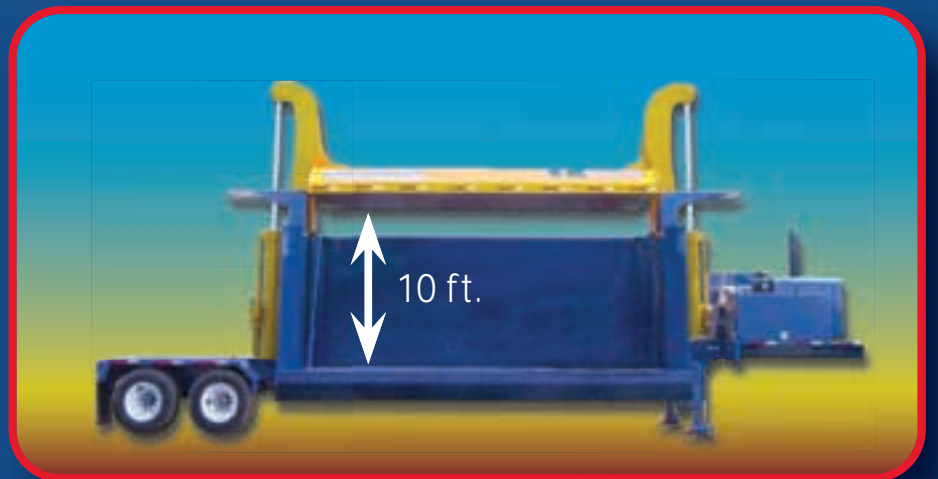
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## Websites aid recovery of e-waste

by BRIAN R HOOK

bhook@americanrecycler.com

Consumers often do not know where to take their old electronics. They've heard that throwing old computers, TVs and mobile phones in the garbage have the potential to harm the environment once the gadgets reach the landfill. Therefore, many consumers store their old electronics in drawers, closets, basements or garages.

"I think there is hesitancy among consumers to expend too much effort to get rid of electronics that they no longer want," said Tom Muhs, president and chief manager at Engaged Recycling LLC. "It's more convenient to just leave them in the basement."

More recycling operators like Engaged Recycling, through its website MyBoneYard.com, are trying to counter this hesitancy by providing consumers with ways to recycle their old electronics. The Minneapolis-based recycler launched its online e-recycling effort at the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas in January last year.

MyBoneYard.com offers consumers free shipping for old electronics and in some cases rewards, which includes payments on a pre-paid Visa card. "Once you get consumers started in the process, even when you can't offer a reward, they are more willing to package it up and make sure it is responsibly recycled," Muhs said.

Engaged Recycling is a partnership between Young America Corp., Eco International LLC and The Wireless Source, Inc. Young America is a sweepstakes and rebates company. Eco International recycles larger electronic devices, such as computers and televisions, and the Wireless Source handles mobile phones and music players.

"MyBoneYard.com is truly the simple, safe and smart way to recycle electronics," Muhs said. The process is simple because it is online. It is safe because every device is sent directly into owner-operated facilities for recycling or reselling. Muhs said it is smart because it

See WEB RECOVERY, Page B2



CRT Heaven's Angel unit uses high-speed, diamond-tipped blades to separate the leaded funnel glass from the unleaded panel glass, resulting in two separate streams of specialized glass that can be reprocessed and used to manufacture new products.

## CRT demanufacturing receives high-tech help

by MIKE BRESLIN

mbreslin@americanrecycler.com

Cathode ray tubes (CRTs) have been around since the dawn of television. They managed to smoothly transition to computers as monitors, and to date, billions of CRTs have been manufactured. However, they are now being rapidly supplanted by flat-screen liquid crystal displays (LCDs) and plasmas. The latest generation CRTs offer superb image quality, but they are big, heavy and deep, because the larger the screen size, the longer the tube.

The fall of the CRT has also been affected by the transition from analog to digital

broadcasting that has sped the sale of DTV-ready LCDs. As a result, tens of millions of old television and computer monitors need to be handled – not go into landfills and not be exported as whole units to countries where unsound practices expose workers and the environment to toxic substances such as lead, mercury, cadmium and PCBs. Depending on screen size, a CRT can contain several pounds of lead and interior phosphor coatings sealed in a vacuum tube.

Steve Fuelberth, CEO of Luminous Recycling in Denver, explained his state's dilemma, "In Colorado, residential electronics are not banned from landfills, but we are

working on regulations to stop it. If a business tries to put electronics in trash, it is considered hazardous waste – it cannot be sent to our landfills and a fee must be paid for proper disposal." With regulations pending in many other states and cities, it is likely that all CRTs will eventually be banned from landfills.

There is recycling equipment on the market that crushes CRTs in sealed chambers and separates the metal components from the glass. The result is a mixed stream of both leaded and unleaded glass that can be smelted for lead content.

See CRT TECHNOLOGY, Page B6

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## A Letter from the Editor

Readers,

Looks good, doesn't it? The new layout I mean. For those of you who haven't noticed yet (I know you all turn to this column straightaway) take some time to turn back to the front page and admire the lovely new Focus Section header and the crisp new headlines. After you've taken it all in, flip back and read on.

The new Focus Section is more than just a pretty face. We've striven to make it more functional and helpful as well. To that end we've made additional changes, like listing authors' e-mail addresses at the top of articles. Now if you have a question about a particular article you can contact them directly. Of course, if you're too shy to talk to the writers, I'm still more than happy to field any and all of your questions.

