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NewsVoice of Salvage, Waste and Recycling

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Percentage of recycled engine oil use increases

According to a study by the Automotive Aftermarket Industry Association, engine oil is recycled by 95 percent of auto repair shops and the parts stores that accept used engine oil.

An estimated 1.3 billion gallons of motor vehicle engine oil is generated each year from oil changes performed primarily at repair shops or by do-it-yourselfers. Fortunately, the majority of used oil is collected and sold as combustible fuel, mainly used for energy for power plants and heating. About 16 percent of used engine oil is re-refined into new oil.

Recycled plastics enter rooftop solar energy market



■ Focus Section Cover, Page B1

Paper recyclers face challenges

by MIKE BRESLIN

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In the mid 1960s, IBM advertising touted that the "Office of the Future" would become "paperless" with the advent of the computer age. At first, the opposite happened. Dot matrix printers spewed out more paper than anyone ever predicted to ensure hardcopy backup and provide office workers with tangible working documents. Concurrently, office copiers began gobbling up paper at an unprecedented rate.

Since then, it's all changed as society has become comfortable with digital information. Every day there is greater transition from paper to electronic information in every sphere of personal and commercial life. While we will never become paperless, we are certainly on a course to becoming less paper dependent, at least in the area of communications.

The United States Postal Service is a good barometer of the decline of paper. The amount processed each year is down by more than 20 percent in volume since its peak in 2006. Hardest hit have been first class mailings – bills, letters and promotional offers, mostly replaced by email, on-line banking and couponing. Daily newspapers continue to decline as they lose readers to online periodicals and televisions' local news reports.

The Association of American Publishers recently stated that e-book sales continue "powerfully strong growth." Industry experts now estimate that e-books represent more than 10 percent of all book publishing revenues.

See PAPER RECYCLING, Page 6



Paper recyclers have had to become more innovative with collection and processing.

California to expand jobs and recycling with new legislation

California Governor Jerry Brown signed legislation establishing the most ambitious recycling goal in the nation for California, at the same time enacting incentives aimed at increasing recycled material processing and manufacturing in-state. Together, this strategy is aimed at creating more than 60,000 green jobs in the state over the next 8 years.

Assembly Bill 341 by Assembly Member Wesley Chesbro (D – North Coast) sets a 75

percent recycling goal for California by 2020 – the most ambitious in the nation. Additionally, the measure requires every commercial business, institution and apartment building to implement recycling programs.

Assembly Bill 1149 by Assembly Member Rich Gordon (D – Menlo Park) will provide market-based incentives of \$10 to \$20 million annually to processors and manufacturers of recycled plastic.

See CALIFORNIA, Page 4



—Governor Brown

WHAT'S INSIDE

Scrap Metals MarketWatch.....	15
Salvaging Millions.....	16
Business Briefs.....	18
Events Calendar.....	19
New Product Showcase.....	19
AR Classifieds.....	20
Focus Section.....	B1
Equipment Spotlight.....	B4
A Closer Look.....	B6

- Application deadline for 2012 brownfields funding approaches. Page A5
- Maryland's surge in WTE incinerators troubling. Page A8
- EPA fugitive gets prison time for asbestos scam. Page A11

- To create jobs, America can learn from China. Page A17
- Trashed plastics could produce significant energy. Page B3
- New processes could make junk plastics recyclable. Page B5

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County waste department wins award

The Miami-Dade County Department of Solid Waste Management (DSWM) was recently awarded the 2011 Gold Collection Systems Excellence Award by the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA).

The DSWM completed its conversion to automated waste collection in 2007 and automated single-stream recycling collection in 2008. Both programs have increased operational efficiency and have significantly improved service delivery, customer satisfaction, and convenience. In 2010, the DSWM was the first municipal waste management agency to begin using unique hydraulic hybrid waste collection vehicles. To date, 6 of these fuel-efficient and environmentally friendly vehicles have been added to the department's fleet and are deployed on 12 routes throughout Miami-Dade County.

The DSWM is the largest government-owned and operated waste collection and disposal system in the southeastern United States. The DSWM provides waste collection services to more than 320,000 households in unincorporated Miami-Dade County and nine municipalities; curbside recycling services to more than 350,000 households in unincorporated Miami-Dade County and 21 municipalities; and countywide disposal services.

Miami-Dade's solid waste system includes a network of landfills, transfer stations, neighborhood trash and recycling centers, and one of the largest and most advanced waste-to-energy facilities in the world.

FedEx Express hosts largest green roof at any United States airport

FedEx Express, a subsidiary of FedEx Corp., opened the new package sorting center at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, which conducts operations under the largest continuous vegetated roof at an airport in the United States – or the size of three football fields.

At just under 175,000 square feet, the roof is plainly visible from planes as they land at one of the world's busiest airports. The recently-opened building is also the largest green roof on a free-standing building in the greater Chicago area.

FedEx is already known for its green initiatives, such as the addition of all-electric trucks into its fleet (including six currently making deliveries in the Chicago Loop) and the purchase of fuel-efficient Boeing 777s. But green roofs at FedEx and elsewhere at O'Hare are more than just a pretty tapestry of greens, pinks and gold foliage.

These roofs also benefit the environment by:

- Reducing air pollution
- Reducing storm water runoff
- Extending the average life of a roof from 15-20 years to 40-50 years
- Lowering energy costs by 35 percent a year
- Reducing airport noise

"The cooperative effort between FedEx and the Chicago Department of Aviation's O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP) is a prime example of how to immediately reduce the envi-



The FedEx green roof has just under 175,000 square feet of space.

ronmental impact of airports and create value for business and for the community," said Don Colvin, vice president, Properties and Facilities at FedEx Express.

"The creation of the green roof space is a key component of going green across the City of Chicago, and at O'Hare and Midway International Airports," said Rosemarie S. Andolino, commissioner of the Chicago Department of Aviation.

FedEx and the OMP are also pursuing LEED Gold certification for the facility, extending the company's intent

announced earlier this year of LEED certification for all new US FedEx Express properties.

The FedEx Express facility is the latest success in what has been years of initiatives to make O'Hare greener, such as building LEED certified airport facilities, recycling construction materials on the airfield, utilizing clean emission vehicles and construction equipment, installing energy efficient lighting, and even providing a habitat for honeybees with the nation's first on-airport apiary.

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WM makes investment in recycling reward program

Waste Management, Inc. has made a strategic investment in Recycle Rewards, Inc., whose subsidiary, Recyclebank®, rewards people for taking everyday green actions with discounts and deals from local and national businesses.

As part of the investment, Waste Management expects to provide access to Recyclebank's green rewards program to its nearly 20 million North American customers over the next several years. In addition, Recyclebank will assume Waste Management's Greenopolis social recycling platform, making Recyclebank the leading online recycling rewards program in America.

As part of the agreement, Recyclebank adds another recycling rewards offer to its members, acquiring Greenopolis's social recycling program, which rewards consumers for recycling on the go by combining incentives with state-of-the-art collection and tracking technology.

Recyclebank's rewards-for-recycling program is currently in more than 300 communities in the United States and the U.K. Greenopolis's web-based rewards catalog will be incorporated into Recyclebank's rewards program of more than 3,000 local and national businesses to offer even greater incentives to its member base.

Recyclebank will also assume management of the Greenopolis social media, including Greenopolis.com, RecyclePix and Oceanopolis, the Facebook game that uses social gaming to reward recycling in real life and the virtual world.

Waste Management joins existing Recyclebank investors RRE Ventures, Sigma Partners, Kleiner Perkins Caulfield and Byers, The Westly Group, Generation Investment Management, Top Tier Capital Partners, Physic Ventures and Craton Equity Partners.

RailAmerica reports carloads

RailAmerica, Inc. reported that its total freight carloads for the month ended August 31, 2011 were 72,697, down 0.3 percent from 72,927 in August 2010. Lower coal shipments were the main reason for the decline. Excluding coal, carloads were up 3.9 percent.

The company increased shipments in August 2011 in 7 out of 12 commodity groups compared to August 2010. The largest increases were in pulp, paper and allied products, forest products, and food or kindred products. Pulp, paper and allied products were up primarily due to higher shipments in the Southeast and Central regions. Forest products strengthened primarily due to increased shipments in the Northeast and Central regions. Food or kindred products increased primarily due to stronger shipments in the Southeast, West and Central regions.

The largest declines were in coal and agricultural products.

California

■Continued from Page 1

Chesbro's AB 341 builds on the success of AB 939, the California Integrated

Waste Management Act passed in 1989. The legislation set ambitious recycling targets and helped develop California's extensive recycling infrastructure. AB 341 expands on that success by requiring businesses, institutions and apartment buildings to subscribe to recycling service and establishing a new statewide goal of source reducing, recycling or composting 75 percent of the waste we generate by 2020.

Assembly Member Gordon's AB 1149 takes a market-based approach to ensuring that California realizes that full economic as well as environmental benefit of our recycling efforts.

"When we ship used soda and water bottles to China, we are exporting thousands of jobs overseas that could just as readily exist in California if the appropriate investments were set up to support it," said Assemblyman Rich Gordon, who chairs the Assembly Budget Subcommittee that oversees all natural resource agencies. "AB 1149 builds on the success of the Plastic Market Development program and will create and support thousands of jobs while helping our environment."

Under the Bottle Bill program, Californians annually collect about 500 million pounds of plastic beverage containers for recycling. Historically, more than 80 percent of these containers have been shipped overseas for processing and recycling into new products.

"California has been the banana republic to China," said Murray. "We dutifully clean up and collect billions of used soda and water bottles and ship them off to China at a loss. They add labor and value processing them into the polyester clothing and accessories that they sell back to us at Target and Banana Republic."

"Today, the plastic market program directly supports more than 750 jobs. But we are collecting enough plastic to support 4 to 5 times that many jobs. AB 1149 creates the incentives and the potential for hundreds, if not thousands of new jobs."

Both bills were sponsored by the environmental group Californians Against Waste and ultimately had broad support from recyclers, reclaimers, waste haulers, local governments, plastic product manufacturers, retailers, beverage industry and environmental groups.

Yosemite composting program receives environmental award

Delaware North Companies Parks & Resorts has received a top 2011 environmental achievement award from the National Park Service (NPS) for initiating a comprehensive composting program for Yosemite National Park.

Delaware North operates Yosemite's visitor services, including lodging, dining, recreation, retail and transportation services as a national park concessioner. The global hospitality management and food service provider launched the composting program in August 2009 to expand its longstanding recycling efforts at the park.

Through November 2010, Delaware North's composting initiative diverted 216 tons of organic waste – including food waste and paper products – from Yosemite's kitchens and restaurants to Mariposa County's composting facility.

That represents about 10 percent of the 2,100 tons of solid waste from Yosemite sent to the landfill during the same period.

The composting program began with four locations – The Ahwahnee, Yosemite Lodge at the Falls, Degnan's Deli and The Loft – and was subsequently expanded to include the kitchens at Curry Village, Village Grill, White Wolf Lodge, Tuolumne Meadows Lodge and the High Sierra Camps. In each kitchen, Delaware North placed separate "trash" containers for organics with liners made of compostable materials.

NPS at Yosemite joined the composting initiative in October 2010 by collecting organic waste at its housing complex in Yosemite Valley. Delaware North expanded the program to its housing facilities this past spring.

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Anheuser-Busch and KAB support recycling programs

Recycling programs in 75 towns and cities throughout the country are receiving a significant boost to their local recycling efforts as nonprofit Keep America Beautiful (KAB) and the Anheuser-Busch Foundation announced the recipients of the 2011 Lend-A-Bin Grant program.

In its first year, the Lend-A-Bin Grant program is providing more than 3,500 recycling bins designed for use at special events such as concerts, festivals and athletic events. The grant program is sponsored by the Anheuser-Busch Foundation and is designed to support local community recycling programs by providing the collapsible bins to selected organizations for them to lend or rent for the collection of recyclable beverage containers.

"This grant program makes financial sense, has great reach and creates a win-win for recyclers," said Matthew M. McKenna, president and CEO, Keep America Beautiful, Inc. "Local recycling organizations will now have a cache of

recycling bins that can be lent out – over and over again – to multiple special event organizers. These event organizers won't have to purchase and store bins throughout the year, and we know this will result in expanded recycling access for the public."

Chosen from nearly 200 applications submitted, the 75 grant recipients represent a cross-section of local government agencies, Keep America Beautiful affiliates and members of state recycling organizations.

Recipients, representing communities in 30 states, were chosen by KAB based on a number of criteria including efficiency, planning, recycling experience, promotion, sustainability, amount of recyclables anticipated to be collected and reach.

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

Application deadline for 2012 brownfields funding approaches

EPA is encouraging eligible entities to apply through November 28, 2011 for 2012 Brownfields funding. These grant funds can be used to address sites contaminated by petroleum and hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants, including hazardous substances comingled with petroleum.

Available grants from EPA's Brownfields Program include assessment grants (each funded up to \$200,000 over three years; coalitions are funded up to \$1 million over three years); cleanup grants (each funded up to \$200,000 over three years); and revolving loan funds (each funded up to \$1 million over five years).

According to the EPA, the following may apply: individuals from eligible local, state and tribal governments; nonprofits; coalitions; land clearance authorities; and quasi-governmental entities interested in a brownfields assessment, cleanup or revolving loan fund grant.

EPA's Brownfields Program encourages the redevelopment of America's

estimated 450,000 abandoned and contaminated waste sites. Brownfield sites include all real property, including residential, commercial and industrial properties.

Cleaning up and reinvesting in these properties increases local tax bases, facilitates job growth, utilizes existing infrastructure, takes development pressures off undeveloped, open land and improves and protects the environment. Brownfields redevelopments have included the conversion of industrial waterfronts to riverfront parks, landfills to golf courses, rail corridors to recreational trails and gas stations to housing.

EPA's investment in the Brownfields Program has leveraged more than \$6.5 billion in brownfields cleanup and redevelopment funding from the private and public sectors, and has created approximately 25,000 new jobs.

For more details on the EPA Brownfields grant application guidelines go to www.epa.gov/brownfields/applicat.htm.

Ameren recycles 30,000th refrigerator

An energy efficiency milestone was achieved when the Ameren Illinois ActOnEnergy Refrigerator Recycling Program collected the 30,000th refrigerator/freezer unit for recycling.

The milestone refrigerator was picked up at the home of Jane Haslem in Quincy. The Quincy customer will receive \$50 from ActOnEnergy. Furthermore, she will save \$150 or more annually in electricity bills by retiring her Energy Hog refrigerator.

The recycling of the 30,000 refrigerators and freezers prevented 7,800 tons of metal and other waste from ending up in landfills. Ameren Illinois now pays an electric customer \$50 for any standard

size refrigerator or freezer. The appliance must be plugged in and operating at the time it is picked up for recycling. Customers are not required to replace the unit.

Nonprofits also can earn extra green while helping make Illinois greener by joining the new Ameren Illinois ActOnEnergy Refrigerator Recycling Referrals program.

When an Ameren Illinois residential electricity customer recycles a spare refrigerator or freezer through the ActOnEnergy program, the participating nonprofit organization of the customer's choice will receive \$10.

PA DEP reorganizes to improve efficiency

A major reorganization within the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will refocus the agency on its core mission of protecting the environment while improving efficiency and regulatory consistency.

