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China's ban on plastics and its effect on the U.S. economy

by MAURA KELLER

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It's been over a year since China initiated a ban on recycled plastics – leading to a global shift in how plastics are being processed in both the U.S. and other countries. Since the Chinese ban began, China's plastic imports have plummeted 99 percent.

Frank Killoran, director of circular solutions at Rubicon Global said the temporary plastics ban from China has two impacts from Rubicon's point of view. First, it's a transition point. The U.S. is still a major exporter of recycled commodities, just no longer to China.

"In 2018, the U.S. exported seven percent more recycled commodities than in 2017. It went to new buyers in Turkey, Iceland and Africa," Killoran said.

Second, it has taught the U.S. sellers how important quality is to the buyers of recycled commodities. "Buyers know when they are receiving contaminated commodities, and they won't accept that any longer," Killoran said.

Matthew Hollis, co-founder and president of Elytus, a Columbus, Ohio-based waste management technology services company said prior to the ban, China was one of the largest buyers of recyclables for the past two



Previously exported plastic is piling up in the U.S. while recyclers are reevaluating the current system.

PHOTO BY ZLIKOVEC | DREAMSTIME

and a half decades. In 2016, 760 million tons of U.S. plastic scrap went to China.

"That figure plummeted by 95 percent last year after China increased its standards for the recycling materials it would accept," Hollis said. At the start of 2018, the country closed its doors to almost all foreign plastic waste due to the high levels of contamination.

"Without China's presence in the global market, prices for these materials are plummeting, making it difficult to find enough value to

process these recyclables responsibly," Hollis said.

Some other key challenges coming from the temporary ban by China, include building new domestic markets, working to improve chemical recycling technology so that commercial scale plants are economically efficient, and building new relationships with international commodity buyers outside of China.

Indirectly, Hollis said the Chinese ban has brought additional attention to the U.S. consumption of single-

use plastics, fueling a further negative view of those materials. Many cities, states and companies have banned single-use plastic items altogether, impacting manufacturing and sales.

"The U.S. has been forced to either substantially reduce the amount of contamination in our recyclable materials or handle our recycling stateside," Hollis said. Many recycling commodity processors are dealing with surplus materials that no longer have the value they

See CHINA'S BAN, Page 4

Global waste recycling services market projected to reach \$376.78 billion by 2024

Zion Market Research has published a new report titled "Waste Recycling Services Market by Waste Type (Compost & Food Waste, Glass & Fiberglass, Metal Scraps, Waste Paper, Electronic Waste and Others) and by Application (Municipal, Industrial, and Others): Global Industry Perspective, Comprehensive Analysis, and Forecast, 2018—2024". According to the report, the global waste recycling services market was valued at approximately \$264.93 billion in 2017 and is expected to generate around \$376.78 billion by 2024, at a CAGR of around 6.10 percent between 2018 and 2024.

The ongoing trend of recycling and reusing is going to enhance the waste recycling services market growth in the forecast period. Currently, recycling of waste is among one of the modern technology trends globally. Due to rapid technological advancements, there has been a lot of change in procedures and methods of operation in the waste recycling services industry. The primary factor likely to boost the waste recycling services market over the forecast period is the short lifespan of consumer electronic devices, which generate huge amounts of electronic waste. Rapid urbanization and growing urban population are anticipated

to positively impact the waste recycling services market in the future.

Per the United Nations, in 2012, nearly 50 million tons of electronic waste was generated globally and each person on average produced 15 lbs. of electronic waste. In the same year, the UN also stated that the UK produced nearly 1.3 million tons of electronic waste. The rising urbanization is likely to propel the waste recycling services market expansion in the future. Major government initiatives related to sustainability to reduce environmental hazards are likely to offer growth opportunities to the players

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Two thirds of LA area stores obligated to recycle and refund consumer bottle deposits refuse

Two-thirds of 50 Los Angeles-area grocery, convenience and drug stores that are required by the state to refund consumer deposits for empty beverage containers refused to issue refunds, according to a random audit in Los Angeles by Consumer Watchdog.

The audited stores are on an official list kept by the state agency in charge of recycling, CalRecycle, and must redeem bottle deposits because there is no nearby recycling center. CalRecycle does not publish these stores' locations on its website, but there are 3,799 stores statewide on the list that should redeem bottle deposits.

Consumer Watchdog took videos of its investigation. Stores were assigned a grade of easy access to recycling and refunds, difficult access requiring persistence, or no access.

The findings of Consumer Watchdog's investigation include:

- 66 percent of all the stores audited refused to refund deposits and recycle. Out of the remaining 34 percent, less than half provided easy access to refunds, and more than half provided difficult access requiring customer persistence.

- Overall, only 30 percent of the stores posted recycling signs required by the state explaining that the stores refund deposits. Two thirds of the stores that refused to refund deposits had no signs. The remaining third rejected refunds despite the sign.

- More often than not, even stores that took back empties did so reluctantly. No uniformity in procedures to return empties existed, and ease of access differed even between stores belonging to the same chain. Few managers at stores that took empties were generally knowledgeable and most clerks were clueless until prompted. More than once, a manager had to be summoned in order to override a cashier's rejection of containers.

- The state could collect up to \$138 million annually if the stores statewide not redeeming deposits were forced to pay the opt-out \$100 per day in lieu of fee, and if 66 percent of all stores statewide required to take bottles back don't, consistent with the audit.

California's 1986 bottle law obligates groceries, drug and convenience stores, and other beverage dealers to recycle empty containers and pay consumers a nickel or a dime if no recycling center exists in a half mile around a major supermarket. Now that recycling centers are in economic crisis and 40 percent have closed in recent years, grocery stores are refusing to follow the law.

Legislation by State Senator Henry Stern, SB 724, would exempt more stores from recycling and refund obligations. SB 724, to be heard in the Senate Environmental Quality Committee, would only require stores to take empties and redeem consumer deposits if no recycling center exists within one mile, rather than the current half mile standard.