Also, some of the articles we publish for you are just too chock full of information to fit in one media. To make sure you have access to the overflow, look for new informational bars at the end of certain articles that point you to the story on our website to learn more. Just log onto the internet and visit our website, AmericanRecycler.com to access all of the extras we can't fit in print.

Of course, we couldn't just change the Focus Section and ignore the Main. So you'll find that all of the new features have made their way over there as well. I hope that you find them helpful.

Changes to American Recycler aside, I'd like to pick everyone's brain a bit. As you all are probably aware, President Obama recently passed a multi-billion dollar economic stimulus package. I want to know what American Recycler readers think about it.

Do you feel motivated by the legislation to go out and hire more workers or make capital improvements? Will this legislation have a large impact on the salvage and recycling markets due to the infrastructure improvement portion of the bill, or for any other reason? How will this affect your business in particular? Do you think the stimulus effort is over the top, or not enough?

So sound off. Send me an e-mail and tell me what you think of the stimulus and the economy. If you think you've got a better solution to the economic crisis, outline it for me. If it gets published and later wins a Nobel Prize, I may even give you credit for it. Nah, I'm kidding. I'll probably take all of the credit.

Enjoy the new layout. Drop me a line if you have any questions, concerns or opinions, and fill me in on your economic outlook.

Until next time,



Dave Fournier  
Focus Section Editor  
david@americanrecycler.com

# Technology makes environmentally responsible battery chargers possible

Supporting objectives to reduce the number of battery chargers discarded with portable devices such as cellphone handsets, GPS receivers and personal media players, STMicroelectronics has introduced improved smaller-dimension circuit-protection devices to enable safer use of universal chargers.

With 1 billion cell phone handsets, or more, expected to be shipped in 2010, initiatives such as the Chinese government's requirement for mobile devices

to provide a USB port for charging may reduce the environmental burden of many millions of battery chargers. Dedicated chargers typically become useless when the accompanying portable devices reach end of life. At best they may be sent for recycling, but most often they may be disposed of incorrectly or simply kept in a drawer performing no useful function. In any case, demand for a new charger with every new portable device effectively increases the environ-

mental impact of the global consumer-electronics industry.

Due to these and other factors, 17 wireless operators and cellular handset manufacturers have agreed to standardize chargers by 2012 for most cell phones shipped.

The manufacturers include AT&T, Motorola, Nokia, Samsung, Sony Ericsson and Vodafone, among others, with iPhone-maker Apple conspicuously absent from the list.

## Web recovery

■Continued from Page B1

offers rewards that encourage consumers to recycle.

Without much in the way of promotion, more consumers are starting to use MyBoneYard.com. "We haven't put a lot of effort behind marketing. It has just been word-of-mouth," Muhs said. "Our focus has been in creating private-label and co-branded versions for clients that include manufacturers, retailers and charitable organizations."

Clients include the Army & Air Force Exchange Service, the USO, the Humane Society and others. The groups have the capability to track recycling donations.

Engaged Recycling has one facility that is responsible for phones, music players, GPS devices and other small electronics. Those items, shipped by United States Postal Service, go to a facility near Detroit. Larger items, shipped by UPS, go to one of three facilities located

in either New York, Texas or California. Muhs said the company is also in the process of building a network of drop-off locations at various retail locations.

The old electronics are sent to owner-operated facilities where the product is triaged and then data-cleared. All hard drives, for example, are pulled from every computer and the data is destroyed. Drives intended for repurposing go through an automated process, where the drives are erased, written full with dummy data, erased, rewritten again and erased one final time. Unusable hard drives are shredded.

"We feel it is important to have a closed-loop process, where we know what is going on," Muhs said. "We make sure we are independently audited and certified."

TechForward, Inc. also has a plan to help consumers get rid of unwanted electronics at TechForward.com. It offers consumers buyback plans. But the company does not consider itself a recycler, said Jade Van Doren, chief executive officer.

While recyclers provide an outlet for old or broken devices, Van Doren said most recyclers do not offer value back to consumers for their products. Others, like trade-in services, take working devices that consumers no longer want, but only give the consumer a fraction of the market value. In contrast, he said, TechForward offers to lock-in the trade-in values upfront for consumers at the time of sale of the original device.

"Our customers know how much they can get back for their devices if and when they decide to upgrade," Van Doren said. "Our Guaranteed Buyback plans help customers upgrade their consumer electronics more affordably, easily and environmentally responsibly by guaranteeing future trade-in values for electronics at the point and time of sale, making the return process easy with free return shipping."

Van Doren said the downturn in the economy is not hurting the Los Angeles-based company, which uses a network of partners to receive, refurbish, resell and recycle the devices. He said that TechForward expects to see higher volumes this year.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency estimates that 68 percent of consumers throw old devices in drawers, closets or basements when they are done with them. "We believe that's because they have no clear path for what to do with them," Van Doren said. "We provide such a path upfront when they first purchase their device."

There is a growing awareness among consumers of the need for recycling electronics, said Parker Brugge, vice president of environmental affairs at the Consumer Electronics Association (CEA). Research by the Arlington, Virginia-based trade group reveals that 87 percent of consumers think that recycling electronics is important.

Brugge said that the industry is trying to draw attention to the need for electronics recycling and give clear information on why and how to recycle. CEA promotes electronics recycling to consumers through its online resource, myGreenElectronics.org, which includes a zip-code searchable database of electronics recyclers nationwide.

"Nearly all major electronics manufacturers have introduced or expanded their electronics recycling programs over the last year," Brugge said. "However, it is the CEA's position that a federal solution is needed to help make electronics recycling easy."