"These organizational changes will enhance the department's ability to protect Pennsylvania's air, water and land, and also will result in a consistent and predictable regulatory system," DEP secretary Mike Krancer said.

Krancer said DEP will make decisions based on facts and sound science by providing enhanced, unified oversight to the natural gas industry; emphasizing the revitalization of brownfields; providing consistent, predictable decision-making; and delivering compliance assistance and pollution prevention education.

The reorganization will improve internal communication and coordination and will create new channels as well. It will also boost the interdisciplinary and cross-media approach to environmental regulation that Krancer has emphasized.

"I am directing agency management to analyze their operations and practices, so we can move to improve in that area, too," Krancer said.

Some of the specific highlights of the changes that will happen are:

With the projected growth of the Marcellus Shale and other shale formations and as a reflection of the administration's emphasis on proper oversight of the Marcellus Shale industry, the Bureau of Oil and Gas Management will elevate to

becoming a depute, which will unify oversight of this industry by Harrisburg-based and regional staff. This will give DEP the ability to better coordinate its permitting, inspection and enforcement efforts.

A new bureau of Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields will be created under the Office of Waste, Air, Radiation and Remediation. This new bureau will house all aspects of site cleanup and will more closely mirror the structure used in environmental cleanup statewide.

A new Bureau of Conservation and Reclamation will be created to better align the Office of Water Management's core functions, and others will be realigned. The new bureau will incorporate staff assigned to restoring streams affected by acid mine drainage. By aligning staff assigned to stream restoration, DEP will further improve the Office of Active and Abandoned Mine Operations' focus.

A new Office of Pollution Prevention and Energy Assistance will be formed, so that the agency can enhance its efforts to communicate and educate these values and provide know-how, tools and partnering. The reorganization will also create the Office of Program Integration to develop and coordinate the implementation of initiatives, as well as examine and improve program efficiency across the agency.

The department will begin implementing the new organizational structure immediately and will make additional details available in coming months.

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Paper recycling

■Continued from Page 1

Further diminishing paper use, we are in the midst of a mobile computing revolution as wireless networks upgrade to 4G-LTE (Long Term Evolution), which will transmit and store vast quantities data. Voice command inventory systems directing workers through tasks previously communicated on paper is but one example of business moving away from paper. Massive data is being stored in cloud computing rather than on paper.

Higher Global Demand

Yet with this great migration from paper to digital in the realm of communications, recycled paper fiber is in higher demand than ever before for writing, printing, packaging and industrial applications and commanding commensurately high prices.

"I think the paper recycling industry is a strong growth industry because of world demand. Prices are going to fluctuate. Right now they are very high, but are coming down a little. I believe they will remain high for the next couple of years," predicted Johnny Gold, senior vice president of the Newark Recycled Fibers division of the Newark Group.

The Newark Group, founded in 1912, is an integrated global producer of 100 percent recycled paperboard and paperboard products with significant manufacturing and marketing operations in North America and Europe.

"Collections have been off for some time for two reasons," said Gold. "One is due to poor economic conditions in this country. Business has been slower. It picked up a little after schools went back into session. The other reason is the fact we are getting more and more paperless no matter where you look. Everything is going elec-

tronic as the world moves forward. If the economics of this country get any better, and hopefully they will, supply could get very tight very quickly.

"If it were not for world demand, everything would be in line with each other, but developing nations need newsprint and more fiber for all applications. That demand for fiber has increased heavily compared to what it was 5 or 10 years ago."

Data for 2010 indicates that 31 percent of the paper and paperboard recovered in the United States went to produce containerboard and 12 percent went to produce boxboard, which includes folding boxes and gypsum wallboard facings. Exports of recovered paper to China and other nations absorbed nearly 40 percent of the paper collected for recycling in the United States in 2010.

While world demand is up significantly, the amount of paper consumed in the United States has declined according to the American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA). During the past 20 years, 1999 had a record high production of 105,316 million tons with 44.5 percent, or 46,818 million tons recovered for recycling. By 2010, the supply dropped to 81,209 million tons, but with a much higher, 63.5 percent recovery rate, or 51,545 million tons recovered. In other words, a net increase of 4,727 million tons more recovered in 2010 than in 1999.

The Wellesley Model

Even though curbside pickup of paper is convenient for residents, it results in additional taxes or sticker fees to cover the cost of collection and windblown paper is sometimes messy on collection day.

If the overall objective is to increase the recovery of paper and maximize its recycled value, Wellesley, Massachusetts presents a good case. It has avoided collection costs by instituting a highly effective drop off program for both trash and recyclables that

exceeds average recovery rates and produces substantial income through the sale of paper, metal, plastics and other recyclables.

Wellesley has been progressive in more than recycling. In 1914, it was the first town in America to adopt zoning laws. By the 1920s it was recognized as one of the leading suburbs of Boston. Today it is an affluent community of 27,000 with a distinguished recycling record due to its "Step-Up" program of community outreach and education that could well serve as a model for materials reduction, reuse and recycling for the rest of the nation.

"We have about 10,000 vehicles a week that drive through our recycling facility. We are a very unique municipal operation in the sense that we utilize profit-making strategies in an attempt to maximize our revenue. I like to think of what we do as squeezing out every penny in terms of saving and making money," said Gordon Martin, superintendent of Wellesley's recycling and disposal facility. "We don't offer municipal curbside so residents have two choices. They can either bring their trash and recyclables here – 85 percent choose to do that, or 15 percent hire private haulers that pick up at their home or business and bring it here.

"I just finished our fiscal 2011 annual report and we managed to put back into general funds \$866,000. We routinely turn back an average of three-quarter of a million dollars each year. We are probably the only town in America where we have a budget to buy recyclable material from other communities as well as from public sector businesses. We try to be the best option for communities around us. We buy their recyclables and process it. More often than not we export, but also sell domestically. Either way we make money!

"We try to teach our residents to recycle as much as they can and make our facility very user friendly to drive through. After they drop off their recyclables, residents go into the area where they dump their trash. Even there we have newspaper and cardboard drop off, right next to the trash compactor as a last chance to collect paper. I think we are capturing the majority of it. Last year we collected 3,569 tons of newspaper and cardboard for \$457,241 in sales. It's the highest volume in our recycling stream and also has the most value.

Wellesley issues free permits to residents to keep non-residents from illegally dumping at the facility. "We are surrounded by communities that have pay-as-you-throw, or permits that cost big money, upwards of \$150 dollars. We don't want out-of-town people trying to sneak their trash in here. I think what we do here is very unique. I don't think you'll find too many communities that have invested in a recycling program as we have. Our numbers indicate that the investment was well worth it," Martin added.

Recycled paper or solid waste?

There is another challenge of vital concern to the paper recycling industry – an issue that is now being considered by the Senate in the form of Senate Resolution-251. It "expresses support for policies in the United States that promote recycling of materials, including paper, which is commonly recycled rather than thermally combusted or sent to a landfill." SR-251 also, "expresses support for policies in the United States that recognize and promote recyclable materials as essential economic commodities, rather than wastes."

The definition of "biomass" is another challenge for the paper recycling industry

that could cause great harm. According to the Congressional Research Service, biomass is defined as: "...organic matter that can be converted into energy." Common examples of biomass fuels include food crops, crops for energy such as switchgrass, wood waste and animal manure.

Over the past few years, however, biomass has expanded to include algae, construction debris, yard and food waste, and municipal solid waste (MSW). Each year, 243 million tons of waste is generated by Americans and 82 million tons, or 33.8 percent is recycled. Paper represents the lion's share of MSW, at a whopping 28.2 percent.

MSW is increasingly being incinerated at waste-to-energy plants. Of the 243 million tons generated each year by Americans, 29 million tons or 12 percent was combusted for energy recovery.

"An issue we work on day in and day out is making sure the government doesn't do anything to subsidize the ultimate destruction of our paper such as in municipal waste-to-energy facilities, or in landfills" says Terese Colling, a Washington DC representative of the Paper Recycling Coalition (PRC). "We don't want the government providing subsidies to do so. We don't want our government competing against us." We provide tens of thousands of good paying jobs at mills across the United States and we can compete in an unmanipulated market for our fiber needs.

PRC is an association of 100 percent recycled containerboard and paperboard manufacturers responsible for processing over six million tons of recovered fiber per year. Since 1990, it has been educating policy leaders, regulators, and others about the 100 percent recycled paper industry and the need for access to the recovered fiber supply to maintain tens of thousands of jobs at mills across the United States. "The mission of the PRC is to protect the fiber supply. The PRC supports fair and unmanipulated markets in determining where and how fiber should flow. And, the PRC strongly opposes any subsidies for others to use recovered fiber as a feedstock," Colling added.

Under the EPA's CHP (Combined Heat & Power) Partnership there are seemingly endless state and federal incentives applicable to biomass and biogas projects, including a slew of financial incentives and favorable regulatory treatment. The sheer size of these programs are staggering. On the EPA website, over 180 separate state and national programs are listed. It's so complex that the CHP Partnership updates the information twice a month on financial incentives, such as grants, tax incentives, low-interest loans, favorable partial load rates and tradable allowances, all of which help CHP project developers attract additional private investment for their CHP or biomass project.

CHP or biomass project development can also be expedited with regulatory treatment that removes unintended barriers such as standard interconnection requirements, net metering, and output-based regulations.

With stringent emissions control, many people see MSW going to energy plants as a positive development, both to power steam generators to produce electricity and to conserve landfill capacity. But anyone involved in paper recycling, or sustainability should have concerns over paper contained in MSW going up in smoke, rather than being recovered, especially when the practice is supported and incentivized by federal and state dollars.



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Whole Foods partners for composting

Whole Foods Market has launched a composting program, which captures food and packaging wastes, in 8 of its Chicago-area stores, converting 80 percent of its wastes into soil material for use in landscaping.

Implemented at the Schaumburg and Sauganash, Chicago, locations in February 2011, the program has expanded to eight Illinois stores. Participating stores include Schaumburg, Sauganash and Lincoln Park in Chicago, Deerfield, Naperville, Palatine, Northbrook and Evanston. These stores have recovered and repurposed more than 1,100 tons of food wastes, meaning that about 10 percent of wastes are disposed of in landfills. By contrast, those 8 pioneering stores used to divert only about 10 percent of their wastes.

"Prior to composting, everything went into the trash because the store couldn't recycle it," said Kaili Harding, marketing manager of Whole Foods Market Schaumburg. "It was a learning process. Now we use only a small bin for our landfill waste, and what used to be a large garbage compactor is now our compost compactor."

As interest grew from grocers and restaurateurs, Illinois approved legislation that allowed yard waste composting facilities to apply for permits to accept food wastes. With permitted sites available in 2011, Whole Foods Market immediately launched its program.

The stores capture out-of-date food from each of the departments, as well as from its administrative and customer service areas, and place it into a compost container located at the rear of the store. Waste Management collects the container and takes it to a site in Romeoville, Illinois, where it is mixed with yard wastes and, over a six-month period, converted into compost for use in landscaping.

Each store department is equipped with green, blue and black containers. The green one, for food wastes going to compost, is the largest. The blue container is for recyclables, which are collected and transported to the Whole Foods Market distribution center in Munster, Indiana. In turn, they are shipped to a recycling processor. The black container, the smallest of the three, is for material to be disposed in a landfill.

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ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

Maryland's surge in WTE incinerators troubling

Incinerators emit more pollution per hour than each of Maryland's four coal-fired power plants

Waste-to-energy (WTE) incinerators are booming in Maryland, but a new report by the Environmental Integrity Project (EIP) cautions that the energy produced is not truly renewable and that the trash incinerators generate significant mercury, lead, ash and other pollution. EIP, along with the Chesapeake Climate Action Network (CCAN) and Clean Water Action (CWA), is urging Maryland to tighten up its Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), which is now one of the most lenient in the nation as it relates to trash incinerators, after being recently loosened in a way that equates those facilities to solar and wind energy.

Although no incinerators were constructed in the entire country between 1996 and 2007, Maryland currently has at least three projects – the new Energy Answers plant in Baltimore City, the proposed expansion of the Harford County Resource Recovery Facility, in Harford County, and the proposed Frederick County Incinerator in Frederick County – under development. In addition, Maryland already has two WTE incinerators in Baltimore City and Dickerson.

Key EIP report findings include the following:

- The WTE incinerators in Maryland examined for the report emit more pollution per hour of energy produced than each of Maryland's four largest coal-fired power plants. These emissions include toxic pollutants such as mercury and lead that disproportionately harm children, even in small doses over time.

- The WTE facilities produce ash in the combustion process that can be highly toxic and must be carefully tested to determine its toxicity and appropriate management.

- Incinerators are extremely expensive to construct, often costing hundreds of millions of dollars to build and requiring substantial loans and tax credits.

- Incineration provides fewer jobs and less economic benefits than other waste management options such as recycling and source reduction.

Environmental Integrity Project Research Analyst and report author Robbie Orvis said, "We are urging Maryland to reconsider the path it is on to become the trash incineration capital of the United

States. If the proposed projects move forward, Maryland is currently on track to more than double its capacity to incinerate trash for energy use. Given the fact that this is being done inappropriately under the guise of 'renewable energy' and that it involves significant pollution, the state needs to take a second look at this now."

CCAN director Mike Tidwell said, "Trash-burning facilities like the proposed Energy Answers plant add insult to injury because they emit more CO₂ than coal, adding to the destruction of our fragile climate, while at the same time, detracting from Maryland's investment in truly clean, renewable energy like wind and solar."

EIP attorney Leah Kelly said, "From a waste management perspective, recycling is better for the environment and amount of energy used than incineration. Furthermore, a report by the Institute for Local Self Reliance estimates that per ton of waste managed, recycling generates 10 times more jobs than incineration does. Although Maryland has one of the highest recycling rates in the country, there is still room to improve its recycling programs, which will

lower emissions to the environment, reduce energy use and create more jobs than incineration will."

Maryland has recently reclassified WTE incinerators as Tier 1 renewables under the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard despite the fact that incinerators do not harness renewable energy. Rather, they rely on a fixed waste stream, typically consisting of thousands of tons of trash per day. This classification undermines the goal of the RPS and makes Maryland's RPS one of the most lenient in the country with respect to WTE incinerators.

The EIP report recommends the following steps: Maryland should remove WTE incinerators from its RPS, invest further in recycling and source reduction programs, reconfigure its Clean Energy Production Tax Credit Program to better support and promote clean and renewable energy sources like wind, solar and geothermal energy, and increase its statewide pollution monitoring network to better understand new sources of pollution as well as trends in air quality.

Navy's first landfill gas power plant completed

The Department of the Navy's first landfill gas cogeneration plant produces 1.9 megawatts of renewable electric power and steam by burning landfill gas collected from a nearby landfill. Chevron Energy Solutions also com-

pleted industrial lighting retrofits in 82 buildings and expanded the existing energy management control system. When combined with the cogeneration project, these measures reduce the base's purchase of utility power and

reduce its carbon emissions by 19,300 tons annually.

Chevron Energy Solutions developed, designed and managed construction of the plant; and will maintain the landfill gas-to-energy facility, pipeline and processing equipment. The facility houses a dual-fuel engine generator, a stack heat recovery steam generator and two dual-fuel boilers. The primary equipment can operate on landfill gas or natural gas, which provides energy security benefits. With the addition of the plant, MCLB's power portfolio now contains 19 percent renewable power, exceeding guidelines in the EPAct of 2005 and Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.