Consumer Watchdog audited stores required to redeem deposits in Los Angeles County, including in the districts of State Senator Stern and Senator Ben Allen who chairs the Senate Environmental Quality Committee.

"Recycling centers are closing right and left, but stores are shirking the state's law on a daily basis by refusing to be recyclers of last resort while telling the state that they do perform this service," said consumer advocate Liza Tucker. "Senator Stern and legislators need to make recycling easier for consumers, not harder, otherwise both consumers and the environment will lose."

All beverage dealers must post conspicuous signs at each public entrance that specifies either the name, address, and hours of the nearest certified recycling center taking empties or that directs consumers to refunds at cash registers

within the store or to a specifically-designated location on the premises. Of the stores that reluctantly refunded deposits, only little more than 1 in 10 had signs. Of stores that promptly refunded deposits, only little more than one third had signs. Signs were often posted well below eye level or obstructed by outdoor merchandise. Sometimes they directed consumers to recycling centers that no longer existed or to a center with no name or address.

One manager at a drugstore with no sign acknowledged that the return system, which involved a cashier directing Consumer Watchdog to the photo department, was "one of those secret things." He claimed that there was no system in place to gather and transport empties to recyclers.

This "secret" is abetted by the fact that nowhere on CalRecycle's website are the stores required to accept empties posted. Consumer Watchdog obtained the list by requesting it from the agency's public information officer.

CalRecycle keeps the statewide list of 3,799 stores that are signed up to be recyclers of last resort. Another 200 elected to pay fees instead totaling \$36,500 a year apiece. Over the decades, yet another group of more than 1,200 stores won exemptions from recycling responsibilities altogether. CalRecycle could grant them if the stores grossed less than \$2 million a year, recycling centers there could not be economically viable, or regulators determined consumers simply preferred to throw their empties into

the trash or a recycling bin and forgo refunds.

Based on the findings, Consumer Watchdog recommended in a letter to the Governor and CalRecycle:

- CalRecycle should make the locations nearest to consumers easily searchable on the website, along with recycling centers, to make recycling of empties and refunds easy.

- CalRecycle should perform frequent surprise inspections and impose robust fines, including back fees of \$100 a day, against stores that sign up for bottle recycling but turn consumers away. CalRecycle should also fine stores that do not post signs advertising their obligation.

- The legislature should require all big stores selling beverages, including chain convenience, big box, and grocery stores grossing more than \$2 million a year each in the state, with trucking and warehouse capacity, to offer redemption services regardless of the proximity of a recycling center.

- CalRecycle should revisit the criteria currently used to obligate stores to recycle not just on sales but consider storage and transportation capacity. The regulator could also consider paying handling fees to stores.

For a direct link to the full list of videos from Consumer Watchdog's investigation, view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

Hitachi wheel loaders re-opens The Road 2 Pocono with sweepstakes for 2019 Indy race

Last year, over 4,000 Indy race fans signed in to win a pair of tickets to see the 2019 NTT INDYCAR Series ABC 500 at the famous Pocono Raceway as guests of Hitachi Construction Machinery Loaders Americas Inc. For 2019, Hitachi is offering them another chance!

"The Road to Pocono Sweepstakes" was introduced last year as part of Hitachi's new wheel loaders' brand launch. Building on Hitachi Motorsports' long connection with Indy racing, the sweepstakes is back again to bring two new lucky winners to the Pocono event in Long Pond, Pennsylvania.

Everyone is invited to enter a ballot online at www.hitachisweepstakes.com for a chance to win a once in a lifetime opportunity for a weekend getaway alongside the Hitachi INDYCAR Series Racing

Team. A winner will be chosen at random from all entries submitted by the Sweepstakes deadline on July 19th, 2019.


The #WeRHitachiLoaders three day weekend, from August 16th to August 18th, culminates in the 2019 NTT INDYCAR Series ABC 500 on Sunday afternoon. The lucky winner and guest will receive round-trip coach airfare and ground transfers for two, two nights hotel accommodation (one room/double occupancy), two grandstand tickets for the 2019 NTT INDYCAR Series ABC 500 at Pocono Raceway and two INDYCAR credentials.

Draws for monthly prizes will also be held on the 19th of every month for Hitachi Wheel Loaders gear.

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China's ban

■Continued from Page 1

once did. Across the U.S., local governments and recycling processors are scrambling to find new markets, resulting in some communities ending their recycling programs entirely.

Positive Outcomes

The industry, as a whole, is re-evaluating the practice of sending all of this material overseas. As Hollis explained, the ban encourages positive change as industry leaders look for real solutions for post-consumer plastics.

"Instead of landfilling the material, the industry is striving to create a valuable product that offsets the use of virgin resources," Hollis said. Experts say that the recycling crisis may result in innovative solutions for waste management, whether that is expanding state-side processing capacities or urging manufacturers to make their products more easily recyclable. "The China ban has necessitated a discussion that will hopefully make us all better," Hollis said.

According to Laurie Johnson, chief operating officer of 5280 Recycling Solutions, manufacturers are moving towards using plastics that have the most value in terms of being recycled. "We also see many product manufacturers look to other solutions such as compostable plastics as a substitute for traditional plastic packaging," Johnson said. "The ban is stimulating innovation in the U.S. and the creation of new market opportunities. It is also causing the market to scrutinize the amount of material generated as waste and ways in which we can begin to reduce that waste from plastic and move more toward reusable items."

Killoran said that post-consumer recycled plastic producers in the U.S. are working with municipalities to push for new market development programs. For example, one state in the South is considering a bill to use the funds collected by the state from landfill disposal fees, as a fund to help develop domestic markets for recycled commodities. "Challenges in recycling will always bring out creative solutions," Killoran said.