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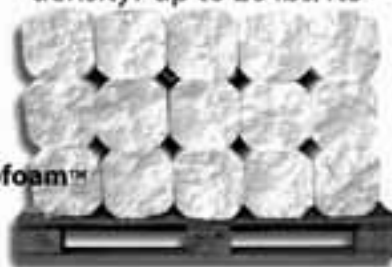


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# Sprint sets 90 percent wireless recycling goal

Sprint has announced the wireless carrier's goal of reaching a 90 percent phone collection rate for reuse/recycling compared with annual wireless device sales by 2017. With more than 140 million cell phones discarded every year in the United States, the need for responsible wireless phone recycling is greater than ever. Sprint has instituted a "Zero e-Waste" policy with the providers who receive and process the recycled phones it collects, ensuring they are recycled safely, ethically and responsibly.

"This is a challenge for the entire industry," said Dan Hesse, Sprint CEO. "Sprint is the first to set an aggressive 90 percent recovery goal. Sprint is committed to leading the industry in conserving natural resources, decreasing energy use and lowering greenhouse gas emissions."

A recent Sprint survey examining consumers' mobile phone recycling habits found that 9 out of 10 surveyed own at least 1 and as many as 5 old, unused mobile phones. To encourage consumers to recycle their unused wireless devices, Sprint offers two free and easy programs: Sprint Buyback and Sprint Project Connect.

Sprint customers can participate in the Sprint Buyback program by going to [www.sprint.com/recycle](http://www.sprint.com/recycle) or calling toll-free 866-364-5680 or going to any of the more than 1,200 Sprint-owned retail stores nationwide. The wireless device recovery effort allows customers to return eligible Sprint or Nextel devices for account credits.

•Anyone can recycle with Sprint Project Connect. The program accepts all wireless phones, batteries, accessories and data cards, regardless of carrier or condition. Postage-paid envelopes

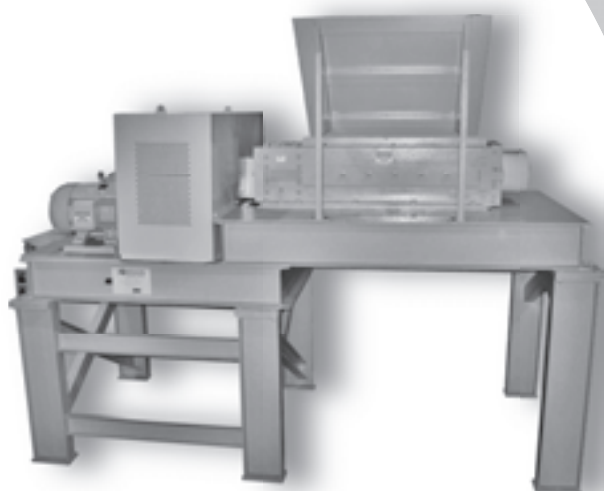
*In 2008, Sprint collected more than 3 million units, equal to 34 percent of devices sold, an increase from 22 percent in 2007. More than 90 percent of the handsets collected were reused.*

are available at any Sprint-owned retail store, and are included in the box with most new phones sold by Sprint. Postage-paid mailing labels are also available at [www.sprint.com/recycle](http://www.sprint.com/recycle). Since 2001, Sprint's recycling and reuse programs have raised more than \$6 million for charities. Today, all net proceeds generated from the wireless equipment collected by Sprint Project Connect support Internet safety for kids through Sprint's 4NetSafety<sup>SM</sup> program. Charitable partners include the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and the NEA Health Information Network.

In 2008, Sprint collected more than 3 million units, equal to 34 percent of devices sold, an increase from 22 percent in 2007. Of the handsets that Sprint collected in 2008, more than 90 percent were reused.

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# Cox partners with Redemtech

Cox Enterprises announced an eCycling partnership with Redemtech. The program will enhance Cox's environmentally-responsible disposal of electronic waste (e-waste), while also providing secure treatment of customer and company data.

To promote the program, Cox held an Employee eCycle Collection Day at six Atlanta locations. Cox employees brought more than 7 tons – 14,343 pounds – of used home electronics to the events so Redemtech could ensure it was donated to charity, resold into secondary markets or properly recycled. Proceeds from the resale of equipment will be used to fund additional collection events and technology donation initiatives.

Once fully implemented across all Cox business units, the eCycling program is projected to divert more than 1.8 million pounds of e-waste from landfills each year. According to EPA Electronics Environmental Benefits Calculator computations, the program will conserve enough energy to power 3,500 households per year and achieve greenhouse gas reductions equivalent to removing nearly 2,500 passenger cars from the road for a year.

Redemtech will serve as the exclusive partner managing a comprehensive asset recovery program across Cox Enterprises and its subsidiaries.

*People are funny. They want the front of the bus, middle of the road, and the back of the church.*



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# EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

## Separation systems

by MARK HENRICKS

mhenricks@americanrecycler.com

In 2007 the United States recycling industry processed 1.8 million tons of computers and other electronics. The stream includes valuable materials such as plastic, glass, steel and precious metals, but also less desirable matter such as lead from computer monitors and harmful chemicals contained in circuit boards and other components. Separating the good from the bad is, therefore, a major challenge for electronics recyclers.

Dennis Ciccotelli, sales manager for Steinert US in Clearwater, Florida said Steinert's equipment for separat-



SSI Shredding Systems, Inc.

ing electronic scrap differs from equipment for other types of processing primarily in the equipment's width. "In some cases we're using two and three-meter wide systems for auto processing. We have machines that go down to a half-meter wide that are being used for e-scrap," he said. Steinert's systems are essentially modular that can be changed to fit requirements, for instance, for different power needs or corrosion resistance.