Chevron Energy Solutions and MCLB will co-operate the generator and steam-producing equipment. Through an

Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC), Chevron Energy Solutions arranged the financing for the project, which is repaid through the MCLB's avoided energy costs. The company also guarantees system performance for 22 years. Chevron Energy Solutions has been actively involved with MCLB Albany's energy program since 2002, and the base recently won the 2011 Secretary of the Navy Energy and Water Management Award.

Dougherty County extracts and sells the landfill gas to MCLB from the Fleming/Gaissert Road Landfill, which receives approximately 100,000 tons of municipal solid waste each year. The biological decomposition of the waste generates landfill gas that is approximately 50 percent methane by volume.

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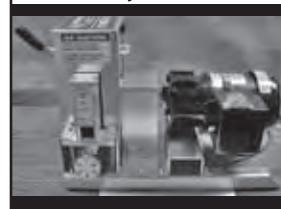


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WASTE

WM unveils LEED Gold organics processing facility

Waste Management of Alameda County (WMAC) has unveiled its \$11 million, state-of-the-art LEED Gold Organics Processing and Transfer Facility at the Davis Street Resource Recovery Complex. Only the third Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Gold building in San Leandro, it is the first industrial building designed to Gold standard in the city.

Among the building's distinguishing features are:

- State-of-the-art biofilter to eliminate odor;
- High-speed rollup doors to contain odor and prevent bird entry;
- Daylighting via translucent panels and solar tubes;
- Mechanically stabilized embankment walls built with 100 percent recycled aggregate;
- Ninety-five percent of construction waste recycled;
- Forty percent of building materials sourced locally; and
- Twenty percent of building materials from recycled sources.

In addition, local contractors provided the majority of construction services and 92 percent were union jobs.

The 34,967 sq. ft. building includes 1,127 sq. ft. of office space. The balance is dedicated to the processing and transfer of 150,000 tons of yard trimmings and food scraps annually. Residential organics are

sent to WMAC's Organics Material Review Institute (OMRI)-listed composting facility in Marin County. Excess materials are sent to third-party composters and in the case of nearly 500 tons of Christmas trees to biofuel facilities.

A prototype natural gas collection vehicle, currently being tested in the City of Oakland, was on hand to inaugurate the building. Powered with biofuel made from landfill gas at the Altamont Landfill in Livermore, the truck drove into the new facility following the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Celebrants included representatives from Alameda County Board of Supervisors, City of San Leandro, the Oro Loma and Castro Valley sanitary districts and many others. They toured the new building as well as the \$1.5 million Public Area Materials Recovery Facility (PAM) that opened last month and created eight new green jobs.

The PAM is designed to process 60,000 tons of construction and demolition material per year, diverting recyclables from landfills. Clean construction lumber is sent to WMAC's mulch facility in Fremont. There the wood is ground into mulch for gardening. It is part of the closed-loop approach of WM EarthCare, a new landscape product line of locally sourced, 100 percent recycled compost and mulch available at WMAC's seven Bay Area facilities.

NSWMA files brief in support of solid waste transfers across state and county lines

The National Solid Wastes Management Association (NSWMA) filed an amicus brief in the Court of Appeal for the State of California supporting Potrero Hills Landfill and Solano County in their legal battle over Solano County's Measure E, a local voter initiative that effectively bans solid waste and recyclables originating outside Solano County from being imported to facilities located in the county. Several organizations, including the Sierra Club, filed lawsuits seeking enforcement of Measure E in 2009 as part of their strategy to block the expansion of the Potrero Hills Landfill. Believing the measure is unconstitutional, Solano County has not enforced the measure for at least 19 years.

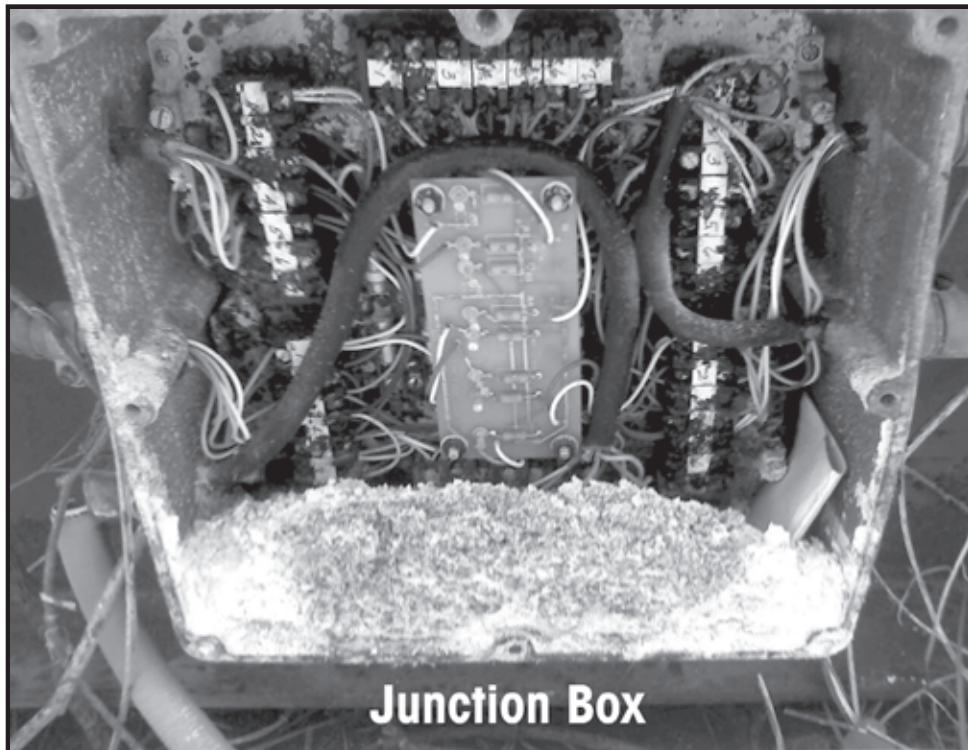
NSWMA, the national group that represents garbage and recycling collectors, was joined in its amicus brief by a broad coalition, including the National Association of Manufacturers, the California Manufacturers and Technology Association, the California Refuse and Recycling Council, and the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Association.

The 17 amici curiae who filed briefs opposing the enforcement of Measure E include the Attorney General of the State of California acting on behalf of the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, the California Association of Sanitation Agencies and the City and County of San Francisco.

NSWMA's president and CEO Bruce J. Parker describing the importance of this case, stated, "The ability to manage the movement across local, regional and state lines of the quarter-billion tons of solid waste and recyclables Americans produce annually is a critical component of the national infrastructure, economy and public health. By imposing a de facto ban on the importation of solid waste from other parts of California and other states, Measure E creates a dangerous precedent that could lead to a patchwork of discriminatory and protectionist solid waste bans from cities and counties across the country, thereby harming the national infrastructure, economy and public health."

The mother of three notoriously unruly youngsters was asked whether or not she'd have children if she had it to do over again.

"Sure," she replied, "but not the same ones."



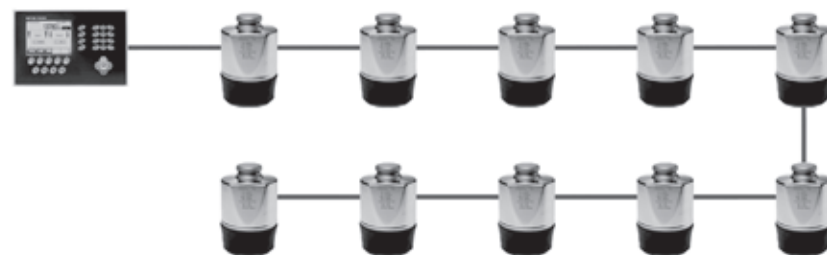
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WASTE

Organic Energy builds facility at the McCommas Bluff Landfill

Organic Energy Corporation (OEC) is seeking permission from the City of Dallas to build a multimillion dollar recycling facility at the McCommas Bluff Landfill. The privately owned and operated facility would capture up to 95 percent of the recyclables available from the city's garbage, while bringing between \$5 to 20 million annually to city coffers. The first facility represents a nearly \$100 million investment directly into South Dallas and would create a public/private partnership, while the city's only input would be a commitment to provide the garbage and lease some land.

"Dallas brings 6,000 tons of garbage every day to the landfill," said Barney Gorey, vice president of public affairs for OEC. "Even with the curbside recycling program over 3,500 of those tons are recyclable products which can be captured and sold. The paper, plastic and metals are worth millions and can begin to bring real green jobs to Dallas," he said.

Those jobs number 100 per facility and range from non-skilled to semi-skilled at better than minimum wage, according to the company.

The facility uses people and equipment to mechanically sort garbage straight from the route truck. The system is modeled after plants in Europe where recycling and waste minimization have been necessary for decades. The company also has a reference facility in

Roseville, California which has been operating for over 17 years.

"Curbside Recycling is a bad joke in this country," said Gorey. "We love to think we make an impact, but Dallas actually spent \$12 million on curbside last year to resell \$2 million worth of recyclables."

The truth is in the numbers according to the company. A multi-patent pending mechanical separation system uses proven technology to make all the items homogenous, while separating the recyclables from the food and green waste and inert materials. The system has a comprehensive performance guarantee by the manufacturers and systems integrator, backed by a major insurance company. It's not a box, it's cardboard and it's not a milk jug, it's plastic to be bundled and sold. The plastics, papers and metals are baled for resale while the food and green wastes are put into large tanks to gather the methane they make. "Just like the methane system currently at McCommas," said Gorey, "the methane is captured and can be used for many different products, or simply cleaned and sold as natural gas, again just like they do at the landfill."

The company can finance the entire operation from the waste generated by the city and revenue share its profits on a 50/50 basis with Dallas. According to Gorey, the total monies given to the city would range between \$5 million and \$20 million annually for a 20 year contract.

ELECTRONICS

Household battery recycling program collects 1,800 pounds

A pilot program to recycle used household batteries has collected 1,784 pounds of used household batteries since Earth Day. Thirty-nine San Gabriel Valley area businesses, located in California, volunteered to serve as collection sites for consumers to properly dispose of household batteries. The take-back program was organized by the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments and funded by a \$395,966 grant from the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery. California has prohibited trash disposal of batteries since 2006.

Part of the initial project included surveys and focus groups to reveal what consumers do with household batteries when they reach their end of life. Of San Gabriel Valley residents surveyed, 59 percent were unaware that disposing batteries in the trash violates state law, and 56 percent indicated that although they know the law they still put batteries in the trash.

Batteries accepted in this take-back project include standard AAA thru D size alkaline, and rechargeable batteries which come in five chemistries and can be found in many products including digital cam-

eras, cordless phones, two-way radios, wireless keyboards, cordless power tools and cell phones. All household batteries under 11 pounds, alkaline and rechargeable, can be recycled at take-back locations throughout San Gabriel Valley.

Take-back locations range from car washes, grocery stores and camera stores, to hair salons and toy stores throughout the San Gabriel Valley. Some take-back sites have had huge success since April, collecting upwards of 250 pounds. The average take-back locations collected 45 pounds of batteries over a 3-month period. All locations are listed at www.sgvcog.org/batteryrecycling. Participating businesses have a large sticker in a front window to identify it as a take-back site.

Collection boxes are provided to the take-back locations by Call2Recycle®, which is a national battery stewardship organization funded by battery producers.

Residents may properly dispose of both alkaline and rechargeable batteries at HHW round-up events that happen throughout the year in the County of Los Angeles.

E-Waste Systems completes acquisition of Tech Disposal

E-Waste Systems, Inc. has signed a definitive agreement to purchase Tech Disposal, Inc., an electronic waste recycler and asset recovery specialist, based in Ohio. E-Waste Systems, Inc. (EWSI) has developed an acquisition strategy designed to create what it hopes will be an integrated business that unifies the rapidly emerging Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment industry.

This acquisition, if consummated, will be a component of EWSI's plans to acquire what it believes are a select number of quality companies led by capable management teams, which share a commitment to helping businesses achieve cost-effective and environmentally-responsible compliance with

e-waste recycling and disposal requirements.

EWSI's management believes that the location of Ohio is of paramount significance to this mutual agreement as the state, which is the seventh most populated in the nation, that according to Blumberg Associates generates over 200 million pounds of e-waste annually, while less than 20 percent is properly recycled. Due to these statistics, Ohio now has pending legislation regarding the lawful processing of e-waste. Should the bill pass into law, EWSI's business plan is to prepare to support the state's effort in handling the adequate disposal of e-waste.

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EPA fugitive gets prison time for asbestos scam

The former owner of the country's largest asbestos abatement training school was sentenced to prison, after having fled the United States after her trial in November 2008. District Judge Nathaniel M. Gorton sentenced Albania Deleon, 41, formerly of Andover, Massachusetts, to 87 months in prison to be followed by three years of supervised release. She was also ordered to pay more than \$1.2 million in restitution to the Internal Revenue Service and \$369,015 to AIM Mutual Insurance Company. No level of exposure to asbestos is safe, so removal by untrained workers, performed without the necessary safeguards, threatens the health of those workers and the public.

In November 2008, following a three-week trial, Deleon was convicted of a broad range of charges including that she sold training certificates to thousands of illegal aliens who had not taken the mandatory training course. Deleon then placed these unqualified individuals in temporary employment positions as certified asbestos abatement workers in public buildings throughout Massachusetts and New England. Deleon was also convicted of encouraging illegal aliens to reside in the United States, making false statements about matters within the jurisdiction of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); procuring false payroll tax returns, and mail fraud.

From approximately 2001 to 2006, Deleon owned and operated Environmental Compliance Training (ECT), a certified asbestos training school located in Methuen. ECT normally offered training courses on a weekly basis at its Methuen offices, however, many of the recipients of the certificates never took the required course. Instead, with Deleon's knowledge and approval, ECT's office employees issued certificates of course completion to thousands of individuals who did not take the course. These individuals filed the certificates with the Massachusetts Division of Occupational Safety in order to be authorized to work in the asbestos removal industry. Many of the recipients were illegal aliens who wished to skip the four-day long course so that they would not forego a week's pay.

Since ECT's training course records were subject to inspection, Deleon sought to cover up ECT's practice of issuing certificates to untrained applicants by having the applicants sign final examination answer sheets that already had been completed and graded, which she maintained in ECT's files. Based on the evidence at trial and information supplied by the Division of Occupational Safety, ECT issued training certificates to over 2,000 untrained individuals.

Deleon is the fifth environmental criminal captured since the EPA fugitive website was launched in December 2008.

For a direct link to EPA's fugitives list, view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

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METALS

Finished steel imports decrease in August

Based on preliminary Census Bureau data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that the United States imported a total of 2,440,000 net tons (NT) of steel in August, including 1,813,000 NT of finished steel (down 7 percent and 13 percent, respectively, from July final data). Finished steel import market share in August was an estimated 20 percent and is 22 percent year-to date (YTD).

Key finished steel products with significant import increases in August 2011 compared to July include reinforcing bar (up 88 percent), line pipe (up 22 percent) and cut length plates (up 16 percent). Major products with significant YTD import increases versus the same period last year include cut length plates (up 49 percent), plates in coils (up 36 percent), reinforcing bar (up 31 percent), hot rolled bar (up 29 percent), cold rolled sheets (up 28 percent), oil country goods (up 26 percent) and hot rolled sheets (up 19 percent).