Joshua Pearce, Richard Witte Endowed Professor of Materials Science and Engineering at Michigan Tech, said that China's refusal to buy plastic from the U.S. was the result of China being tired of cleaning up the U.S.'s contaminated trash.

"The U.S. recycling industry has to shift – we need to start taking care of our own recycling waste rather than having the Chinese do it for us," Pearce said. "This means ramping up conventional recycling as well as encouraging distributed recycling. These are valuable materials that we are literally wast-

ing when we landfill or burn them instead of turning them back into products. This inefficiency makes us less competitive with other nations that have their recycling act together."

Recent technical developments in the areas of "distributed recycling" and "distributed manufacturing" provide enormous incentives for people to recycle their own waste to make high-value products for themselves. This is because waste plastic can be turned into such things as high-value 3D printing filament with a recyclebot, which can be turned into even higher value products. Pearce and his team at Michigan Tech have been working with an American industrial 3D printer manufacturer regarding direct 3D printing from waste.

"There is a lot of potential from this approach and such fused particle systems have barely begun to be commercialized, so there is a lot of room for growth," Pearce said.

As an example, one of Pearce's students turned a bunch of shredded plastic directly into a skateboard deck for his electric skateboard.

"This saved him a ton of money and got him a product that was customized for his interests. I think as these technologies become more popular recycling will be something you do for yourself. 3D printing is already taking off and the distributed recycling technology is right behind it," Pearce said. "Everyday people will have a direct economic incentive to recycle rather than simply rely on good will to protect the environment."

On the Horizon

With a large amount of recyclable materials staying stateside, the Chinese ban has caused a shift in value for recyclable commodities, which makes it hard for processors and haulers to continue spending the time, energy and resources to separate and recycle these materials. "This causes challenges as they attempt to find a better alternative than the landfill for this material," Hollis said.

Pearce is cautiously optimistic that the Chinese ban could drive a revolution in consumer knowledge about the plastic products we use every day in the U.S. "For example, no one knows much about the plastic in their food packages, let alone what colorants or additives are in them," Pearce said. "Would you pay a penny more for juice at the grocery store for your kids if you knew that the plastic container was made out of a safe plastic with no carcinogens, mutagens or teratogens? I think most people would."

What's more, Pearce said there are enormous economic opportunities for companies to provide the material ingredients for their products. Using existing technology and a modest amount of effort, the complete material

ingredients list could be made available for all consumers to make better-informed decisions on their purchases. "Such information accessibility would create new business opportunities for upselling products manufactured with superior materials, improve consumer safety, and enable consumers to remain consistent with their values," Pearce said. "And it would foster advanced industrial recycling as well as distributed recycling."

Ultimately, Hollis believes that the U.S. will eventually find a sustainable system to process and use this material in a new way. "We may also work with other countries to create an industry for the use of this material," Hollis said. "Because the driving force behind China's recycling ban was the contamination level of the recyclables, researchers are focused on finding new ways to make single stream recycling more efficient and cost-effective. If the U.S. can find a way to create an extremely clean recyclables stream, China may even come back to the table to purchase it in the future."

According to Johnson, China and other countries will most likely continue to purchase processed plastic that is ready for manufacturing but doubtfully will ever take recycled material again that has not been processed. "The future should hold a lot of great innovation as cities across the U.S. start working on the circular economy approach," Johnson said. "This means keeping the materials in a closed loop for both economic and environmental benefit."

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Events Calendar

June 25th-28th

Air & Waste Management Annual Conference & Exhibition. Quebec City Convention Centre, Quebec City, Canada. 412-232-3444 | www.awma.org

September 23rd-25th

Missouri Recycling Association Conference. Sheraton Westport Chalet Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri. 573-491-4255 | www.moraconference.org

October 7th-12th

ARA (Automotive Recyclers Association) Annual Convention and Expo. Charlotte Convention Center, Charlotte, North Carolina. 615-223-6656 | www.a-r-a.org

October 9th-10th

Waste & Recycling Expo, CANADA. Enercare Centre, Downtown Toronto, Ontario, Canada. 770-984-8016 | waste-recycling-expo-canada.us.messefrankfurt.com

October 20th-22nd

West Virginia Educational Conference on Litter Control & Solid Waste Management. Canaan Valley Resort and Conference Center, Davis, West Virginia. 304-926-0448 | www.awvswa.org

October 21st-24th

SWANA WASTECON. Phoenix Convention Center, Phoenix, Arizona. 800-467-9262 | www.swana.org

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Grants to outfit manufacturing property with solar panels

A contaminated property in the city of Cadillac will be redeveloped with solar panels with help from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). The city of Cadillac was awarded a \$700,000 Brownfield Redevelopment Grant and a \$300,000 Brownfield Redevelopment Loan to revitalize and safely reuse Mitchell Bentley, a former manufacturing property.

The Mitchell Bentley manufacturing plant burned during a 2013 fire,

leaving 9,000 cubic yards of asbestos-containing debris on the property. The property is also contaminated with PCE, a solvent used in Mitchell Bentley's manufacturing processes. The brownfield grant and loan will be used to remove the debris, demolish the remaining buildings, and dispose of contaminated soil.

Consumers Energy will invest \$500,000 to install four acres of solar panels. The panels will provide green energy

to the city of Cadillac's municipal facilities and to nearby industrial park businesses. The city of Cadillac and the Cadillac Industrial Fund are marketing the remaining acreage to attract a new business.

The MDEQ partners with communities to protect public health and the environment and revitalize contaminated property. MDEQ grants and loans pay for environmental investigation and cleanup on brownfields. Brownfields are

vacant or abandoned properties with known or suspected environmental contamination.

Partnerships between MDEQ and communities have created over \$4.7 billion in private investment and 24,000 new jobs over the life of the Brownfield Redevelopment Program. Each grant and loan dollar invested by the MDEQ in 2018 to protect residents and the environment is expected to return an average of \$42 to the state's economy.