Steinert uses neodymium over-band magnets to separate ferrous materials from shredded e-scrap. "We take out the non-ferrous using high performance eddy current separators," he added. "Then we'll use a suite of sensor sorting machines that use air pulses to eject particles based on what the sensor identifies." In addition to all-metal sensors, Steinert employs selective sensors that can tell one metal from another. "We use x-ray sensors and color sorters to determine the color of an item and also whether or not it is metal. That helps us remove copper from aluminum, for instance," Ciccotelli said.

E-scrap separation systems have improved significantly in recent years.

"The magnets have gotten better. The eddy current systems have gotten more capable of separating smaller materials and the sensor sorters are more sophisticated and do a better job of separating and detecting materials," said Ciccotelli. "And the machines have shown themselves to be more durable and able to operate for years and years in this environment."

Andela Products Ltd. in Richfield Springs, New York, sells separation systems for recycling cathode ray tubes. President Cynthia Andela said that often CRTs are disassembled and glass is separated from plastics and metal. Andela's 20-foot self-contained CRT recycling system then crushes the glass portion and separates it from the metal frames. Front and back layers of the glass are then crushed and separated. After the glass is broken, Andela uses an electromagnet to remove the ferrous metal in the shadow-mask. Further downstream, the systems employ eddy currents as well as additional magnets.

John Andela said the self-contained recycling system allows recyclers to process CRTs at high volume. "With ours you can put them on a conveyor belt and they go through at 600 per hour, one every 6 seconds," he said. "It's also environmentally enclosed, so you have a safe system for people to work with."

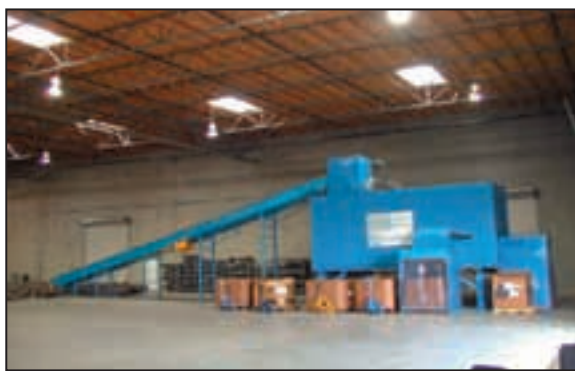
At Shred-Tech in Cambridge, Ontario, Sean Richter, senior technical salesman, said the company's customers typically run e-scrap through a primary shredder, then manually remove larger metal items such as stainless steel shafts on a pick line. Then they send it through a secondary shredder prior to additional separation. "Right after the primary shred, you could also be using cross belt magnets or magnetic head pulleys," he said. "Then we send it to eddy current to get the aluminum out. You'll have a fairly clean stream of aluminum. Then you'll have a mixed stream of red met-

als with some plastics in there." An all-metal sorter removes primarily red metals, leaving primarily plastic.

The company has built several large ES6000 e-scrap recycling systems, but demand today is for smaller machines such as its ES1000. That is because of an emphasis on removing larger metal objects before shredding. "They do some manual disassembly up front so they don't need as large a system," said Richter. "They can still get fantastic throughputs of two to three tons per hour with a much smaller system and end up with some fairly clean material streams."

At SSI Shredding Systems, Inc in Wilsonville, Oregon, industrial sales specialist Dave Fleming said the company's systems process consumer-type items such as PCs and personal printers as well as heavier items such as copiers, office printers, medical devices, servers, telecom equipment and appliances. The challenges in the market include the fact that both material streams have both high and low value commodities. A key objective is to separate these materials while reducing labor costs. A secondary challenge has been to process high capacities of up to 15 tons per hour or more, Richter said.

SSI PRIMAX reducers and QUAD shredders used with magnetic and eddy current separators are the most common machinery in this application. Current customers are pushing for versatility and higher capacity machines. "Many buyers today are telling me that due to the back-end commodity prices they now need to process three to four times more material to generate the same revenue streams they experienced last year at this time," Richter said.



Andela Products, Ltd.

E-scrap has held up better than other recycling fields, such as autos, and makers expect that to be maintained. "As the level of public and political awareness continues to grow in the coming years, this market will continue to blossom," Richter said.

### Manufacturer List

**A&A Magnetics**  
Christine Klute  
888-605-6054  
www.aamag.com

**Andela Products, Ltd.**  
John Andela  
315-858-0055  
www.andelaproducts.com

**Austin AI, Inc.**  
Kristine Keily  
512-837-9400  
www.austinaai.com

**CRT Heaven**  
Dave Harris  
44 1278 786641  
www.crtheaven.com

**Eriez Magnetics**  
Al Gedgudas  
800-345-4946  
www.eriez.com

**General Kinematics**  
Tom Musschoot  
815-455-3222  
www.generalkinematics.com

**Green Machine Sales**  
John Green  
877-448-4448  
www.greenmachinesales.com

**Hustler Conveyor Company**  
John Poplawski  
636-441-8600  
www.hustler-conveyor.com

**MeWa**  
Thomas Prieto  
760-222-2397  
www.mewa-recycling.com

**MSS, Inc.**  
Felix Hottenstein  
615-781-2669  
www.magsep.com

**Oliver Manufacturing Co., Inc.**  
Toby Tyler  
888-254-7813  
www.olivermfgco.com

**RRT Design & Construction**  
David Weitzman  
631-756-1060  
www.rrtenviro.com

**Shred-Tech**  
Sean Richter  
519-621-3560  
www.shred-tech.com

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

**Steinert US, LLC**  
Dennis Ciccotelli  
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# Report details e-cycler's end-of-life design wish list

by Irwin Rapoport

irapoport@americanrecycler.com

When manufacturers of electronics design products that are easier to disassemble and recycle, electronics recyclers are better able to reduce the cost of their operations. For American e-cyclers, having products designed for their end-of-life phase would help to ensure that more electronics could be processed domestically and less expensively.