U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN (Thousands of Net Tons)					
	AUG 2011	JUL 2011	2011 Annual (est)	2010 Annual	% Change 2011 Annual vs. 2010
SOUTH KOREA	200	304	3,020	2,041	48.0%
JAPAN	91	139	1,481	1,325	11.8%
CHINA	119	156	1,255	858	46.3%
GERMANY	81	87	980	879	11.5%
TURKEY	51	33	804	582	38.3%
INDIA	84	53	757	713	6.2%
RUSSIA	67	89	580	325	78.3%
All Others	1,119	1,234	13,622	12,134	12.3%
TOTAL	1,813	2,095	22,500	18,857	19.3%

In August, the largest volumes of finished steel imports from offshore were from South Korea (200,000 NT, down 34 percent), China (119,000 NT, down 23 percent), Japan (91,000 NT, down 35 percent) and India (84,000 NT, up 58 percent).

For the first 8 months of 2011, the largest offshore suppliers have been South Korea (2,013,000 NT, up 57 percent), Japan (988,000 NT, up 11 percent) and China (837,000 NT, up 48 percent).

Steel import permits down

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 September totaled 2,221,000 net tons (NT). This was an 11 percent decrease from the 2,481,000 permit tons recorded in August.

Import permit tonnage for finished steel in September was 1,659,000 NT, down 9 percent from the preliminary imports total of 1,813,000 NT in August. Year to date (YTD) 2011 total and finished steel import permit tons would annualize at 29,236,000 NT and 22,212,000 NT, up 22 percent and 18 percent, respectively, vs. the 23,929,000 NT and 18,857,000 NT imported in 2010.

The estimated finished steel import market share in September was 20 percent and is 22 percent YTD.

New Hampshire scrap yard fined

Grimmel Industries, a metal scrap recycler located on the Piscataqua River in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, faces a fine for allowing polluted stormwater to flow into surrounding waters, in violation of the Clean Water Act. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking a proposed penalty of up to \$532,500 from the company.

Stormwater monitoring by the property owner of Grimmel's Portsmouth facility confirms stormwater discharges from Grimmel's metal scrap yard operations contain metals, suspended solids and chemical oxygen demand which exceed permit benchmarks. Further, the stormwater discharges contain mercury and PCBs that cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality standards.

Grimmel had several violations of the "Multi-sector General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity," including failing to perform required inspections or sampling, and not performing required reviews of its Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan.

Aluminum industry improves sustainability

Seventy percent of all aluminum ever manufactured is still in use today

A study released by the Aluminum Association documents across-the-board sustainability improvements in the North American aluminum industry. Among the findings of the report, "Aluminum: The Element of Sustainability," are that, since 1991:

- Primary energy demand associated with primary aluminum production has been reduced 17 percent;
- Primary energy demand associated with secondary aluminum production has been reduced 58 percent;
- Cumulative greenhouse gas emissions associated with primary aluminum production have been reduced 72 percent;
- Cumulative greenhouse gas emissions associated with secondary aluminum production have been reduced 65 percent.

"This study puts hard data behind the key metrics that define sustainability for the aluminum industry," said Steve Larkin, president of the Aluminum Association. "It details dramatic reductions in energy

use and greenhouse gas emissions that the industry has achieved through process and technological improvements."

The report also quantifies aluminum's sustainability contributions during the product and end-of-life phases.

Aluminum's use in automotive and light truck applications alone almost wholly neutralizes the environmental impacts associated with the industry's primary production activities, the study found. "Light-weighting" vehicles with aluminum in 2009 offset:

- Ninety percent of the energy consumption associated with primary aluminum production;
- Ninety-six percent of cumulative greenhouse gas emissions associated with primary aluminum production.

Recycling aluminum – which uses only 5 percent of the energy and generates only 5 percent of the emissions associated with primary aluminum production – further compounds the metal's sustainability dividends.

According to the report, in 2009, the recycling of aluminum offset approximately 88 percent of major resource use associated with primary aluminum production.

"This report adds significantly to the growing body of research that indicates that the North American aluminum industry – and the products it produces – is on a path to becoming truly sustainable," said Larkin.

"Seventy percent of all the aluminum ever manufactured – dating back 125 years and over multiple generations – is still in use today. With aluminum's ability to be recycled infinitely, our industry intends to grow that percentage ever higher by recycling all of our aluminum for future generations' use," he added.

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

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METALS

Can Manufacturers Institute debuts new recycling campaign

The Can Manufacturers Institute (CMI) plans to launch a new education and marketing campaign. Highlighting the benefits of recycling steel and aluminum cans, the campaign encourages consumers to "Pass It On."

The campaign showcases the can industry's commitment to sustainability as well as the breadth and scope of recycling efforts. For example, in 2008, 82 million tons of steel were recycled; for comparison, the Golden Gate Bridge was created using 83,000 tons of steel. In addition to print and interactive online ads, the campaign includes a recycling facts quiz.

The launch of the sustainability initiative comes as the United States recycling rate for aluminum beverage cans hit 58 percent last year – the highest rate in more than a decade and double that of any other beverage container. Steel food cans had a recycling rate of 66.8 percent, an all-time record.

Recycled material in aluminum beverage cans results in 95 percent less energy and produces 95 percent fewer greenhouse gas emissions than creating cans from virgin materials. Steel recycling saves enough energy each year to electrically power almost 18 million households. Can recycling is quick and efficient, returning cans to store shelves in as little as 60 days.

PSC Metals makes executive changes

PSC Metals, Inc. has promoted and rehired three executives in its nonferrous operations.

Garey Rittenhouse was appointed vice president, Southern nonferrous trading, with responsibility for PSC Metals' East Tennessee nonferrous operations. Rittenhouse, a former PSC Metals' employee, rejoined the company from Alcoa Recycling. He is based in Knoxville.

Brian Carlone was appointed vice president, Northern nonferrous trading. Carlone joined PSC Metals after having worked for Metalico Annaco, Inc. He has more than 20 years' experience in the industry and is based at PSC Metals' Barberton facility.

Carlone is vice president of the Northern Ohio Chapter of the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI).

Frank Savena rejoined PSC Metals in May, 2011 as director of export sales and copper. Savena is based at PSC Metals' Wooster location and had been with Cronimet Trading.

In recognizing the company's nonferrous operations, Alcoa, Inc.'s rolling mill plant in Davenport, Iowa, honored PSC Metals as a top ten supplier for fall 2011.

Last month, PSC Metals expanded its operations in Missouri, Illinois and Arkansas through acquisitions.

Inland Salvage recovers 1,000 tons of scrap steel

Inland Salvage Inc. recently completed the removal of approximately 1,000 tons of structural scrap steel from a sunken hopper barge and subsequent salvage of the barge which had been obstructing a loading dock on the Mississippi River near LaPlace, Louisiana.

Immediately upon being notified by the dock's owner that Inland Salvage Inc. (ISI) had been appointed as the salvor, ISI responded to the sinking of the 195' hopper barge laden with 1,000 tons of scrap metal when the barge sank.

ISI mobilized salvage equipment and personnel and were on scene within three hours of receiving the notice to commence operations.

A dive survey was conducted and the casualty was found to be buckled, sitting on the river bottom, and listing to port six feet. The casualty was buckled 90 feet aft of the bow head log. The barge was found to be resting on river bottom with bow up river and hull parallel to the dock. There was approximately 35 feet of water over the top of cargo bin wall.

Due to previously scheduled incoming vessels, time was of the essence. Inland Salvage Inc. crews conducted 24



Inland Salvage raises a scrap metal barge on the Mississippi River.

hour operations, lightering scrap metal from the sunken barge and performing dive surveys throughout the 9 day evolution.

Once ISI dive teams and the salvage master determined the majority of scrap had been recovered, rigging was installed and ISI Heavy Lift L A-Frames "Large Marge" and "Big Al" were moved into position. Upon lift and dewatering, the casualty was found compromised and unseaworthy. In order to clear the dock for incoming traffic, the casualty was moved under hook a quarter mile downriver. The barge was then lifted and placed on a receiver barge for future investigation.

Steel shipments down 3 percent

The American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that for the month of July 2011, United States steel mills shipped 7,409,450 net tons, a 3.0 percent decrease from the 7,639,108 net tons shipped in the previous month, June 2011, and a 14.3 percent increase from the 6,481,886 net tons shipped in July 2010. Shipments year-to-date in 2011 are 52,189,307 a 7.0 per-

cent increase vs. 2010 shipments of 48,790,026 for seven months. 2011 shipments through July would annualize at 89 million tons.

A month-to-month comparison of shipments shows the following changes: hot rolled sheet, up 3 percent, cold rolled sheet, down 4 percent and hot dipped galvanized sheets and strip, down 8 percent.

Commodity		Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5
#1 Bushelings	per gross ton	\$364.00	\$355.00	\$383.00	\$460.00	\$470.00
#1 Bundles	per gross ton	357.00	353.00	368.00	459.00	439.00
Plate and Structural	per gross ton	409.00	372.00	440.00	430.00	438.00
#1 & 2 Mixed Steel	per gross ton	403.00	364.00	389.00	390.00	402.00
Shredder Bundles (tin)	per gross ton	335.00	310.00	310.00	340.00	328.00
Crushed Auto Bodies	per gross ton	335.00	310.00	310.00	340.00	339.00
Steel Turnings	per pound	243.00	189.00	261.00	225.00	292.00
#1 Copper	per pound	2.75	2.71	2.95	2.90	3.05
#2 Copper	per pound	2.61	2.64	2.86	2.65	2.94
Aluminum Cans	per pound	.51	.62	.73	.79	.75
Auto Radiators	per pound	1.52	2.01	2.01	1.80	2.05
Aluminum Core Radiators	per pound	.61	.60	.65	.72	.75
Heater Cores	per pound	1.24	1.40	1.59	1.70	1.71
Stainless Steel	per pound	.60	.62	.72	.70	.73
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.						

Sims acquires Rhode Island export facility

Sims Metal Management Limited, a metal and electronic recycling company, has acquired the assets, including the deep sea export facility, of Promet Marine Services Corporation Limited located in Providence, Rhode Island. The deep sea facility is located in the Eastern United States on the Providence River and comprises more than 9 acres of land, a rail serviced 600' pier and 2 deep water berths.

As part of a broader strategic initiative, this acquisition will serve as the company's main export terminal for the New England region. The company will continue to look at opportunities to build out this region with additional acquisitions and greenfield developments.

Sims intends to retain all Promet employees. Additional personnel will be added regionally.

The financial terms of the transaction were not disclosed, however, the purchase price consideration is not material to the company.

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AUTO

Stopping SLAB exports: how to solve the problem

by DIANE L. CULLO

diane@slabwatchdog.com

Spent lead-acid battery (SLAB) exportation is a very real and expanding problem. Each year more than 520 million pounds of SLABs are exported to Mexico alone. Under a best case scenario the used batteries are recycled in facilities with much weaker environmental regulations than in the United States. Because only half of all Mexican recyclers report to the appropriate regulators, we do know that the ones that do report emit 20 times more toxic pollutants than a comparable United States facility.

Under a worst case scenario, SLAB Watchdog believes Mexico hosts countless backyard recycling efforts where workers, families and communities are exposed to lead emissions and particulates, and where sulfuric acid is allowed to soak into the ground water. Two findings documented in Occupational Knowledge International's report, "Exporting Hazards," lead us to believe this situation is possible. First, Mexico does not have a waste manifest system to track the bat-

teries entering the country to ensure they are not being diverted to "guerilla" recyclers. Secondly, the report documents an unlicensed, unregulated battery recycler operating next to an open air market.

These revelations, in conjunction with enduring economic troubles that have pushed domestic unemployment above nine percent, are why the exportation of SLABs must be stopped. With domestic recyclers using the best technology available, operating under strict environmental regulations and continuously innovating to create better technology that all but eliminates emissions regulations, there is no justifiable reason to export a single car battery, let alone more than half a billion pounds of SLABs annually.

Stopping this problem is essential. It is not just a matter of right and wrong, but it can be a matter of life and death. Stopping this practice also will help create American jobs and build a stronger green economy. For some time the avenues to stop SLAB exportation seemed difficult and unattainable; however, recent movement on e-waste

exportation gives hope to those opposed to battery exportation.

The most direct, but most difficult ways to stop SLABs from crossing into Mexico include passage of a law making the practice illegal or the ratification of the Basel Convention and its amendments. Unfortunately, current political realities and a lack of desire from elected officials to engage this debate force consideration of alternative methods. In recent months, thanks to the work of many e-waste advocates, the federal government – through EPA and the General Services Administration – is considering banning the export of all e-waste generated by federal government sources.

Given the similarity between the two issues it only makes sense that SLABs be included in any government effort to ban e-waste exportation. With more than 20 lbs. of lead in each SLAB, the size of the SLAB problem dwarfs e-waste. In fact, Occupational Knowledge International noted in its report, "Exporting Hazards" that "twice as much lead is exported to Mexico in used batteries than is exported in all the electronic waste exported from the States."

While it is estimated the federal government replaces 10,000 computers per week, the amount of SLABs from the 600,000 cars and trucks the federal government owns or leases also needs to be addressed. Add to that amount all the boats, planes, helicopters and emergency back-up systems owned by the government that use lead acid batteries and it becomes clear: the United States government must have a better plan to ensure its SLABs are not sent to developing countries for disposal or reclamation.

SLAB Watchdog believes that if the federal government prevents the exportation of SLABs generated from government sources it will prompt two subsequent actions. First we believe local governments will realize they have a responsibility to ensure SLABs generated by their fleets and purchased with taxpayer money or collected through municipal waste streams, need to remain in the States. Second, we feel the burden to separate government batteries from others collected by the battery brokers and dealers who arrange the disposal of government SLABs will be too great to justify the practice. Instead, we anticipate they will avoid the extra expense and simply send all the collected batteries to domestic recycling sources.

Recycling batteries here at home ensures that lead will be safely and efficiently recycled; environmental impact will be minimized; worker and community health will be protected; and, American jobs will be maintained. By including SLABs with the federal government's efforts on e-waste, we foresee a not too distant future where local, state and federal governments realize that batteries purchased with taxpayer dollars cannot be sent to developing countries to be recycled. Once governments take steps to correct this growing problem, we expect the domino effect to cause private companies to follow suit in short order.

Protecting American jobs, growing domestic recycling industries and safeguarding the environment are all within reach if we realize that SLABs and e-waste cannot and must not be exported.

—Diane L. Cullo is the Director of SLAB Watchdog

Salvaging Millions

by Ron Sturgeon
Autosalvageconsultant.com

Courting a banker with the right experience

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

Ron: What about a banker's experience? What kind of banking experience should they have?

Greg: They should have been a banker for at least five years. But you don't want them to have too much experience, either. If you're planning for the quarter century, not the quarter, you need a banker who's going to be around for a while. You don't want someone who's too young and green, and you don't want someone who's about to retire.

Loan to Deposit Ratios

Ron: You also definitely want to understand the bank's loan-to-deposit ratio. Say a bank has \$20 million to loan, and it's only loaned out \$10 million. That means it has a 50 percent loan-to-deposit ratio. Banks don't make money by not loaning out their money. So then they loan the other half to the Federal Reserve or to someone else at a low rate. But they sometimes only make below one percent at the Federal Reserve.