Global waste

Continued from Page 1

operating in the waste recycling services market in the future.

By waste type, the waste recycling services market is segmented into compost and food waste, glass and fiberglass, metal scraps, waste paper, electronic waste, and others. The electronic waste segment is likely to dominate the market in the forecast timeline, owing to the lowered lifespan of consumer electronic devices, which, in turn, results in the generation of huge amounts of electronic waste. By application, the waste recycling services market is segmented into municipal, industrial, and others. The municipal segment is expected to dominate the market in the upcoming years, owing to the number of waste products generated in urban areas, which is directly proportional to the rising population.

By region, Europe is projected to hold substantial revenue share in the global waste recycling services market in the upcoming years. The rising consumer awareness pertaining to environment protection and sustainability are likely to drive this regional market growth in the future. Furthermore, with technological advancement, several organizations are taking initiatives for waste to be reused and recycled in order to reduce pollution and other environmental hazards. These aforementioned factors are projected to further drive the European waste recycling services market growth in the future.

The North American region is projected to witness significant growth in the global waste recycling services market in the years ahead. This regional growth can be attributed to the increasing number of electronic goods and other equipment that are castoff annually due to consumer upgradation to technologically advanced devices and products and a large number of government initiatives in the U.S. to recycle electronic waste to maintain sustainability.

The Asia Pacific region is predicted to offer significant growth opportunities for the waste recycling services market over the estimated timeframe, owing to the increasing per capita income of the middle-class population and rapid urbanization. The growing rate of urbanization is likely to positively impact the waste recycling services market.

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National Waste and Recycling Associations recognizes leaders for contributions in support of the industry

The National Waste and Recycling Association announced membership award honorees across three categories for contributions in support of the waste and recycling industry and the association.

The 2019 awardees are: Members of the Year Award: Chris Coulter, Peoria Disposal Company, and Don Ross, New Way Trucks; Chapter Leadership Award: Michael O'Connor, Premier Waste Services and Steve Edwards, Advanced Disposal Services, Inc.; Distinguished Service Awards: Tom Agema, Homewood Disposal, Michael Savage, PTR Baler & Compactor Company, and Kevin O'Brien, WCA Waste Corporation.

"Our member companies and their employees are the strength of NWRA. Without these individuals' leadership and contribution, NWRA would not be the leading association in the waste industry. I congratulate them on their achievement," said NWRA president and chief executive officer, Darrell Smith.

Members of the Year are selected based upon extraordinary service to the mission and goals of NWRA and the industry over the past year.

Chapter Leadership awards are presented to members whose contributions to a chapter were particularly meritorious.

Distinguished Service awards are presented to longstanding members of NWRA who render service in pursuit of its mission and goals. It recognizes the highest spirit of volunteerism, personal integrity, professionalism, and performance in an honorable and ethical manner.

Member of the Year

Chris Coulter, Peoria Disposal Company served as the Illinois Chapter Chair in 2018 and was reelected for a two year term, serving through 2021. As chair, he reestablished the Legislative/Advocacy committee and was instrumental as the industry representative to the Mahomet Aquifer Task Force; he worked with the task force to ensure that the interests of the waste and recycling industry were represented in its final report. Coulter helped raise over \$1.5 million for Easter Seals Central Illinois, including more than \$350,000 from the waste and recycling industry.

Don Ross, New Way Trucks has been in the waste and recycling association for more than 30 years. He has experience in all facets of the industry including hauling, transfer, consulting and manufacturing. Ross is an active NWRA member, serving on the Suppliers Board of Governors and Hall of Fame Awards Committee Chair. He is also involved in other industry groups

including the Environmental Resource and Education Foundation.

Chapter Leadership

Michael O'Connor, Premier Waste Services, has been a committed NWRA member for several years, being involved at both the national level as a Board of Governors Representative and the Arizona chapter level as vice chair. Michael has demonstrated his commitment to the betterment of the association through speaking at numerous education sessions and by serving as a voice for small haulers. He has been integral in the success of the Arizona annual golf tournament, the most popular and profitable NWRA event in the western states.

Steve Edwards, Advanced Disposal Services, Inc. has served as Georgia's chapter chairman for eight years. During his tenure, he led legislation initiatives to pass Slow Down To Get Around and regulation equality between privately- and publicly-held landfills. Leveraging his political experience as the Mayor of Sugar Hill, he has demonstrated a solid history of pulling people together to address common interests and ideas.

Distinguished Service

Tom Agema, Homewood Disposal, has served the industry for over 30 years and has served as the com-

pany's designated representative to the Illinois Chapter since joining Homewood. Legislation introduced each year since 2003 is internally named the Tom Agema bill because he makes the motion to support a repeal of a provision for the collection of an annual commercial distribution fee on vehicles.

Michael Savage, PTR Baler & Compactor Company, has been an active member of NWRA for many years. He is a former chair of the NWRA's Supplier Board of Governors where he helped develop the board's strategic plan. Additionally, he assisted the Board of Trustees with the development of their strategic plan. Savage also finds time to give back to his community where he is active in civic and charitable organizations.

Kevin O'Brien, WCA Waste Corporation, has served as the Missouri chapter chair since 2008 and the chapter's alternate to the BOG since 2014. O'Brien worked with the governor's office to get Hours of Service and truck weight relief after severe storms and the tornado damaged Joplin, Missouri in 2011. O'Brien successfully fought flow control legislation in 2015 and worked to get Slow Down to Get Around legislation passed in 2017.

"Creativity, as has been said, consists largely of rearranging what we know in order to find out what we do not know. Hence, to think creatively, we must be able to look afresh at what we normally take for granted." —George Kneller

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Use of Shingles in Asphalt Pavements Guide updated

Across the U.S., about four out of every five homes have asphalt shingle roofs. Annually, as those roofs are replaced and maintained, about 12 tons of waste shingles are generated and another 1.2 million tons of manufacturing waste shingles are generated during the production of new shingles.