The Closing the Product Design – End-of-Life Loop (Closing the Loop) report was produced by the Green Electronics Council (GEC) in collaboration with the National Center for Electronics Recycling (NCER) and Resource Recycling, Inc. The report examines various aspects of product design and surveyed many United States e-cyclers and refurbishers to document their suggestions for improved design.

The report focuses on two key elements:

- What aspects of component design and other electronics are generally of most importance to the recycling and refurbishing communities, and what

recyclers would like to see in the design of products?

- What product information would be most useful to recyclers and refurbishers to help them do their work?

"This study came more out of the needs of EPEAT – Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool – the eco-label that was adopted and strongly supported by purchasers and manufacturers in the United States," said Wayne Rifer, manager of standards and operations of the GEC. "It addresses questions about the recyclability of products and the hazardous materials in them. EPEAT is one of the more aggressive worldwide programs in that regard."

"Our work has focused on computers, monitors and related products because those are increasingly the focus of take-back and recycling systems in the States," he added. "State and local programs that mandate the taking back of products tend to focus on those as opposed to Europe and Asia that focus on broader products."

Research by manufacturers to make products easier to recycle and dismantle, said Rifer, varies according to each company.

"The leading manufacturers such as Dell, Hewlett Packard, and Lenovo are making excellent efforts," he said. "Many of the others manufacturers are trying to look at it one way or another. Good manufacturers, though, have a sensitivity to the issues."

"In the end you need to have a common framework or understood set of design elements," he added. "They need to do it as an industry. Sharing basic design is something that industry does all the time and the electronics industry follows common standards."

Refurbishers and recyclers work on different business models and have different needs, but good product design, said Jason Linnell, the NCER's executive director, is critical for these operations, as is having information on those products.

The NCER has established a Closing the Loop Registry (CTL Registry), which allows manufacturers to post information

about some of their products that can be accessed by recyclers and refurbishers.

Rifer said that in terms of product design for recycling, companies that produce standard desktop computers, notebooks and laptops are making strides towards easier disassembly, identification of components and ease of hazardous materials removal.

"There are a whole set of other products with innovative environmental strategies that are emerging in the market," he said. "Apple is a kind of leader there, where their new notebooks are not disassemblable – it is much more difficult to access different materials and so they tend to be processed much more mechanically and in some cases go directly into the smelter."

Linnell notes that refurbishing operations and those that dismantle for parts have higher labor costs, but because of the different business models, there is still debate about which could be more profitable.

He added that separating equipment used by shredding operations is rapidly improving in terms of separation of various metals, which helps to reduce contamination and reduces the amount of material that is manually separated.

"They are continually testing machinery," he said. "Plastics are still a challenge. There are many different types and it is hard to distinguish them because they have been mixed, and then you have to get them back into the recycling stream. But the established market manufacturers do care about their image and they tend to do a lot to improve design for recycling and environmental efforts."

Via EPEAT's standards, product design is rated for various phases, including end-of-life.

"Through the ratings, government agencies and others who want to buy environmentally preferable products can do so."

According to Linnell, Washington is the only state with e-cycling legislation that requires manufacturers of certain devices to communicate about design with recyclers.

"A lot of times when recycling laws are passed," he said, "they are done in place of design efforts. It's also a requirement of the EPEAT program to work with recyclers to communicate about relevant design information."

Good design, said Linnell, allows recyclers to improve workplace safety, be more efficient, streamline the removal and sorting of hazardous and non-hazardous materials, enhance the lifespan of equipment and increase the resale value of commodities.

He added that Congress, because it is a commerce issue, has the authority to impose a design mandate on electronic products that are manufactured domestically and abroad.

"They have the authority to mandate certain design aspects on product safety," he said. Asked if there is any possibility of the Obama administration and the Democratic Congress passing design legislation and regulations and requiring manufacturers to share information regarding the recyclability for electronics, Linnell replied, "It is safe to assume that this is more likely now, but rather than design requirements, I see either a national electronics recycling bill or export restrictions as more likely. The model in Washington of requiring manufacturers to communicate with their recyclers is rather vague at this point, and may be refined at the state level first before it is adopted federally."

Report co-authors Pamela Brody-Heine, principal of Eco Stewardship Strategies and an associate with the Zero Waste Alliance, and Anne Peters, president of Gracestone, Inc, focused much of their efforts on interviewing e-cyclers and refurbishers.

E-cyclers stressed that products need to be designed so that they are easier to disassemble, with manufacturers using harmonized screws and fittings and that more snap fittings are employed as opposed to welded fittings.

"We heard that over and over again," said Brody-Heine. "Every second of delay affects the bottom line, and it added up."

See E-CYCLING REPORT, Page B7

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# A Closer Look

by Donna Currie

## E-Structors

Mike Keough • 877-492-4968

Mike Keough, CEO of E-Structors, described the company as “a comprehensive destruction company” that can recycle a large variety of electronics, including CRTs, desktop computers, servers and peripherals. To make it even more convenient for customers, E-Structors also has a document destruction line that can handle mixed media so the customers can have “one company for the entire waste stream.”