On the other hand, if a bank has \$100 million to loan, but it has loaned out \$110 million, it has too many loans for its deposit base. A bank with a loan-to-deposit ratio of less than about 70 to 75 percent probably wants to make more loans. But after 90 percent, it probably doesn't. So, as a banker, what would you say is the loan-to-

deposit ratio potential customers should look for? All banks have a legal loan limit; it's the most they can lend any one client. If your loan is big, ask about the bank's loan limit.

There is no reason to discuss a loan that is too big for the lender. Also, since bankers are greedy (aren't most of us?), they often will consider a loan larger than their limit. They accommodate this kind of loan by selling off part of it to another bank. Such an arrangement is called a participation. You should really try to avoid being part of such a deal, because then you have another lender looking at your stuff, making requests. The original bank will manage the relationship, and wants you to believe it doesn't matter, but don't kid yourself. The first bank will have to field requests from the other lender about your relationship and that means you will have more oversight and paperwork.

Greg: I would say that a good sweet spot is between a 70 and a 90 percent loan-to-value ratio. That way, you know they're in the lending business, but they aren't loaned out. Once you find a bank with a ratio over 70 percent, you know they're in the business of lending money.

In our December column, we will explore ways to expand your banking relationships.

Remember, only you can make BUSINESS GREAT!

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



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INTERNATIONAL

Orbite ramps up alumina production in Canada

Exploration Orbite announced that the production mode of alumina has shifted from a batch process to a semi-continuous process. This acceleration in production will allow the company to meet industry and partner demand as well as prepare for the transition of the plant towards a commercial High-Purity Alumina (HPA) production facility. This additional production capability will make full use of Orbite's patented process and demonstrate the process's potential to operate within full-scale industrial conditions over three daily shifts allowing for continuous production.

Recent tests and analyses carried out by independent organizations such as SINTEF and INRS, have confirmed that the physicochemical properties of Orbite's alumina material meet or exceed the standard specifications of the aluminum smelter industry. These specifications, which include bulk density, particle size and specific surface, are specific to the aluminum smelter industry.

These results are further confirmed by the recent production of a high-quality aluminum ingot. SINTEF and INRS, both recognized centers of reference for the aluminum industry, have reported the excellent quality of aluminum produced by Orbite alumina as well as comparable behavior under cell electrolysis conditions with competitor alumina resulting from the Bayer process.

Production at Orbite's plant used the first 400 tons of the aluminous clay bulk sample collected from the deposit located

23 km south of Grande-Vallee in 2010. A new bulk sample of over 3,000 tons has recently been extracted and will be shipped to the Cap-Chat plant. This sample will enable the continued operations of the facility for approximately an additional 12 months.

The alumina, alumina hydrates and aluminum leachate samples have been used in producing external tests and analyses with research centers of excellence in Canada and in Europe, in the production of aluminum products and samples, for third party validation and testing with engineering development partners in Canada and abroad, for the continuous testing as well as for economic optimization.

Over the last few months, the equipment at the Cap-Chat plant has also been operated to successfully test the extraction potential of alumina from samples of bauxite, kaolin and other aluminous ores from regions around the world. These tests, performed for various aluminum firms and mining deposit owners have demonstrated the potential to adapt the Orbite patented extraction process to broader ore value-added chains. This is leading to further discussions about the opportunity for licensing agreements with third party users.

Orbite owns 100 percent of the mining rights on approximately 6,400 hectares of a Grande-Vallee property, the site of an aluminous clay deposit located 23 km to the south of Grande-Vallee, and a 28,000 sq. ft. full scale redundant line pilot plant in Cap Chat, in the Gaspé region.

To create jobs, America can learn from China

"America needs to learn from the example for future growth and long-term sustainability being set by China, and build the infrastructure and invest in the education and development of talent in growth industries, such as renewable energy and electronics, to achieve long-term growth and the continuation of the whole American experience," according to Dr. Stephen Leeb, a recognized authority on finance, investing and economic trends. Leeb spoke with Peter Clayton, producer and host of TotalPicture Radio.

However, the picture Dr. Leeb painted in his interview was troubling. China is gaining ground as a superpower and attaining competitive advantage over other developed countries, especially the United States, by using its profits to globally invest in and control mineral commodities such as coal, oil, zinc, silver and gold. In his latest book, *Red Alert: How China's Growing Prosperity Threatens the American Way of Life*, Leeb argues that access to rare earth resources will determine the standard of living for future generations.

Leeb discussed how "United States officials and politicians engage in short-term myopic planning, endless legal maneuvering, scandals and wartime investing that are crippling America's economic viability." Contrast this with China's government, led by politicians with backgrounds in hard sciences. "China is spending enormous amounts of money planning for, and analyzing, the long-term

consequences of global warming," Leeb asserted. "The Chinese, I don't think, hate Americans, by no means, but the Chinese are all for China. They would like to come off as the heroes in the environmental revolution."

"There's a war going on out there in the world between the two most important economic powers: the United States and China. We don't know we're fighting a war. We are," said Leeb. "Our country needs to start looking forward to our future and how we can win this war and continue to prosper. However, it's going to be virtually impossible to build out a new renewable energy society or create new energies, whether they call them renewable or not, without having access to rare earth. Right now, we don't."

Leeb views China's accumulation of rare earth assets as proof of the country's growing strength. "China almost has a hammerlock on two premier renewable energy markets – wind and solar," said Leeb. "Their control and refining of the heavy rare earth elements, which are essential for building magnets that go into wind turbines, hybrid automobiles and military equipment, clearly demonstrates China's ever-increasing lead in the global environmental revolution."

"You know, the benefit of this is just as in China: if we do wake up to this, we will create a number of very big growth industries in this country – huge growth industries with great jobs," Leeb concluded.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Abraham joins Sennebogen as sales manager

■ Sennebogen LLC has appointed Alberto Abraham as regional sales manager serving Latin America.

Alberto Abraham will provide support and application advice to customers and dealers ranging from Mexico to Argentina. A native of Buenos Aires, Abraham brings a wide range of equipment and engineering experience to his position, including his most recent term, based in Chicago, representing a major manufacturer of heavy-lift equipment.

Sennebogen also introduced Dan Worthey as their new regional manager for the American Northwest.

Doosan relocates certain operations to new location

■ Doosan Infracore Remarketing Services and Latin America Operations has relocated to a new facility in the Miami, Florida area.

People in the Miami office are:

•Gino Morin, remarketing and after-market territory manager.

•Ramon Santiago, logistics and sales support for the remarketing group.

•Jose Argumedo, product and service support for Latin America.

•Magdalena Andrade, customer service and support supervisor for Latin America.

•Elaine Dos Santos Perez, customer support representative for Latin America.

•Tania Moises, customer service representative for Latin America.

PSC Metals acquires Shapiro Brothers, Inc.

■ PSC Metals, Inc. has expanded its operations in Missouri, Illinois and Arkansas by acquiring the assets of Shapiro Brothers, Inc.

Founded in 1946, Shapiro Brothers operates four locations, including two sites in Missouri, one in Illinois and another in Arkansas. Owned by Greg and David Shapiro, the company employs approximately 63 people. They will remain with PSC Metals.

In Missouri, Shapiro Brothers has a shredder in Festus and a feeder yard in Moberly. In Granite City, Illinois, it operates a processing yard and nonferrous warehouse. The Paragould, Arkansas location has a feeder yard.

This is the fourth acquisition PSC Metals has made in 2011. The most recent was its purchase of Wedel Iron and Metal in Crossville, Tennessee in May.

In January, PSC Metals purchased Cash's Scrap Metal & Iron, with five locations in Missouri. In April, PSC bought a full-service feeder yard in Wright City, Missouri.

A fourth-grade teacher was giving her pupils a lesson in logic. "Here is the situation," she said. "A man is standing up in a boat in the middle of a river, fishing. He loses his balance, falls in, and begins splashing and yelling for help. His wife hears the commotion, knows he can't swim, and runs down to the bank. Why do you think she ran to the bank?"

A girl raised her hand and guessed, "To draw out all his savings?"

Cronimet locates new facility in Pensacola

■ Pennsylvania-based stainless steel scrap recycler Cronimet said it plans to locate a manufacturing facility in Pensacola starting in early November.

The announcement was made by Pensacola Bay Area Chamber of Commerce CEO Jim Hizer and chamber Chairman Collier Merrill.

Cronimet's expansion plans will result in the creation of 15 manufacturing and administrative jobs in the Pensacola Bay area.

Hizer said Cronimet's capital investment and jobs created will result in a \$5 million impact to the Pensacola Bay area over the course of the first five years. This is the first location for Cronimet in the state of Florida.

Synalloy names two new board members

■ Synalloy Corporation, a producer of specialty chemicals, pigments, stainless steel pipe, vessels and process equipment, announced the appointment of James W. Terry and Henry L. Guy to its board of directors. They are replacing directors Sibyl N. Fishburn who retired after 32 years of service on the board, and Jeffrey Kaczka, elected to the board in April 2011, who resigned due to the responsibilities required in his new role of chief financial officer for another company.

Henry Guy is the president and CEO of Modern Holdings Incorporated, a diversified holding company with investments primarily in the telecommunications, media, healthcare and energy industries. He joined the firm in 2002 and has led investments in over thirty Modern Holdings subsidiaries.

Guy serves on several boards including those of Basset AB, Evermore Global Advisors, Specialty Claims Management and Lora Photography, Inc. He holds a BS degree in economics from the United States Naval Academy and a masters of business administration from Vanderbilt University.

Jim Terry has been the president of Hollingsworth Funds, Inc., a charitable foundation, since October 2009. His career has been principally in the banking industry where he served as president of Carolina First Bank from 1991 to 2008, and executive vice president of First Union National Bank from 1970 to 1991. He holds a BSBA degree from the University of North Carolina.

Harris appoints new regional sales manager

■ Harris has appointed Page McDaniel to the position of regional sales manager for the Mid-Atlantic Region covering Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania and south New Jersey.

McDaniel is transitioning from her previous position with Harris' international sales division. Her most recent post with Harris was Asia Pacific sales manager and global strategic development.

Universal Stainless chooses new vice president

■ Universal Stainless & Alloy Products, Inc. has named Jeffrey D. Daw vice president of business development. Daw most recently served as vice president of business development for Patriot Special Metals, Inc., North Jackson, Ohio, which Universal Stainless acquired in August. In his new position with Universal Stainless, Daw will lead the efforts of the company to market the products and processes of the North Jackson facility. He will add additional technical expertise to the existing Universal sales force as well as assist operations with process improvement and product expansion.

Previously, Daw served as president and CEO of Republic Special Metals and president of Patriot Forge Group. Daw has held various other management and technical positions throughout his 36 year career.

Bunting Magnetics adds three design engineers

■ Bunting Magnetics Co., headquartered in Newton, Kansas has added three new design engineers within their technical services department. Matthew Mason, Cory Dreiling and Brandon Bousquet, all recent graduates of Wichita State University, will initially concentrate on the material handling product line.

Mason worked at the National Institute for Aviation Research in Wichita, Kansas as a technician. He focused on the creation of carbon fiber parts and materials for use in business jets.

Dreiling brings a strong background in programming and 3D modeling to Bunting. He previously served as a draftsman at Kelly Manufacturing Company in Wichita where he designed parts and assemblies.

Bousquet worked on several major design projects while at his university. These initiatives included creating a new cabin entry system for small aircraft and a log-splitting machine for the timber industry. He has vast experience with LabVIEW, CATIA and MATLAB programming software and has been trained in Six Sigma Engineering processes.

Synagro appoints Eric Zimmer as executive VP

■ Synagro Technologies, Inc. appointed Eric Zimmer as executive vice president, services division. In this newly created position, Zimmer will be focused on delivering new growth in all facets of wastewater capture and conversion services, enhancing the customer service experience and developing new service programs for industrial customers.

Zimmer brings more than 22 years of experience in the environmental services industry, most recently with Safety-Kleen Corporation as executive vice president and division general manager. Zimmer was able to substantially grow the business in both revenue and profit by enhancing the customer experience.



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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Titan Trailers to expand facility in Ontario

■ Titan Trailers has announced plans to expand its manufacturing capacity with a new sub-assembly in nearby Tillsonburg, Ontario.

Titan is best known as the originator of lightweight extruded aluminum smoothside trailer bodies which provide increased load capacity and improved fuel efficiency for transporting heavy-duty materials. Earlier this year, Titan had plans to build a new sub-assembly and parts facility when an existing property in Tillsonburg became available for purchase. The Tillsonburg site offers 60,000 sq.ft. of multipurpose manufacturing space well suited to Titan's requirements.

The new facility will be used primarily to receive warehouse running gear components such as axles, tires and suspension parts, which will be assembled to order onsite. The Tillsonburg site will also complete the installation of the moving floors for Titan's self-unloading trailers.

US Composting Council hires executive director

■ The United States Composting Council (USCC) has hired Michael Virga as its new executive director, effective immediately.

Virga, formerly the executive director of forestry at the American Forest & Paper Association, has been engaged in sustainability efforts throughout his 30 year career.

Virga has been a strong spokesman on environmental issues and has a long track record of delivering value to trade association members and stakeholders.

Capital Partners acquires Roll-Rite Tarping Systems

■ Roll-Rite, LLC, a manufacturer of automated tarping systems serving the construction, refuse and agricultural industries, has been acquired by Capital Partners, a private investment firm located in Greenwich, Connecticut, in conjunction with minority partners Argosy Capital and management.

Capital Partners purchased Roll-Rite from Copeley Capital out of Charlotte, North Carolina. Purchase price was not disclosed.

E-Waste Systems names Hollinshead as CFO

■ E-Waste Systems, Inc. has appointed Steve Hollinshead as chief financial officer. An established international businessman with nearly 30 years of expertise in financial management and reporting, Hollinshead has served in senior finance roles. In his new position, Hollinshead will be responsible for driving E-Waste Systems, Inc.'s financial strategy in order to grow, guide and strengthen the business. He will also serve as a member of the company's board.

Hollinshead joins EWSI from Biwater, a designer and deliverer of water infrastructure worldwide, where he served as group finance director. Earlier in his career, he held the position of chief financial officer at Cascal, a multi-national water utility, previously owned by Biwater. He is a tenured veteran of the financial industry.

Events Calendar

November 9th-10th

Canadian Waste & Recycling Expo. Palais de congres de Montreal, Montreal, QC, Canada. 700-984-8016 • www.cwre.com

January 17th-20th, 2012

US Composting Council 20th Annual Composting Conference and Exposition. Renaissance Hotel, Austin, Texas. 631-737-4931 • www.compostingcouncil.org

January 26th-27th

MiaGreen Expo & Conference. Miami Beach Convention Center, Miami, Beach, Florida. 305-412-0000 • www.miaogreen.com

February 1st - 2nd

8th Annual Clean-Tech Investor Summit. Renaissance Esmeralda Resort & Spa, Indian Wells, California. 516-882-5143 • www.cleantechsummit.com

NEW PRODUCT SHOWCASE



DOOSAN UNVEILS DA40 ARTICULATED DUMP TRUCK

Doosan has launched a new DA40 articulated dump truck (ADT), offering increased engine power and torque, higher payloads, lower fuel consumption and faster travel speeds.

The new Doosan DA40 features an agile undercarriage, which means that it can operate on very rough and soft terrain. Powered by a 6-cylinder diesel engine with a gross power output of 500 hp at 2,100 rpm, and a 22 percent increase in gross torque to 1,750 lb. ft. at 1300 rpm, the torque available is best in class in the ADT market.