However, this asphalt-rich material doesn't have to end up in landfills. The asphalt binder, aggregates and fibers in waste shingles can be successfully put to use in new asphalt pavements.

To aid in the further use of waste asphalt shingles in asphalt pavements, the National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) has released an updated version of Guidelines for the Use of Reclaimed Asphalt Shingles in Asphalt Pavements (Information Series Publication 136), updating guidelines originally issued in 2009.

The publication covers sourcing of waste roofing shingles, inspection for contaminants, shingle processing, mixture

design guidance, binder adjustments, and production and construction considerations. It also includes information on the sustainability and economic benefits of recycling asphalt shingles.

"When properly used, waste asphalt roofing shingles can help manage the cost of asphalt pavement mixtures, as well as keep a useful material out of landfills," said NAPA senior director of pavement engineering & innovation, J. Richard Willis, Ph.D. "This revised publication includes new research finds and best practices that can help in ensuring mixes with reclaimed asphalt shingles are designed and produced properly."

Guidelines for the Use of Reclaimed Asphalt Shingles in Asphalt Pavements, Second Edition (IS 136), compliments the previously published Best Practices for RAP and RAS Management (QIP 129).

For a direct link to download both books, view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

Utica, Michigan awarded \$450,000

A contaminated property in Utica will be redeveloped as an indoor sports training facility with help from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). The City of Utica was awarded a \$450,000 Brownfield Redevelopment Grant to revitalize and reuse a warehouse built on a landfill.

The site is contaminated by buried landfill waste. The brownfield grant will be used to remove waste and install barriers and a ventilation system to prevent

methane gas from entering the new building. The EGLE grant will also pay for demolition of the blighted warehouse building.

Circle Land Company, LLC will build a new sports training facility and will create approximately ten new jobs.

Partnerships between EGLE and communities have created over \$4.7 billion in private investment and 24,000 new jobs over the life of the Brownfield Redevelopment Program.

Rhode Island Governor wants residents to recycle right

Governor Gina M. Raimondo was joined at Newport Hospital by Rhode Island Resource Recovery executive director Joseph Reposa and Lifespan chief executive officer Tim Babineau for the official reboot of RI Resource Recovery's 'Let's recycle RIght!' public education campaign.

With the U.S. recycling industry facing new challenges and the state's Task Force to Tackle Plastics issuing recommendations on the use, reuse and clean-up of plastics, Governor Gina M. Raimondo is asking all Rhode Islanders to join her in recycling plastics right to keep the Ocean State's program strong and its waters clean.

Across the country, significant amounts of non-recyclable items are landing in recycling bins and fewer recyclers are willing to accept contaminated materials. In an effort to combat this issue, Rhode Island has made improvements to the state's Materials Recycling Facility and launched an award-winning campaign to reduce public confusion about recycling.

"We have some of the most beautiful waterways in the country," said Governor Raimondo. "Let's keep them clean by recycling right. With the new labels on our recycling bins, it's now easier than ever. I applaud Rhode Island Resource Recovery for blazing a trail with this initiative."

Rhode Island is the first state in the nation to adopt a bin labeling solution from Recycle Across America, a national non-profit dedicated to standardizing recycling education in the United States.

To date, over 80,000 labels are in place across the state, including at Lifespan.

"Lifespan aims to be a leader in Rhode Island when it comes to recycling and that's why we have enthusiastically embraced the Let's recycle RIght! campaign. We're pleased that Rhode Island Resource Recovery recognizes the many initiatives we've launched to reduce plastic and other waste in our shared Rhode Island environment," said Timothy J. Babineau, M.D., president and chief executive officer of Lifespan. "By embracing mixed recycling and training volunteer ambassadors, we are now recycling at rates above 30 percent at two hospitals and 25 percent at two others. But we're not stopping there. We now have our sights set on moving toward a beyond the bin program to recycle 'blue wrap' used during sterilization of surgical instruments, which makes up close to 20 percent of operating room waste. And we will continue wherever possible to enhance and expand our waste reduction efforts throughout the Lifespan system."

As part of the Let's recycle RIght! campaign, Governor Raimondo will be featured in radio PSAs running from May 1 to September 26. She joins many other Rhode Islanders including Lt. Governor Dan McKee, secretary of State Nellie Gorbea, American Idol Finalist Erica van Pelt, Rhode Island Foundation chief executive officer Neil Steinberg, Dancer Shura Baryshnikov, Ed Tarbox of Tarbox Toyota, Rhody the Ram of URI and more.

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SWACO rolls out recycling carts to 38,000 households in Franklin County, Ohio

Officials from Blendon Township and the cities of Westerville, Gahanna, Bexley and Reynoldsburg, Ohio kicked off a new effort to deliver larger, more efficient recycling carts to more than 38,000 Franklin County homes.

These five communities are the first to participate in SWACO's new Recycling Cart Initiative, which makes 65-gallon recycling carts available at a discounted rate to communities that don't already own carts.

"SWACO is on a mission to increase recycling in Franklin County," said Ty Marsh, SWACO's executive director. "Utilizing the larger, wheeled carts has proven effective at increasing a community's rate of recycling, sometimes by as much as 30 percent. We applaud this effort by Blendon Township, Westerville, Gahanna, Bexley and Reynoldsburg to improve residential recycling."

The wheeled recycling carts provide many advantages over the smaller, outdated recycling bins. Besides the fact that they're much easier to take to the curb, they also increase recycling volume, allow for automated collection to improve safety and efficiency, and reduce the potential for blowing litter.

Westerville residents were the first to receive the carts which began arriving in April. Craig Treneff, the city's mayor, says the decision to take advantage of the funding opportunities made sense strategically for the community.