Keough, like many in the recycling industry, followed in family footsteps. His father had worked for BFI and later founded one of the first document shredding companies in the country. Keough said he “took a lot of those experiences in document shredding into electronics.”

Besides destroying outdated or nonfunctioning electronic equipment, E-Structors also resells useful computer components. Keough called his process reverse manufacturing, where usable components are wholesaled to companies that rebuild the computers and resell them as working systems. However, none of those wholesaled units have hard drives or operating systems included, so customer data is never compromised.

Keough said that the wholesaling came about as a direct result of customer requests. “We ask customers how we can service them better,” he said, and E-Structors was missing the opportunity to handle newer equipment that still had a useful life.

Out of all the material that comes in to the plant, Keough estimated that only about one percent is landfilled, and that comes largely from the laminated wood cabinets from console televisions. The rest of the materials find homes as recycled materials.

Keough said many electronics recyclers operated on a business model where all of the work was done by hand, which isn’t cost effective. In order to stay in business, he estimated that a company needed to process about 1.5 million pounds of material per month, which would be nearly impossible to do entirely by hand.

“You can’t just shred electronics,” Keough said. “You have to touch everything.” While there is a very large manual component to his processes, it is done quickly and efficiently, and that much of it is “very much automated” including the shredding and baling of the materials. Figuring out how to best process materials – the “operations challenge” as Keough called it – is one of the things he enjoys most about his job.

Keough said that customers want to make sure the material is being handled responsibly, and that it isn’t being shipped overseas. “The days of making an easy dollar are gone,” he said of competitors who often took the easy route to recycling.

E-Structors operates under one roof, in a new facility opened in September 2008, replacing the original space of about 21,000 square feet. Having everything in one building helps maintain security for the government, corporate and municipal customers who want their data safely destroyed.

Keough said that there has been a tightening of policies regarding the safeguarding of data on computer hard drives. In the past, it was sufficient to “wipe” the drives using software that securely erased the data. Now, physically shredding the hard drives is becoming the preferred method.

While E-Structors processes a large volume of materials, they don’t require large volumes from customers. Keough said the “bread and butter” of his business are the small customers with just a few computers to be picked up at an office.

But large is okay, too. Not long ago, E-Structors was responsible for recycling the JumboTrons and other electronic equipment from Camden Yards Stadium in Baltimore.

The company continues to expand and grow. Over time, the electronics destruction business has grown to include cardboard and paper shredding, and has become a regional processor of glass. Now, Keough said he would like to expand to include more industry segments including government Department of Defense and healthcare.

For Keough, it’s not all about electronics and recycling. He said that when he started the business, he and his wife made it a priority “to give back in the community.” He provides a number of entry-level jobs and offers on-the-job training so the employees improve their skills.

The company also partners with a school for autistic students, giving those students and others with special needs an opportunity to work. Keough said that elsewhere these job opportunities “are few and far between,” but that E-Structors will continue to provide these jobs and to help all of his employees better themselves.



—Mike Keough

## CRT technology

■Continued from Page B1

The challenge of properly and profitably recycling CRTs and other electronic products is difficult, but is being met by a number of electronic waste disposal companies around the country. Luminous is among the new breed of companies specializing in the environmentally safe recycling of CRTs that results in separated streams of clean leaded and unleaded glass. “We do not remarket anything containing a CRT. It’s important to our customers that what we export does not fall under the CRT export rule, because it is a processed commodity at that point,” said Fuelberth.

There’s no valuable commodity in CRTs and the recovered glass has low value, but is marketable. Like most electronic recyclers Luminous charges a fee to dispose of CRTs. “We price ourselves to our recycling partners as a wholesaler. Those customers produce large volumes so they get volume discounts,” Fuelberth said.

Last spring, Luminous Recycling and Newtech Recycling in Bridgewater, New Jersey were the first companies in the United States to start using high tech CRT recycling machines made by CRT Heaven in the United Kingdom. Each company spent approximately \$500,000 for Heaven’s Angel units. “These machines can process anywhere from 60 to 85 CRTs per hour, and smoothly handle screen sizes from 10 to 40-inches – either whole tubes or ones with broken necks – without slowing down production,” said Jim Entwistle, president and partner of Newtech.

The Angel’s automated process uses high-speed, diamond-tipped blades to cut the entire circumference of the tube at the “frit line” that separates the heavily leaded funnel glass from the unleaded panel glass, thereby creating two streams of desirable, specialized glass that can be reprocessed and used to manufacture new products. “There is definitely a demand for the glass material, no question. It’s not profitable as a standalone product without receiving upfront disposal fees, but it supports the business model,” said Entwistle.

The business model for disposing of CRTs and other electronic products is very interesting. Responsibly demanufacturing electronic goods is not profitable today based on the derivative materials alone, but must be supported by advanced user fees paid by electronics manufacturers, corporations, governments or consumers. Either on a volunteer basis or by force of state laws a majority of the major manufacturers have programs or pilot projects to recover and recycle old products.

Under the Sony program, for example, companies like Luminous and Newtech are regularly audited by Sony to make sure environmentally sound processes are employed, and to track downstream receivers of recycled materials. Authorized recyclers report the number of Sony products they ingest and are compensated with fees according to the type of product de-manufactured. “Everything that comes in here will become feed stock for other manufacturers. We have a no-landfill policy. Nothing goes into landfill that doesn’t belong in a landfill,” Entwistle emphasized.

Fees paid to electronic recyclers range from approximately \$10 to \$20 dollars depending on the screen size of the TV and approximately \$10 dollars for a computer monitor. “More and more of the bidders that

respond want to know where I am sending the material and who the downstream vendors are,” said Entwistle.