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NISSAN FORKLIFT RELEASES QX SERIES ELECTRIC LIFT TRUCKS

Nissan Forklift Corporation's newest addition to its Platinum family of electric lift trucks, the QX Series, offers safety, efficiency and value.

The QX Series of 80-volt electric lift trucks, featuring four models ranging from 4,000 to 6,000 lb. capacities, uses 80-volt, 100 percent AC power. The series features a tight turning radius and low center of gravity. The standard regenerative braking system reduces power consumption, allowing for longer operating hours for increased efficiency. The series also offers greater value through longer component life and lower maintenance costs.

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815-568-0061
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The Model 2100-SE enhancements include a new cab, featuring better visibility, more room, more powerful heater and air conditioning system; a modular power unit, capable of being machine mounted or floor mounted; a threefold increase in hydraulic oil cooling capability which reduces premature cylinder seal, gasket, hose and other rubber component wear; and a more energy efficient, 75 hp electric motor.

The 2100-SE is extremely versatile in a number of material handling applications and the cost of operation as compared to a diesel powered machine, can be up to 60 percent less.

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www.builttritehandlers.com



SHAFT COUPLING ADAPTERS SIMPLIFY DRIVE REPAIRS

Stafford Manufacturing Corp. has released a standard line of rigid shaft coupling adapters that can be modified to solve a wide range of shaft mating problems.

They feature a standard clamp-type female end that attaches to an existing shaft and a male output shaft. Both ends are machineable by the factory or end-user to match customer requirements, and they are available in bore sizes from 1/8" to 8" I.D., with shafts up to 8" O.D., and lengths up to 4 ft., depending upon bore size.

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North Reading, MA 01864
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www.staffordmfg.com



VEZZANI INTRODUCES MOBILE PRESS SHEARS

Vezzani S.p.A. has introduced the new VS Series of transportable shears. The new VS model pre-compression shear is offered as a mobile system in the 600 to 700 ton range that utilizes the same efficient gravity feed system that Vezzani patented for its acclaimed PC/AC stationary shears.

High mobility and easy setups allow material to be processed directly onsite and shipped to its final destination right away. The VS transportable shear is capable of achieving greater than 20 tons per hour of dense material.

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PAGE ADVERTISER

A7	Al-jon, Inc.
A17	Aluminum King
A8	ARPI
B3	Bomac
A4	Call Shaughnessy
A16	CIF Industries
A17	ClearSpan
A14	Connecticut Metal Industries
A10	Copper Wire Stripper
A3	Cumberland Recycling
A13,B8	DADE
B1	Excel Manufacturing
A14	Gershow Recycling
A23	Government Liquidation
B4	Harris
A2	Iron Ax, Inc.
A8	Komar Industries
A5	Langston Companies, Inc.
A9	Mettler Toledo
A15	Moley Magnetics
A24	OverBuilt, Inc.
A3	Recycling Services Intl.
A12	RM Johnson
A11	Sierra International
A6	SSI Shredding Systems, Inc.
B5	Sterling Blower
A18	US Composting Council

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Mississippi Industrial Waste Disposal acquired

■ Waste Pro USA, Inc. has acquired Mississippi Industrial Waste Disposal, Inc. (MIWD) a privately owned commercial solid waste company in Mississippi.

Based in Columbus, Mississippi, MIWD has been in operation since 1971 and services 7 counties in Mississippi and Alabama.

Located in Columbus, MIWD provides disposal, recycling, demolition, and collection services in both industrial and commercial waste. Included in the purchase were administrative offices, containers, and front and rear load service vehicles.

Waste Pro will assume all current contracts, including service at Columbus Air Force Base.

Dynamis and Planova construct plants in Brazil

■ Dynamis Energy and Planova launched a partnership to pursue opportunities in South America's growing waste management market. Under the agreement, the companies will work together to build and manage waste-to-energy facilities in Brazil, Argentina and Peru.

Dynamis Energy's 3.0 Waste-to-Energy Technology is a patent pending modular system with the ability to process a wide spectrum of waste streams, uses very little fuel per cycle, and process waste, while maintaining very low emissions.

Harris appoints new Mid-Atlantic sales manager

■ Harris has appointed Page McDaniel to the position of regional sales manager for the Mid-Atlantic Region covering Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania and south New Jersey.

McDaniel is transitioning from her previous position with Harris' international sales division. Her most recent post with Harris was Asia Pacific sales manager and global strategic development. McDaniel will be reporting to Bob Pfeffer, director of United States sales.

Powerscreen Florida adds Komptech to product line

■ Komptech USA has added another dealer to serve its growing number of customers. Powerscreen is a manufacturer of mobile crushing, screening, and washing machinery for the quarrying, mining, and recycling industries. Powerscreen Florida serves the Southeast United States and Caribbean. To round out its lineup, the company has added Komptech screeners, shredders, and compost turners to its portfolio.

Ryan Wagner joins Pemberton sales team

■ Pemberton, Inc. announced that Ryan Wagner has joined their sales team. His territory covers Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

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- 2006 M325C MH** (Rubber) 47' Reach, Hyd Cab, 15KW Gen, Grapple \$229,000
- 2005 M325C MH** (Rubber) 47' Reach, Hyd Cab, 15KW Gen, Grapple \$239,000
- 2003 365BL MH** (Crawler) 62' Reach, 4' Elev Cab, 3.5 Yd Clam Shell Bucket \$350,000

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- 2005 A924B** (Rubber) 42' Reach, Hyd Cab, 15KW Gen, Grapple \$209,000
- 2004 A924B** (Rubber) 42' Reach, Hyd Cab, 15KW Gen, Grapple \$189,000
- 2002 A924B** (Rubber) 42' Reach, Hyd Cab, 15KW Gen, Grapple \$169,000
- 2006 A934B** (Rubber) 48' Reach, Hyd Cab, 20KW Gen, Grapple \$229,000
- 2005 A934B** (Rubber) 48' Reach, Hyd Cab, 20KW Gen, Grapple \$219,000
- 2001 A934** (Rubber) 48' Reach, Hyd Cab, 10KW Gen, Grapple \$169,000
- 2007 A944C HD** (Rubber) 60' Reach, Hyd Cab, Gen, Grapple POR
- 2006 R924B EW** (Crawler) 40' Reach, Hyd Cab, 15KW Gen, Grapple \$189,000

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FUCHS

- 2009 MHL340 (rubber), 41' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2006 MHL350 (rubber), 50' reach, A/C hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2006 MHL331 (rubber), 35' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2005 MHL 350 (rubber), 50' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2006 & 2005 MHL360 REBUILT (rubber), 59' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 1995 MHL 350 REBUILT (rubber), 50' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.

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- 1999 R934EW REBUILT (crawler), 50' reach, 4' cab riser, gen-set and grapple.
- 1999 A924 (rubber), 41' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 1994 A932 REBUILT (rubber), hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.

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- 2007 & 2004 830M (rubber), 50' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2007 825D (rubber), 43' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2005 835R (crawler) 52' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2005 835M REBUILT (rubber), 55' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2004 825M REBUILT (rubber), 43' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 2000 830M REBUILT (rubber), 46' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.

OTHERS

- 2010 Atlas 350 (rubber), 55' reach, hydraulic cab, gen-set and grapple.
- 1999 Komatsu PW130 (rubber), 27' reach, 3' cab riser, gen-set, solid tires and grapple.
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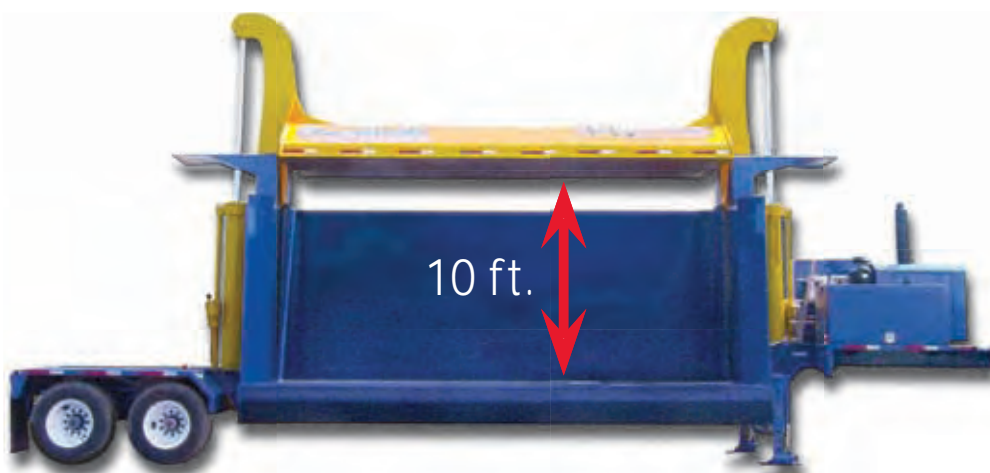
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Recycled plastics enter rooftop solar energy market

by MIKE BRESLIN

mbreslin@americanrecycler.com

The green community likes nothing better than integrating recycled materials into renewable energy and sustainability projects. It's a double-down sustainable solution that appeals to solar developers, public utility commissions, community sponsors and, most of all, to commercial and residential buyers.

That's one reason why more rooftop photovoltaic (PV) panels are being mounted on plastic bases using both 100 percent recycled high density polyethylene (HDPE) and mixes of virgin and recycled resins. These bases, often referred to as mounts, units, pods or tubs are primarily used on flat, membrane commercial rooftops.

Each mount holds a single, standard-size PV panel usually 39" x 64" tilted at the most productive angle to the sun, depending on latitude. In the lower 48 states, the angle can range from 5 to 15 degrees and up to 30 degrees in Canada. On roofs, the mount is placed directly on the membrane. The plastic tub is then filled with loose stone or concrete blocks to hold down the mount. Weight of the ballast is determined by location windload. Over 300 lbs. of ballast are used in severe wind conditions. PV panels are bolted to the mounts. Mounts have weep holes for water and air vents to relieve heat build-up. Rows of mounts can be wired and bolted together side to side, and end to end to form an array.



Solar arrays with panels mounted in HDPE "Pods" manufactured by Canada's Solar Power Products are doubly green – they repurpose recycled plastic to harvest renewable solar energy.

There are other types of commercial rooftop systems such as SunPower's solar roof tiles, which are factory assembled units that combine a PV panel in a plastic mount. Tiles are interlocked on a roof to form an array.

Plastic units are relatively new to North America. There are only a

handful of manufacturers representing less than 5 percent of installed mounts (the balance being aluminum and stainless steel). In North America, plastic mounts have only begun to be used within the past 10 to 15 years, yet they may come to dominate commercial rooftop solar market due to

several advantages besides their recycled content.

John Hudson, director of engineering at Renusol America, the only company using 100 percent recycled material, summed up the benefits of plastic: "Our product is less expensive than

See SOLAR PLASTIC, Page 7

Companies settle alleged violations at Hercules Franklin plant

Three companies have agreed to pay more than \$1 million in penalties to settle alleged environmental violations at the Hercules Franklin Plant in Courtland, Virginia.

The Department of Justice and the Environmental Protection Agency have reached a settlement with Hercules Inc. and GEO Specialty Chemicals, Inc., who have agreed to pay a \$700,000 penalty for alleged violations of several federal environmental laws. In an earlier January 2011 settlement, Eastman Specialty

Chemicals, Inc., which owned and operated a portion of the facility, agreed to pay a \$365,500 penalty for alleged violations related to its operations at the plant.

The Franklin Plant, which is adjacent to the banks of Nottoway River, manufactured chemicals for the paper and printing industry. In the 1990s, Hercules, the original owner of the plant, sold parts of the facility to Eastman and GEO. Eastman and GEO also manufactured chemicals at the facility. GEO sold its operations and Eastman closed a sig-

nificant portion of its operations at the plant in 2009.

Along with the settlement papers, the United States filed a complaint against Eastman in the spring and a joint complaint against Hercules and GEO alleging environmental violations related to their individual operations at the Franklin plant. Violations include: deficient oil spill prevention and control plans; deficient facility plans to respond to emergency spills; inadequate oil spill response drills and exercises; unlawful oil discharges into the Nottoway River;

inadequate oil storage tank "secondary containment;" failure to make required hazardous waste determinations; inadequate plant lighting; failure to report the storage of lead acid batteries; and unpermitted operation of the sodium hydroxide rail car storage area.

The Justice Department will file both settlements in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, which has jurisdiction over Northern Virginia, Hampton Roads and Richmond metro areas.

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A Letter from the Editor

Readers,

Paper was once the gold standard for conveying meaning across time and distance. An inexpensive and easily produced commodity, paper was the way that businesses conducted business. Communications, notices, invoices and payments were remitted on good ol' paper stock and creatively designed letterhead via the United States Postal Service.

Sadly, paper has been overthrown as the king of communication. People and businesses are migrating to an even cheaper and more convenient medium by which to communicate – the internet.

The days of waiting eagerly for letters (or dreading bills) in the mail are over. Now, our world is an interconnected and instantaneous web of electronic information. Banks, utilities and credit card companies are all pushing their customers into paperless statements and bills. Consumers are paying those bills online, with funds that were electronically deposited into their checking accounts – the only proof of which was an electronic notification that the transaction had taken place.

Even books, seemingly the last bastion of the printed word, are slowly being supplanted by electronic images of books. E-books, as they've come to be known, tout their various "benefits" over their cumbersome hardbound brethren.

As for me, I'm torn. I do appreciate instantaneous information about the state of my checking account (which is nothing to brag about lately), but reading an electronic publication doesn't satisfy me the same way that reading it on paper does. There's nothing tactile about an e-reader – no textured paper to turn, nor any scent of freshly printed ink. There's also no way to appreciate just how much material you've read when you can't go back and see the physical size of the book you've just finished. Knowing that the book was 575 kb of information isn't as satisfying as knowing that you just completed a 600 page novel. Plus, how does one show off an electronic library?

I know that many of our readers feel the same way. Despite the steady migration of news to an online format, I continue to receive requests from readers for the print version, and all of the material pleasures that accompany it.

Until next month, and unrepentantly nostalgically yours,



Dave Fournier
Focus Section Editor
david@americanrecycler.com

AbitibiBowater announces name change

AbitibiBowater announced that it will change the company name to Resolute Forest Products.

"We are changing our name to Resolute Forest Products to better reflect the fundamental characteristics of the company we are today, including our determination, strength and resolve to be a profitable, sustainable organization," stated Richard Garneau, president and chief executive officer. "With our competitive cost structure, diversified revenue base and strong balance sheet, we are well-positioned for the long term."

The company identity change follows an initiative, launched in April 2011, in which employees were invited to suggest a new name for the company. An internal selection committee and the executive team chose Resolute Forest Products from among approximately 1,400 employee submissions.

On November 7, 2011, the company will begin using Resolute Forest Products and related visual identity on its marketing materials, website, signage and other communications. When communicating in French, the company

will use the name Produits forestiers Résolu. Prior to the November launch, the company continued to be referred to as AbitibiBowater.

While the company will be doing business as Resolute Forest Products as of November 7, AbitibiBowater Inc. and its subsidiaries will not change their legal entity names until the company obtains shareholder approval as required by law. The company will seek formal shareholder approval at its 2012 annual general meeting.