"Environmental Sustainability is a top priority in Westerville. These new carts empower residents to decrease waste and increase recycling efforts from home," Treneff said. "We are grateful to SWACO and The Recycling Partnership for helping to bring this program to our City."

Residents in all five communities will have their carts by the end of May.

The larger carts typically cost about \$45 each, but these communities will pay only about \$15.52 per cart, thanks to funding being provided by SWACO and a grant from The Recycling Partnership, a national organization that connects communities with private dollars to improve and expand recycling.

In addition to purchasing new carts, SWACO will use funds from The Recycling Partnership grant to provide recycling educational materials as part of SWACO's ongoing "Recycle Right, Make a Difference" program. These educational materials will include guidelines for what can and cannot be recycled in Franklin County to ensure residents are using the new carts to recycle effectively and efficiently.

While the Recycling Partnership grant dollars are limited, SWACO will help any Franklin County community that doesn't currently own recycling containers, and that wants to introduce or upgrade to wheeled carts, to purchase them for only \$22.50 – a 50 percent reduction in price.

Trelleborg adopts renewable energy sources in Sri Lanka

Trelleborg Wheel Systems will fully re-engineer its Sri Lanka facility's steam production process through the introduction of an advanced biomass boiler. This major investment will not only reduce the plant's environmental footprint, but it will also improve production efficiency. The Trelleborg facility, located in Makola, close to Colombo, employs over 850 people and produces solid tires for the material handling and port industries, as well as pneumatic tires for light agricultural applications.

While the production of steam is essential to the tire curing process, it is traditionally carried out by a furnace oil boiler, which is responsible for substantial CO2 emissions. Now, Trelleborg is investing in an advanced, biomass-fired boiler which reduces CO2 emission by

over 90 percent. The project has been kicked-off and the new process will be fully operational starting from June 2019.

The traditional tire manufacturing process at the facility is currently responsible for over 11,000 tons of CO2 equivalents and 3.5 million liters of furnace oil consumption per year. With the introduction of the biomass system, the carbon footprint will be reduced to less than 1,000 tons of CO2 equivalents per year – signifying a 90 percent reduction. The supply of biomass needed for the production output will be entirely fulfilled by local producers, thus shortening the supply, further reducing the carbon footprint and supporting the local economy.

IAA names Vance Johnston as CFO

Insurance Auto Auctions, Inc. has appointed Vance Johnston as chief financial officer. Johnston will report to John Kett, chief executive officer and president.

With nearly 30 years of finance, accounting, corporate strategy and treasury experience, Johnston brings a diverse combination of high-growth and public company experience. Most recently, he served as chief financial officer for SP Plus Corporation, a provider of professional parking, ground transportation, facility maintenance, security and event logistics services. At SP Plus, Johnston was responsible for the finance, accounting, treasury, investor relations, strategy,

corporate development, IT and procurement functions.

Prior to SP Plus, Johnston was chief financial officer for Furniture Brands International and held various finance, corporate strategy and operational positions at leading companies. He started his career at Ernst & Young and earned his Bachelor of Science degree in business administration and management from the University of San Diego and his Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Chicago.

Johnston will be based at the company's headquarters in Westchester, Illinois.

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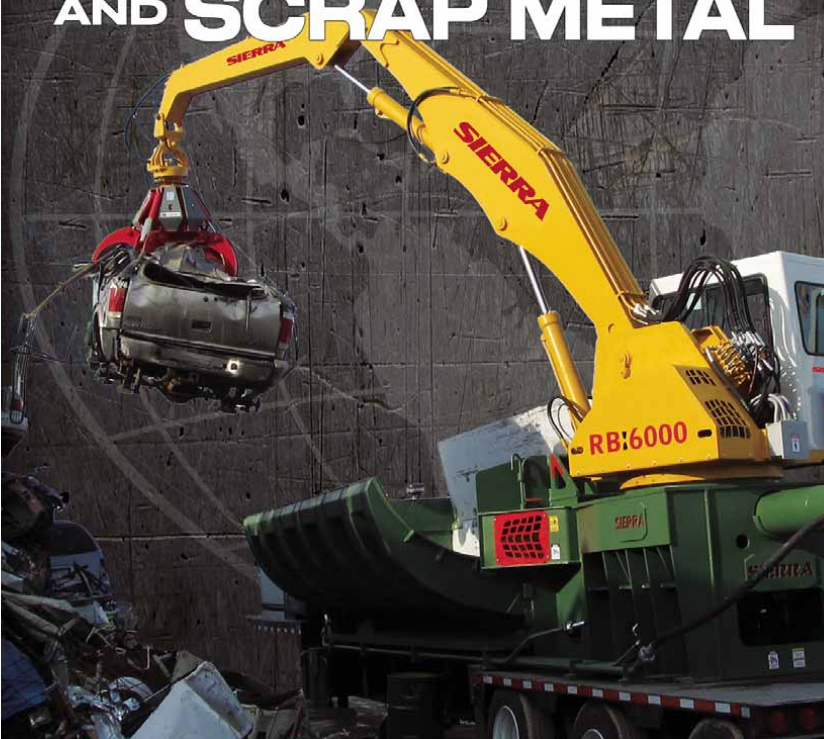
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GLASS

Glass market to reach \$3,652.7 million by 2025 end

QY Research has released a new report with a title, "Global Glass Recycling Industry Size, Status and Forecast 2019-2025," for the assessment period of seven years, *i.e.* between 2018 and 2025. The report states that the global glass recycling market is likely to rise at \$3,652.7 million by the end of 2025 from \$ 2,611.8 million in the year 2019, exhibiting a moderate compound annual growth (CAGR) rate of 5.75 percent during the anticipated period.