In 2000, Newtech was the first electronic recycler in New Jersey to be licensed by New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). At the company’s 55,000 square foot New Jersey facility, approximately 25 flex-time employees recycle electronics ranging from cell phones to copiers to CPUs. “Technologies like the Angel and electronics recycling generate new jobs every day. For our system, each shift we run anywhere from 16 to 18 people to support the system,” said Fuelberth at Luminous.

Processing begins with manual “shelling” of the plastic housings from the CRTs. At Newtech plastic is divided into two streams, those from TVs and those from computers, which are sold to plastics recyclers. “Plastic monitor cases are bulky and expensive to handle and ship, a variety of plastics are used and components may be contaminated by metal or other material. Although prices paid and material specifications will vary, scrap plastic markets generally pay a good price for sorted, uncontaminated, ground material shipped to their location. Conversely, they will not accept, or charge a fee, for loads of loose, mixed, unprepared components,” said Entwistle. Luminous sends out its plastic in bulk to a domestic processor that specializes in separating plastics and remarketing.

Metal components and the copper-laden yoke are removed manually from the funnel end of the tube and metals are sorted for scrap. “There’s gold in some circuitry and we do our best to recover that by sending it out to a refinery,” said Entwistle.

After a CRT is cleaned of extraneous labels and adhesives, it is fed on rollers into a chamber where it is secured by a vacuum and hydraulic system with a laser leveling device. Then, the CRT moves into a sealed chamber with an air filtration system where the CRT is measured and cut to separate the funnel, or leaded glass section from the frontal or unleaded glass section. The leaded funnel glass goes into an environmental chamber where it is crushed and the non-leaded glass goes into a separate chamber where the phosphor dust is removed and the panel crushed. The result: two clean streams of glass crushed into two to five inch sizes, known as Clean Glass Cullet and Leaded Glass Cullet. The aggregates are sealed into cardboard boxes, labeled and loaded into cargo containers for export.

“These special types of glass can be used to make new CRT, LED and plasma monitors and make the reprocessing easier and less costly for our customers. We are partnering with Samsung-Corning in Malaysia, but most of my glass currently is going to India,” said Entwistle.

Luminous is in the process of establishing another electronic recycling center in the Midwest to access more CRT volume, better serve its national customers and reduce shipping costs. In addition to the Angel system, it will have a Devil unit that removes the graphic paint from the glass, making it furnace-ready.

“With the value of the commodities going down the tube, we have to offset our costs in the way of fees. Our technology is probably the best available today. It allows us to keep overhead costs as low as possible because of the volume of the system – a whole monitor into the parts we need in less than two minutes,” said Fuelberth.



# Nearly 7 million pounds of rechargeable batteries collected for recycling in 2008

Call2Recycle®, a rechargeable battery and cell phone recycling solution, reported a 9.6 percent increase in its collection of rechargeable batteries over last year, with 6.9 million pounds of rechargeable batteries recycled through the program in 2008. The amount of batteries collected by Call2Recycle last year is equivalent to the weight of approximately 163 school buses.

"Many factors contributed to this year's success, including new partnerships and the expansion of our collection program to include a new battery chemistry. But more than anything, continuous support and ongoing involvement from our retail, consumer and community partners has helped us grow our collection efforts year over year," said Carl Smith, CEO, Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC). "Particularly as more atten-

tion is paid to the disposal of electronic waste, the Call2Recycle solution stands out as a viable means of handling rechargeable battery disposal."

The following activities, programs and partnerships are among the key drivers in this year's success:

•Earth911.com – Call2Recycle partnered with Earth911.com, leveraging the site's readership to raise awareness for rechargeable battery recycling. Battery recycling was the site's top search term in 2008, underscoring the importance of extending the reach of Call2Recycle via another like-minded environmental organization. In addition to a comprehensive search engine for collection locations, the site now includes content on rechargeable battery recycling to educate visitors and encourage participation.

•Program Expansion – For the first time in seven years, Call2Recycle expanded its rechargeable battery collection program to encompass Nickel Zinc (Ni-Zn) batteries, making it the fifth rechargeable chemistry recognized in the program. PowerGenix, a rechargeable battery manufacturer, became the first Call2Recycle licensee of Ni-Zn.

•Sony – Call2Recycle furthered rechargeable battery recycling awareness and encouraged consumer participation by bundling individual battery collection bags with each built-to-order Sony VAIO notebook. This effort makes it simple for consumers to recycle the rechargeable batteries in the old laptop computers they replace.

•DeWalt – During DeWalt's "National Power Tool Battery Recycling Month" in October, consumers

who recycled any power tool battery at one of its 87 service centers received a \$10 discount on battery purchases.

•Ritz Camera – Call2Recycle collection boxes are now placed in more than 140 Ritz Camera stores in Arizona, California, Idaho, Nevada and Oregon.

•United States Forest Service (USFS) – Approximately 500 USFS offices enrolled, and by extension their local communities – in the program.

Administered by the RBRC, Call2Recycle provides a convenient way to collect used rechargeable batteries found in cordless electronic products, such as laptop computers, cell phones, digital cameras, cordless power tools, PDAs, mp3 players and two-way radios. For more information and local Call2Recycle collections sites, call 877-2-RECYCLE or go online and visit [www.call2recycle.org](http://www.call2recycle.org).

## E-cycling report

■Continued from Page B5

E-cyclers, she said, would appreciate the ability to immediately remove certain parts for shredding and be able to place them in separate bins, as well as removing hazardous materials that could contaminate the materials to be sold.