For customers, suppliers and other stakeholders with whom the company interacts, little will change beyond how the company will refer to itself and its products. The company will operate "business as usual" with respect to invoicing, payments, contracts, company stocks and stock market listings. AbitibiBowater will work to ensure the transition to the new identity is as smooth and seamless as possible for all its stakeholders.

The Resolute Forest Products logo calls to mind the forest in which the company works, the paper and lumber products it manufactures, and the mod-



ern and dynamic nature of the organization. Paper products are reflected in the half-circle of the "R", symbolizing a paper roll, as well as in the folds within the logo. The rectangular and triangular shapes, in the legs of the "R", represent wood products and forestry. Through the use of green as a primary color, the design also depicts the company's determination to be a profitable business, committed to sustainability.

AbitibiBowater owns or operates 18 pulp and paper mills and 24 wood products facilities located in the United States, Canada and South Korea.

KapStone Paper to acquire U.S. Corrugated

KapStone Paper and Packaging Corporation has announced that it has signed an agreement to acquire the stock of U.S. Corrugated, Inc. (USC) for \$330 million in cash and subject to certain post-closing adjustments. Closing of the acquisition is subject to a number of customary conditions, including regulatory review and receipt of financing.

USC operates a 240,000 ton recycled containerboard paper mill in Cowpens, South Carolina and 20 converting facilities in the eastern and mid-western United States. Six of such operating facilities will be disposed of by USC prior to the closing. Those facilities will remain under the management and control of Dennis Mehiel, chairman of the board and current majority stock-

holder of U.S. Corrugated. In 2010, the operations to be acquired from USC generated \$423 million in net sales.

Chairman and chief executive officer, Roger W. Stone, stated, "This acquisition will increase our exposure to the highly desirable containerboard segment. Also, we believe that because USC is a net purchaser of 195,000 tons of containerboard that the risk of costly economic downtime will be mitigated throughout the economic cycle.

Stone concluded, "Strategically, the acquisition of USC transforms KapStone into a much more profitable and stronger company providing additional momentum for KapStone to continue its record of excellence for increasing value to our shareholders."

KapStone has committed financing from Bank of America, N.A. and Barclays Capital for a \$525 million senior secured credit facility. The new credit facility is expected to consist of a \$150 million revolving credit facility and a \$375 million term loan maturing over five years. At closing, a portion of the proceeds will be used to pay off KapStone's existing \$101 million term loan.

A bum asked a man for \$2. The man replied, "Will you buy booze?"

The bum said, "No."

The man asked, "Will you gamble it away?"

The bum said, "No."

Then the man asked, "Will you come home with me so my wife can see what happens to a man who doesn't drink or gamble?"

AEP to acquire Webster Industries

AEP Industries Inc. has reached a definitive agreement to acquire substantially all of the assets and specified liabilities of Webster Industries, a privately-held national manufacturer and distributor of retail and institutional private label food and trash bags, in a cash transaction valued at approximately \$28.4 million, subject to a post-closing working capital adjustment. Webster has operations in Montgomery, Alabama and is an operating division of Chelsea Industries, Inc.

Founded in 1957, Webster sold 93 million pounds of product with recorded net sales of \$145 million in 2010. Webster's product lines include food contact products, which consist of food storage and freezer bags with a resealable zipper, bags with a slider close, fold top and twist tie food storage and sandwich bags, and conventional trash bag products.

"This opportunity allows us to enter into a new market with significant cross-selling potential," said Brendan Barba, chairman, president and chief executive officer of the company. "The private-label market continues to thrive, and with a stronger, more diversified portfolio of products, we will be able to build on our success in the plastics industry and create additional long-term value for our shareholders. We expect to achieve significant cost savings, realized principally from improved resin purchasing and other synergies throughout the combined organization."

The company plans to finance the transaction through a combination of cash on hand and availability under its revolving credit facility.

UPCOMING Section B editorial FOCUS TOPICS

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Trashed plastics could produce significant energy

A new study conducted by the Earth Engineering Center (EEC) of Columbia University and sponsored by the American Chemistry Council has found that if all of the non-recycled plastics that are currently put into landfills each year in the United States were converted to energy using currently available technologies, they could provide at least enough energy to fuel six million cars annually.

"Plastics have a significantly higher energy value than coal," said professor Marco J. Castaldi of the Earth and Environmental Engineering Department of Columbia University and associate director of EEC. "Capturing the energy value of non-recycled plastics – and municipal solid waste in general – makes good sense because it provides a good domestic form of energy while minimizing impacts on the environment."

The study also estimated that if all the non-recycled plastics discarded in the United States annually were diverted to modern waste-to-energy facilities, they could produce 52 million MWh of electricity, or enough to power 5.2 million households per year. Similarly, if all the municipal solid waste produced in the United States was diverted from landfills to waste-to-energy facilities, it could produce 162 MWh of electricity, or enough to power 16.2 million households every year.

"As the United States seeks alternative fuel sources, research like this is crucial to helping iden-

tify alternative fuel sources for policy makers," noted Dr. Nickolas Themelis, director of the Earth Engineering Center at Columbia University.

"Even after use, plastics continue to be a valuable resource," said Steve Russell, vice president of plastics for the American Chemistry Council. "Whenever possible, plastics should be recycled," Russell said, "But when plastics aren't recycled, there is still a tremendous opportunity to recover this abundant energy source to power our homes, vehicles and businesses."

Although in the United States plastics are made primarily from natural gas, a growing number of innovative technologies are effectively turning non-recycled plastics into crude oil, electricity and other fuels.

Many of these technologies are already being implemented on a commercial scale in Europe, Canada and Asia.

The full study, "Energy and Economic Value of Non-Recycled Plastics and Municipal Solid Wastes that are Currently Landfilled in the Fifty States," summarizes information on non-recycled plastics and total municipal solid waste in each of the 50



Plastic sports drink bottles have a significantly higher energy value than coal.

states and quantifies the potential energy and economic value of recovering this material.

Given that the study looked exclusively at municipal solid waste, the actual amount of recoverable materials in the United States and the energy values associated with them are likely greater than those included in the scope of this study.

Plastic bottle recycling hits record high

Plastic bottle recycling by consumers increased 123 million pounds in 2010 (up 5 percent) to reach a record high of nearly 2.6 billion pounds for the year, according to figures released jointly by the American Chemistry Council (ACC) and the Association of Postconsumer Plastic Recyclers (APR).

The 21st annual National Post-Consumer Plastics Bottle Recycling Report also marks the twenty-first consecutive year that Americans have increased the pounds of plastic bottles that have been returned for recycling. The pounds of bottles collected for recycling has grown each year since the industry survey began in 1990. The recycling rate for plastic bottles rose one percent to reach nearly 29 percent in 2010.

APR, which represents more than 90 percent of the postconsumer plastics recycling capacity in North America, recently introduced a series of bale specifications to help buyers and sellers of post-consumer plastics to come to a common understanding of available materials.

A separate study titled, "Plastics Recycling Collection: National Reach Study" published earlier this year and sponsored by ACC found that 94 percent of Americans now have access to recycle plastic bottles – making consumer access to plastics recycling more widespread than previously believed.

Volunteers plant floating plastic islands

Hundreds of volunteers helped launch 187 "floating islands" in a demonstration project of new technology to protect the area south of Houma, Louisiana, that is considered to be "ground zero" for coastal land loss in America.

The islands offer promise, not only to protect existing land against eroding wave action, but also as a means of building new land in shallow open waters in an area that has suffered some of the nation's greatest loss of land.

Martin Ecosystems of Baton Rouge, the company that is installing the islands with the help of volunteers from Entergy, Shell, CCA, Brown and Caldwell, local 4-H club members, Bayou Faith Shared Community Organizing (BISCO), Bayou Grace Community Services, Pointe Aux Chene Elementary, Montegut Middle School, Future Leaders of America's Gulf (FLAG), Sassafras Louisiana and the local Native American tribes, will monitor the effectiveness of the islands over the next year.

The 5' x 8' islands were planted with 40 to 60 native plants by volunteers, then anchored end-to-end for 1,500 ft. next to remaining marshes on the thin strip of road that leads to Isle de Jean Charles, south of Houma. The plants will set roots into the water bottoms, forming traps for land-building sediments. Several islands will be stacked away from shore to test their ability to build land in open water.

The floating islands create a man made ecosystem that mimics naturally occurring wetlands. They are made of

100 percent recycled plastic bottles which have been found to be safe for marine life, Coast Guard approved marine foam for buoyancy and held in place on a PVC pipe frame.

"This is the first site where we will have islands off by themselves," Nicole Martin Waguespack, spokesperson for

Martin Ecosystems said. "In our previous installation, along the banks of Bayou Sauvage, we are already seeing plants jump off the island and set roots after three months. This is going to be a good test for the effectiveness of the floating islands to generate new vegetation and new land."

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EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

Vertical Balers

by MARY M. COX

maryc@americanrecycler.com

Vertical balers can be used for recycling paper, plastic, nonferrous material, wire, aluminum cans, cardboard or even used clothes. The machines are ideal for compacting large amounts of material into a dense, secure unit, which makes for easier storage of the material or immediate transport or sale. The units created by balers also help to optimize storage or transport capacity and can help keep work areas clean and clutter-free.



IPS Balers, Mfg.

Harmony Enterprises has offered versatile and highly-customizable balers and compactors for recycling since 1970. According to Brent Christiansen, vice president of sales, "Quality, dedication and attention to detail is what sets our products apart. Our equipment is not only built to offer superior functionality, but is also designed to be aesthetically pleasing and fit well within our client's workplace."

Compliant with all safety regulations, Harmony products also carry the CE mark. "With over 40 models of vertical balers, automatic balers, and indoor and outdoor compactors, we offer products that fit the demand of any solid waste recycling need. We have several models for recycling paper and plastic but the two systems that really stand out are the T60XDRC and S60XDRC models," Christiansen said. He stated that both systems can be configured as a unique rear feed baler for use in very high capacity situations, and a simple front feed system

is also offered for situations where space is limited.

Via the rear feed system, steel and aluminum cans, plastic bottles and newsprint are simply dumped into the conveyor hopper. The material is then conveyed into the baler and automatically compacted into extremely dense bales. When the desired bale height is reached, the baler shuts down and a signal alerts the operator to tie off and eject the bale. The computer engineered frames can withstand 235,620 lbs. of force, and the T60XDRC features a 10" bore hydraulic cylinder with twin torque tubes. Extra heavy duty construction extends to every aspect of the machines, including the dual hydraulic ejectors, which smoothly eject bales weighing over 2,000 pounds. A hydraulically operated variable speed conveyor option is controlled by the baler and is designed to maximize productivity.

A large 7" cylinder, 96,000 lb. ram pressure, and 42 second cycle time, coupled with its rear hopper and conveyor, provides the power and capacity to quickly bale a variety of materials and the machines offers the option to manually feed various materials through the front door. The rear hopper and conveyor loading system saves labor and preparation time and the product is ideal for: recycling centers, transfer stations, supermarkets, hotels and motels, department stores, manufacturing facilities, colleges/universities, military bases, shopping centers and many industrial/commercial applications.

Baler output provides the operator with consistent, high-quality, heavy bales without preconditioning and results in a reduction of required storage space and transportation costs. All Harmony Enterprise machines are designed for many years of reliable, trouble free service. The S60XDRC model is usually purchased with a 36" wide conveyor but can be customized to accommodate a 48" conveyor.

"A vertical baler is a sound investment. A customer who wants to bale and sell cardboard can typically see a complete return on their investment within a year," said Mary C. Johnson, inside sales and shipping manager at Harris. The company offers eight different vertical baler models that are "affordable, durable, and easy to operate in reducing waste and associated costs. Our heavy duty products are easily unloaded, meet ANSI standards, have UL approved con-

trol panels and can bale newspaper, cardboard, high grade paper, plastics, steel/aluminum cans and nonferrous metals. Harris balers are designed with space in mind and with a maximum width of 75", depth of 47", and height of 148", it is easy to find the perfect location in your facility for one of our balers," Johnson said.

Ken Korney is sales manager at IPS Balers. IPS offers has a full line of vertical balers to meet the challenges of baling plastics, containers, nonferrous and fiber material. "Our balers are in operation worldwide and in most industries that generate waste which can be recycled – including municipal solid waste. Our most popular and generally used vertical baler is the Model V-60-B, which produces a mill size bale (60" x 30" x 45") of old corrugated containers at a weight of up to 1,100 lbs.



Harris

"Features of the baler include a control panel disconnect switch, a pressure gauge in the hydraulic system, a safety guard and limit switch, and 'pinch points' have been eliminated in the rear of the frame," Korney stated. He said that IPS strives for continuous improvement in product design so their balers are as efficient, green and user and maintenance-friendly as they can be. IPS works with major, national companies to help provide equipment for material recycling facilities with single stream recycling processes. "Our patented designs include examples like as our 'Pre-Compression Lid' and our 'Articulating Hinge-Side'. These features help increase baling production, reduce wear and extend floor life," Korney said.

Manufacturer List

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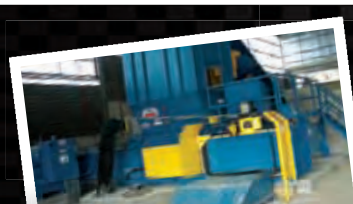
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New processes could make junk plastics recyclable

The findings from a series of trials funded by Waste & Resources Action Programme (WRAP) show it could soon be possible to recycle almost all plastic packaging waste from the home.

Despite more than 330,000 tons of plastic packaging being collected for recycling each year, more than a million tons still end up going to landfill because of the difficulty of collecting and recycling films, the difficulty in detecting and sorting black plastics and the lack of high value markets for non-bottle plastics.

A series of trials, funded by WRAP, have for the first time identified methods of recycling black plastics, complex laminated plastics, plastic films and polypropylene (PP) that would typically be destined for landfill.

For example, by using non-carbon pigments in the manufacture of black plastics, it is possible to create a

material that is almost identical in color, but can be identified by the optical sorting equipment used by many MRFs. This could lead to the widespread recycling of the most common plastic used in packaging. Feedback from retailers has been encouraging, and the plastic trays could be recycled into high value single-polymer materials.

Complex laminated packaging, the material used in toothpaste and cosmetics tubes, contains a layer of aluminium sandwiched between plastic, and a second trial has identified a way to extract this high value aluminium. WRAP estimates that there is around 155,000 tons of this laminated packaging in the UK waste stream with an aluminium content of around 14,800 tons.

A third study has seen the development of a technique that could recycle post-consumer PP back in to material

suitable for food-grade applications. More work is still needed, but WRAP believes this could help to grow high value markets for recycled PP, following a similar path to that developed by rHDPE and rPET. It could also deliver higher environmental benefits as retailers and brands start to use it in their packaging.

And work done by The Co-operative Group and Sainsbury's, with WRAP, has identified a variety of uses for plastic films recycled in-store by customers and staff. These applications include bags for life, in-store signage and external cladding.

A system has also been developed that cleans and recycles contaminated film, producing a pellet with a sales value of \$550 to \$750 per ton. With the cost of sending this material to landfill currently at \$130 per ton, the advantages are clear.

Marcus Gover, director of Closed Loop Economy at WRAP, said, "When we first looked at recycling non-bottle plastic packaging back in 2007, we carried out detailed studies to make sure it would be technically and economical viable.