Global Glass Recycling Market

North America, Europe, Asia-Pacific, South America, and MEA are the major regions that are included in this report. In terms of value, Europe is the dominant market for glass recycling. In the year 2019, The European market for glass recycling is estimated to be valued at \$1307.73 million and is expected to increase with a robust CAGR of 6.6 percent throughout the forecasted period. The Asia-Pacific region is also likely to grow with a moderate CAGR of 4.3 percent in terms of revenue in the years to come.

Key Players

Vetropack Holding Sesotec, Strategic Materials, Trim, Ardagh, Owens Corning, Momentum Recycling, Binder+Co, Heritage Glass, Rumpke, Shanghai Yanlongji, Marco Abrasives, The Glass Recycling Company, Vitro Minerals, Spring Pool, and Pace Glass are some of the manufacturers that are operating in the market.

Drivers and Restraints

Some of the factors such as the rising awareness and initiatives by the government for eco-friendly glass and rapid industrialization that has resulted into in a rapid generation of waste across the globe are likely to fuel the growth of the market in the near future. Emission of

greenhouse gases during the manufacturing of glass and growing landfill activities are some of the other factors that are expected to propel the growth of the glass recycling market in the years to come. Increasing use of glass recycling in the end-use industries such as food and beverage containers, alcohol and construction sectors is driving the growth of the market. The demand for vitric products is also boosting the growth of the global market for glass recycling during the anticipated period.

However, the contamination of the unsolicited materials present in the product as a waste stream may harm the new products. This factor hampers the growth of the glass recycling market over the projected period.

Forecast by Form

Based on form, the market is segmented into construction glass, and container glass. In terms of volume, container glass segment is expected to remain dominant in the global market and is likely to create an absolute dollar opportunity of \$161.71 million between 2019 and 2025.

Forecast by Application

Based on the application segment, the market is segmented into construction, alcohol, food and beverages. The food and beverage segment is further segmented into drinks, confectionery, and dairy products. In the year 2018, the construction industry segment has a consumption share of 61.79 percent and is likely to grow with a healthy CAGR of 6.9 percent over the projected period.

For a direct link to make a custom request, view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

INDUSTRY PROFILE

A Closer Look

by Donna Currie

ECO Green Equipment

Brad Swenson • 801-505-6481

ECO Green was founded in 2010 by Brad Swenson, Jon Porter and Andres Salazar. It all began when Salazar brokered a deal to sell a shredder overseas, but the deal went sour. Swenson and Porter helped him work things out. They then decided to start a business together. It was a great idea and ECO Green was started.

The first iteration of the company involved U.S. engineers designing rubber recycling machinery that was built in China. After two years, they realized they needed to do something different – something that was "game changing."

In 2012-2013, the manufacturing was moved from China to Salt Lake, Utah. "There was no way for us to produce a quality machine in China," Swenson said. Salt Lake's major industry is aerospace, so there's no shortage of engineers and precision manufacturing, making it ideal for making high quality tire shredders.

"Everyone in the tire recycling machinery market had come from another industry," Swenson said. Machinery that was originally designed to handle metal or plastic was being modified and sold for tire recycling. Those machines worked well enough, but Swenson and his partners decided to do something different. They brought in engineers who designed machines from the ground up for tire recycling. "That was a huge advantage," Swenson said, and it led to a patent for their primary shredder, the ECO Green Giant.

Swenson explained that tire recycling is a brutal environment, since tires are designed to be nearly indestructible and resistant to a blow out while traveling at high speeds. "Engineers had to take that into account."

Their secondary shredder removes steel from tire material, producing some of the cleanest steel recovered from tires that you'll find. It also uses 40 percent less energy than other shredders, and since it operates at a slower speed, it results in less wear on the knives so maintenance costs are lower.

To add to their lineup, the company purchased a technology called "Crumb Buster" from an inventor. After a few tweaks, that machine is the highest capacity rubber powdering machine on the market. The company also manufactures a granulator, so every aspect of tire recycling is covered.

While the majority of recycled tires used to end up going to concrete plants as tire derived fuel, Swenson estimated that 50 percent of the material is now being used for other purposes. "People are finding more value added ways to sell their products," he said, including thermoplastics that can be found in many products.

While there are good markets for the processed tire material, the recyclers still face challenges. Transportation can be expensive, so processing needs to be economical for recycling to make sense. For those who are thinking about getting into tire recycling, the initial costs are high, particularly in small cities where there may not be enough volume to support a tire shredder. "They can't justify the investment for the amount of tires they have." ECO Green's quest for economical tire recycling will help those cities process tires affordably while also making a positive impact on the environment.

Swenson said that their business model is unique, with three separate prongs. First, the engineers and designers have new theories, but they have to prove them in the real world. Second is the assembly of the machinery in their U.S. manufacturing plant. Last is the knowledge of what to do with the rubber after it is processed, because ECO Green doesn't just sell equipment and walk away – they also help their customers find ways to sell the material they process. Sometimes that means they won't make a sale when a potential customer doesn't have enough material to process. In that case, ECO Green may introduce them to someone who has already made the investment in equipment, so the two companies can work together.

From its humble beginnings with three owners and overseas manufacturing, the company has grown into a new 25,000 sq.ft. manufacturing facility. They have 20 full time employees that build \$10 million of new equipment each year and they ship to 5 of the 7 continents.

Looking forward, Swenson believes that there is a lot of change happening in the tire recycling business. "This industry is very young," he said. The machinery can still be improved to reduce the cost of recycling while producing even better material. "It's very exciting."

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PAPER

AF&PA releases updated paper reports for April 2019

The American Forest & Paper Association released its April 2019 U.S. paper reports.

Containerboard

The containerboard operating rate bounced back above 90 percent due to the high rate for medium (96.5 percent), while the liner operating rate was at 89.6 percent. In spite of the bounce back, the April operating rate was 6.2 points lower than the same month last year, and the year-to-date operating rate was down 5.8 points compared to last year. Production for export, most of which is liner, was down nearly 20 percent year-over-year and was also down 20.5 percent year-to-date.