"De-pollution was the highest priority," said Brody-Heine. "People indicated that manufacturers should use bolt identification to show where these materials are located and allow for easier removal of components that contain them. Other recommendations included external markers on a unit that would indicate the presence and location of components. With printers for example, many recyclers often pull out

a cartridge housing, only to learn later on that there were cartridge components in other places."

E-cyclers also suggested color-coding components that contain hazardous materials so that they could be immediately identified and that all hazardous materials are located within line-of-site spotting once the external housing is removed.

"It is difficult to get manufacturers to voluntarily do this kind of redesign," said Brody-Heine, "but it could be included in a voluntary standard such as EPEAT. It is something that all manufacturers should be striving for, as well as elimination of anything that is not absolutely necessary and to use alternatives when possible."

Triage is also a priority. This includes identifying what the unit is, the age of the unit, power source, functionality of the features and what the internal components consist of.

"We explored this possibility in conversations about RFID tagging a unit," said Peters. "If units were tagged this way, they could be quickly scanned. RFID technology isn't at the point where it is being used in the electronics industry at that level yet."

The authors of the report hope that manufacturers will take e-cycler suggestions to heart and engage in discussions with them to fill the gap.

"The idea is that ultimately it will be a two-way communication," said Brody-Heine, "but for now, with the setting up of a registry system, manufacturers can now put information about their products on it that end-of-life managers could access."

Through EPEAT, standards are being developed for imaging devices (printers, etc.) and televisions.

The report has 4 primary recommendations regarding e-cycler concerns.

•That information be given to EPEAT working groups to help them develop criteria for the end-of-life stage, including working with manufacturers to agree upon terms such as easily identifiable, easily reusable and easily separable, and provide quantitative definitions.

•Develop working groups with industry associations or standard setting bodies to come up with common design elements such as screws, fittings, and fasteners; and, for refurbishers, use power cords and other products that are interchangeable.

•Harmonize power supplies and connection mechanisms, and enhance cross-brand and cross-generational component compatibilities, as well as clearly identify and provide for easy removal of hazardous substances.

■To access the full report, view this article at [www.AmericanRecycler.com](http://www.AmericanRecycler.com).

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MAY	4/17	Solid Waste	
JUN	5/18	Paper/Plastics	
JUL	6/17	Wood/Green Waste	
AUG	7/20	Auto Recycling	
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Curbside collection programs are widespread and immensely popular sources for PET and other grades of plastic. With the maturity of these markets, come challenges and opportunities. Hear from leaders in the field about the issues and challenges that recyclers face when seeking to market this material.

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# C&D World 2009

## Annual Meeting of the Construction Materials Recycling Association



## Conference Schedule

(Program Subject to Change)

### Sunday, March 22

- 11:00am - 6:00pm **Registration**  
11:00am - 5:00pm **Exhibitor Move In / Set Up**  
11:00am - 5pm **Board of Directors Meeting**  
1:30pm - 2:30pm **Equipment Panel: Horizontal Grinders**  
**Moderator:** Greg Wirsén, Green Seal Environmental  
**Speakers:** Morbark, CBI, Peterson, Bandit, Rotochopper, West Salem  
2:30pm - 2:45pm **Break**  
2:45pm - 3:45pm **Gassification of C&D Materials:**  
**Is It Our Future?:**  
**Moderator:** Tad Wollenhaupt, Air One, Inc.  
**Speakers:** Bill Davis, Ze-Gen and Mark A. Paisley PE, Taylor Biomass  
5:00pm - 6:30pm **Welcoming Reception in Exhibit Hall**

### Monday, March 23

- 8:00am - 5:00pm **Registration**  
7:30am - 8:30am **Continental Breakfast in Exhibit Hall**  
8:30am - 9:30am **Economic Forecast for the Construction and Concrete Industries**  
Edward Sullivan, Chief Economist, Portland Cement Association  
9:30am - 10:30am **Recycled C&D Products Panel**  
**Moderator:** Dr. Kimberly Cochran, U.S. EPA  
**Speakers:** Rob Dorinson, Evergreen Recycling and Terry Weaver, USA Gypsum  
10:30am - 11:30am **Refreshment Break in Exhibit Hall**  
11:30am - 12:15pm **The Future of Rail Haul in the C&D Industry**  
Jim Newell, President, Transload America  
12:15pm - 1:45pm **Lunch in Exhibit Hall**  
1:45pm - 2:45pm **Issues and Answers With Recycled Concrete**  
Mark Reiner, Principal, Symbiotic Engineering  
3:00pm - 4:45pm **Refreshment Break in Exhibit Hall**  
3:45pm - 4:45pm **Issues and Answers With C&D Fines**  
Dr. Jenna Jambeck, University of New Hampshire  
5:00pm - 6:00pm **Reception in the Exhibit Hall**  
6:30pm - 10:00pm **CMRA Issues & Education Fundraising Dinner Cruise in Beautiful Tampa Bay**

### Tuesday, March 24

- 8:00am - 12:00pm **Registration**  
8:30am - 10:45am **Continental Breakfast in the Exhibit Hall**  
9:30am - 10:15am **Upgrading A Concrete Recycling Operation**  
Dennis Blanchard, Percontee, Inc.  
10:15am - 10:45am **Foamed Asphalt Advantages Explained**  
Harold Green, Chamberlain Contractors  
10:45am - 11:45am **CMRA Membership Meeting**  
10:45am **Exhibit Hall Closed:**  
**Exhibitor Move Out/Teardown**  
12:30pm **CMRA Golf Outing**

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