"We also carried out a thorough life-cycle assessment to make sure it was the best environmental option. We're now seeing this recycling becoming a reality, creating jobs and re-invigorating the manufacturing industry in the UK – reducing our reliance on exports.

"There have been, and there are still, barriers to overcome, and WRAP will continue to work closely with the industry to develop these new methods and technologies so that in the future, local authorities can offer their residents a way of recycling even more of their plastic packaging."

Free opt-out service for unwanted advertising mail

Ecomaine, a nonprofit municipally-owned recycling and waste disposal operation, has announced a free opt-out service for unwanted advertising mail and phone books. Though any resident and business can participate, ecomaine has created a dedicated website for its 43 communities; they can register on-line at <http://ecomaine.catalogchoice.org> or through a link at www.ecomaine.org for the Catalog Choice program to stop deliveries of specific unwanted catalogs, coupons, credit card solicitations, and other advertising mail from more than 3,000 companies.

City of Portland director of public services Michael Bobinsky, chairman of the ecomaine board of directors, explained

that, "Although recycling is good, reducing waste is even better. The reduction of unwanted advertising mail helps all participating municipalities reduce costs associated with solid waste and saves natural resources, as well."

The average American household receives 900 pieces of advertising mail each year, which weighs nearly 100 lbs.

"Junk mail doesn't just take up valuable space in our schedules and our mailboxes but in our landfills as well, with nearly half of the estimated 100 billion pieces of junk mail Americans receive each year going to our landfills unopened," said Ron Dyer, director of the Bureau of Remediation & Waste Management at the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. "If just 10 percent of the households in ecomaine's 43 communities sign up for this service, each year we would see more than 12 million pieces of junk mail stopped at the source and prevent 1.3 million pounds of paper from overwhelming our landfills."

According to Catalog Choice, also a nonprofit corporation, on average an American household receives 900 pieces of advertising mail each year, which weigh a total of 100 lbs. They report that 1.4 million households and businesses around the country have already registered and that Catalog Choice has processed more than 20 million opt-out choices.

A golfer hooked his tee shot over a hill and onto the next fairway. Walking toward his ball, he saw a man lying on the ground, groaning with pain. "I'm an attorney," the wincing man said, "and this is going to cost you \$5,000."

"I'm sorry! I'm really sorry," the concerned golfer replied. "But I did yell 'fore'."

"I'll take it," the attorney said.

EcoLogic biodegradation additives utilized in Argentina

EcoLogic, a company creating and providing environmentally responsible solutions globally for plastics, announced that the company's Eco-One additives for enhancing biodegradation of plastics are being used by La Primera de Cuyo, a manufacturer of flexible packaging in Argentina, in a new line of polyethylene plastic bags.

These new plastic bags were unveiled at an event in Mendoza, Argentina. During a presentation, Licenciado Fernando Retamales, production manager of La Primera de Cuyo, discussed the advantages of the

material innovation. As with all products made with Eco-One, in accordance with ASTM D5511, the plastic bags will undergo significant biodegradation in biologically active landfills, breaking the plastic down into nutrient rich soil and natural gases, which can be captured for energy creation. The product technology offers a safe and sustainable alternative to traditional plastic bags while not adversely impacting normal product performance or the physical properties of the polyethylene bag.

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A Closer Look

by Donna Currie

Hosokawa Polymer Systems

Jack Bowne • 800-233-6112

"Plastics, young man; plastics." That line from the 1967 movie, *The Graduate*, held special significance to Jack Bowne, vice president of sales and marketing of Hosokawa Polymer Systems. When that movie came out, he was working in the electronics industry, but by 1968, he had started working for a company that had both an electronics division and a plastics division.

"I didn't see the movie until 1968," he said. And while he was working for the electronics division when he first started with the company, it wasn't long before he was working for the plastics division. The movie seemed to be prophetic.

At that time, the company he worked for was importing and reselling granulation equipment, but by the mid-70s it started manufacturing its own equipment. That company was sold several times, until it finally became Hosokawa Polymer Systems. Bowne stayed with the company through all of those changes.

These days, not only does the company manufacture granulation systems, but it also engineers complete systems for recovering and recycling plastics.

Bowne said that the biggest part of the business is working with industrial recycling, where manufacturers pelletize and reuse their own materials. "They can put it right back into the manufacturing," Bowne said.

In the film industry – the manufacture of plastic grocery bags, dry cleaning bags, and similar thin plastics – Bowne said there was "a tremendous amount" of material that can be reused within the plant.

Back when Bowne started in the business, plastic was not as ubiquitous as it is today. "You touch plastic all day long," he said, from plastic bottles to plastic pipes for water in your house to food packaging, blister packaging, meat and frozen food packaging. And none of that existed when Bowne first started in the industry.

"Think of the medical industry," he said, where not only is plastic used for equipment, but plastic lenses are used for cataract patients.

In the automotive industry, gas tanks in cars are now plastic, after years of being made from steel and then aluminum. Car bumpers are plastic rather than steel. None of that was true when Bowne was watching *The Graduate* and beginning his career in the industry.

Bowne said that one of the more interesting projects was for a manufacturer of blow-molded gas tanks. "We have to take this plastic in a hot form and granulate it while it's still almost molten," he said. Besides being hot, there's a lot of it – about 4,000 pounds per hour.

Besides granulating the plastic, the process also includes removing any metal fittings or other foreign material that would contaminate the plastic and potentially damage the granulating machinery.

Another big change Bowne has seen has been the increase in post-consumer recycling, but he noted that "we, as a country, are very poor at it," and that European countries are generally better at recycling. Here, a lot of plastic end up at landfills or is used as a fuel source. "It's not recycled back into a product again, but it could be," he said.

Some plastic recycling is difficult because of the costs involved. "It has to become economically feasible, so the recycled is less money than the virgin material," he said. In some states, bottle bills keep plastic bottles out of landfills because consumers want to get their deposits back. "But we don't take it all the way," he said. "It's foolish."

While recycling has increased, Bowne is disappointed that disposal has also increased. Back when he was growing up, "you bought a radio, you bought a television, you would fix it," he said. "Now, you throw it away. There is more in the trash stream and in the recycling stream."

That attitude extends to manufacturing, Bowne said. Companies used to buy machinery and keep it running for 20 or 30 years. Now, "people buy a lesser machine and they know they can dispose of it in a few years."

After many years in the industry, Bowne said, "It's been fun. It used to be more fun." He made a lot of relationships over the years with customers. "I loved working with different people over the years," he said. "I've been all around the world selling our products." But now, there are a lot more hassles involved in traveling, which makes it a little less appealing. "It was a joy to travel years ago."

But still, he enjoyed his 43 years with the business as it grew, and he enjoyed being involved in so many different aspects of the business, from his position in sales and marketing. Because, he said, "The title may be one thing, but the involvement is different."



—Jack Bowne

Method utilizes ocean plastic in new bottle designs



Method, a purveyor of eco-conscious household and personal care products, unveiled its latest innovation in sustainable packaging – a bottle made out of plastic collected from the North Pacific Gyre, often referred to as the Great Pacific Garbage Patch.

Method's bottle is 100 percent post-consumer polyethylene, 25 percent of which is plastic collected from the Gyre. Partnering with Envision Plastics, one of the largest recyclers in the United States, Method was able to make bottles out of a novel and potentially profound new plastic material – Ocean PCR.

Together with Envision, Method has pioneered an integrated new recycling process to engineer Ocean PCR plastic that is the same quality as virgin HDPE plastic. The process allows the plastic to be cleaned, unwanted contaminants removed completely, blended,

and then remanufactured into high quality plastic.

"We've created a usable bottle from ocean plastic and upcycled it into something useful that can be recycled again and again," said Adam Lowry, Method co-founder and chief greenskeeper. "Our ultimate goal is to raise awareness that the real solution to plastic pollution lies in reusing and recycling the plastic that's already on the planet."

Method is focused on collecting enough usable ocean plastic to create a significant supply and turning it into bottles.

Method made its first bottle entirely from post-consumer recycled plastic in 2006. Since then, Method has continued to develop post-consumer plastic technology and now makes tens of millions of plastic bottles a year that are completely free from virgin plastic.

Brooks Utley partners with Plastics Make it Possible

Saving energy at home can be a confusing topic, so Plastics Make it Possible®, an initiative sponsored by the plastics industries of the American Chemistry Council, is partnering with HGTV's Brooks Utley to show that it doesn't take a lot of money, time or skill to improve energy efficiency – a priority for most American homeowners.

According to a recent survey conducted by Kelton Research on behalf of Plastics Make it Possible that measured homeowner attitudes toward home-energy efficiency, 92 percent of American homeowners feel it's important to make their homes more energy efficient, yet almost half of those surveyed (46 percent) are not taking the necessary steps to increase their home's energy efficiency because they think it's too expensive.

"While most homeowners realize the importance of home-energy efficiency, far fewer are aware of the many cost effective ways to make their homes more energy efficient," said Brooks Utley, green building and design expert and star of HGTV shows "The \$250,000 Challenge" and "Designed to Sell." "Plastics are an integral part of home building and design today and can play a big role in making homes more energy efficient."

To encourage energy efficiency, Plastics Make it Possible has launched an online interactive house that highlights ways to save energy using plastics. Visitors can customize a virtual home and share it online for entry into a sweepstakes to win a \$250 gift card to a home improvement store. Visit www.plasticmakeitpossible.com for more information.

A husband is living proof that a wife can take a joke.

Solar plastic

■Continued from Page 1

aluminum and definitely less than stainless, but the real cost savings comes in speed of installation, prevention of damage to roof membranes and wiring, and improved grounding.”

Renusol is a German company founded in the late 1970s. Over the last 12 years it has sold over 1 million of these units in Europe, primarily in Germany which has the world's largest per capita solar deployment – 7,400 megawatts generated in 2010 from nearly 250,000 individual systems. Of all German commercial rooftop solar mounts, including aluminum and steel, approximately 10 percent are Renusol plastic units.

“We officially rolled out our plastic mounting system in the United States this July,” said Hudson. “We have limited installations at this point, but a lot of orders.” Renusol is using 100 percent recycled materials sourced domestically from industrial scrap produced by plastic extruders. Based in Atlanta, Renusol takes in the recycled material and thermoforms it into their CS60 mounting unit. Each unit is packed in a box with pre-assembled parts and clamps to accommodate most “standard” PV panels, which vary slightly in size.

Renusol America's CEO, Bart Leusink, put it this way, “The specifically designed Renusol CS60 system will be a game changer for the United States market. It is a wind-tunnel tested, ballasted system with optional roof fastening for very high wind load or seismic areas. The product further allows for extremely fast and easy planning and assembly and low installation costs. We are among the fastest growing PV mounting systems providers in Europe and we want to be in the top five in the United States by the end of next year.”

“Developers like the fact that it's 100 percent recycled and use that in sales pitches,” Hudson added. “That message trickles down to the ultimate customer which is typically the building owner. A lot of these owners want to be LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) compliant. We are in the green industry and people are concerned about their carbon footprint. We see it as a selling point. It has just as good a performance as 100 percent virgin material without the cost. It's a good bit less – a noticeable difference in price. We have no problem acquiring supply at this point, but it is a sensitive market and we may have to use some percentage of virgin from time to time.”

Plastic solar mounts do face some challenges, however, both in perceptions about durability and building code compliance. Most PV manufacturers guarantee panels to operate at certain production levels over the life of the panel. For example, 80 percent DC electric output at 20 years, and many solar arrays produce electricity for decades longer.

Kyle Rees, president of Solar Power Products, a Canadian manufacturer of plastic solar panel mounts explained the problem, “In most cases we need virgin plastics in order to ensure longevity. We occasionally use recycled in production but not that often. We have a 20 year warrantee against all of the physical aspects of our supporting a panel, such as for cracking. If we could get a company to supply recycled HDPE and warrantee performance for 20 years we would buy it. Most typical programs in Ontario, for instance, use feed-in tariffs (FIT) for solar systems that require a 20 year lifespan.” (Ontario's FIT Program is North America's first comprehensive guaranteed pricing structure for renewable electricity production. It offers stable prices under long-term contracts for energy generated from renewable sources).

Whether virgin or recycled HDPE, Rees observed a major benefit of using plastic rather than metal mounts. “We sell each pod for about \$90. Right now we are getting \$6 Canadian for a damaged pod that weighs 31 pounds. The recyclers love our product because there's no processing to recycle it. There's nothing to take off and they can feed them directly into a shredder. With expected rises in commodity prices, a \$90 pod today is probably going to be worth \$20 to \$25 in basic recycle value in 20 years.” A solid investment with a predictable return.

Renusol currently offers a 10 year warranty on their 100 percent recycled units, but has confidence of performance lasting over 25 years. One reason is their use of a High Molecular Weight Polyethylene (HMWPE) base. “The molecular strands are longer and have higher molecular weight with slightly better rigidity and tensile strength. The materials we are using in this application do not have problem going 25 years and we are expecting a 50 year life. Similar polyethylenes have been used for over 50 years by utilities for above ground water transport and as conduits for above ground electric transmission.” Hudson reported.

Another issue with recycled plastics used to manufacture solar mounts is not meeting two types of UL (Underwriters Laboratories) test certifications conducted on plastic materials to measure flammability and the resistance of the plastic to electrical ignition sources. UL 94 determines the material's tendency either to extinguish or spread a flame once the specimen has been ignited and UL 746A measures the resistance of the plastic to electrical ignition.

The reason for this non-certification is that UL has no way of assuring exactly how the material is processed or what the recycled content is composed of, or what uncontrolled material such as filler may get into the mix. “This is a sticky technical point in UL's view. We have yet to encounter a customer request that it be UL 94 or UL 746A compliant. It would pass the test, but you can't get it



The Sollega InstaRack holds a solar panel at a 10 degree angle.

certified to that. If requested, we could run a lot of virgin material,” said Hudson.

Sollega is a leading manufacturer of an HDPE ballasted mounting system called InstaRack. The product contains 35 percent recycled content which is sourced internally from trimmings of its own production process. Now installed in over 20 states, the company claims InstaRack is the easiest to install because it has least number of parts of any ballasted system.

Elie Rothschild, Sollega's CEO commented on sector growth: “Industrial plastic like HDPE will play an increasing role in the solar industry because of its obvious advantages. HDPE is 100 percent recyclable as well as being very robust, flexible, non-conductive and resistant to ultraviolet light. Sollega is the leader in manufacturing solar racking systems using HDPE in the North American market.”

Depending on the project, HDPE mount manufacturers quote labor sav-

ings ranging from 20 to 70 percent. Plastic mounts are lighter to transport, easier to handle and require fewer parts and tools than metal mounts

“Roof membrane manufacturers love it because it's less abrasive on the membrane than aluminum or stainless steel,” said Hudson. “Our units are lightweight. If an installer drops a heavier aluminum or stainless unit with sharp edges it could penetrate the membrane and cause a leak, which is potentially a huge cost to repair after the array is installed. There's also less wire chaffing than on metal which has rougher edges. Plastic has nice, soft edges as well as a lot less grounding issues,” said Hudson.

“For sure there's a great future in plastic mounting systems. It's the next thing. The aluminum guys are too expensive and there are too many nuts and bolts. If you want to drive down the costs this is the way to do it,” summarized Kyle Rees at Solar Power Products.

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*A seal walked into a bar and asked the bartender for a drink.
The bartender asked the seal, “What's your pleasure?”
The seal replied, “Anything but Canadian Club.”*

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