Boxboard Report

Total boxboard monthly production decreased 3.0 percent when compared to April 2018. The total boxboard operating

rate was 95.4 percent for April. Total Solid Bleached Boxboard and Liner production was up 2.5 percent year to date; Recycled Boxboard production rose 1.7 percent year to date; and Unbleached Kraft & Gypsum declined 2.0 percent year to date.

U.S. Packaging Papers & Specialty Packaging

Total packaging papers shipments were down 3.7 percent from April 2018 and down 1.4 percent year-to-date. Bag & sack shipments were down 1.1 percent year-to-date, multiwall shipments were down 3.6 percent, food wrapping shipments were up 0.5 percent, and converting shipments were down 1.4 percent.

The operating rate for April decreased to 88.5 percent compared to 90.0 percent in March. Inventory levels increased 1.7 percent from March.

U.S. paper recovery sets record

The American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) announced that 68.1 percent of paper consumed in the U.S. was recovered for recycling in 2018. The recovered paper market rebounded after China's import restrictions on recovered products caused the rate to dip in 2017.

"U.S. paper recovery for recycling is successful because it is voluntary and market driven," said AF&PA president and chief executive officer Donna Harman. "Industry and consumer commitment to

increasing the quantity and quality of paper recovered for recycling contributed to this record-high rate."

"The U.S. paper recovery for recycling rate has now met or exceeded 63 percent for the past decade," said AF&PA board chairman and Greif, Inc. president and chief executive officer Pete Watson.

As part of its Better Practices, Better Planet 2020 sustainability initiative, the industry aims to exceed 70 percent paper recovery for recycling by 2020.



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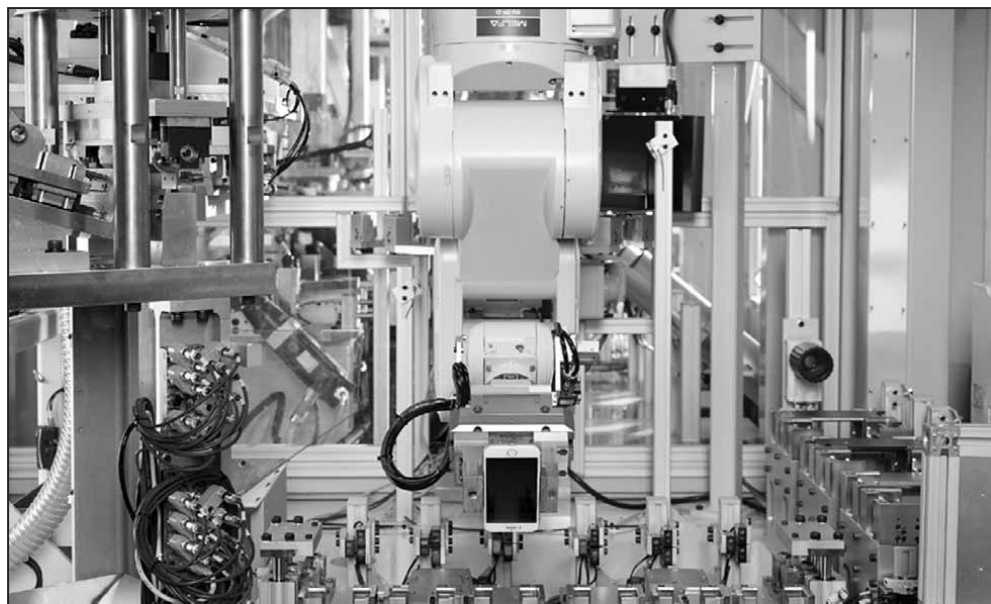
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ELECTRONICS

Apple expands programs and opens recycling lab in Texas



Daisy, Apple's recycling robot, will now disassemble used iPhones returned to Best Buy in the US and KPN in the Netherlands.

Apple announced a major expansion of its recycling programs, quadrupling the number of locations U.S. customers can send their iPhone to be disassembled by Daisy, its recycling robot. Daisy will disassemble and recycle select used iPhones returned to Best Buy stores throughout the U.S. and KPN retailers in the Netherlands. Customers can also turn in their eligible devices to be recycled at any Apple Store or through apple.com as part of the Apple Trade In program.

Apple has received nearly 1 million devices through Apple programs and each Daisy can disassemble 1.2 million devices per year. In 2018, the company refurbished more than 7.8 million Apple devices and helped divert more than 48,000 metric tons of electronic waste from landfills.

"Advanced recycling must become an important part of the electronics supply chain, and Apple is pioneering a new path to help push our industry forward," said Lisa Jackson, Apple's vice president of Environment, Policy and Social Initiatives. "We work hard to design products that our customers can rely on for a long time. When it comes time to recycle them, we hope that the convenience and benefit of our programs will encourage everyone to bring in their old devices."

Daisy is now able to disassemble 15 different iPhone models at the rate of 200 per hour, recovering even more important materials for re-use. Once materials have been recovered from Daisy, they are recy-

clad back into the manufacturing process. For cobalt, which is a key battery material, Apple sends iPhone batteries recovered by Daisy upstream in its supply chain. They are then combined with scrap from select manufacturing sites and, for the first time, cobalt recovered through this process is now being used to make brand-new Apple batteries – a true closed loop for this precious material.

Apple also uses 100 percent recycled tin in a key component of the main logic boards of 11 different products. The company's engineering of an aluminum alloy made from 100 percent recycled aluminum allows the new MacBook Air and Mac mini to have nearly half the carbon footprint of earlier models. Starting this year, aluminum recovered through the Apple Trade In program is being remelted into the enclosures for the MacBook Air.

To further its research on recycling, Apple also announced the opening of its Material Recovery Lab dedicated to discovering future recycling processes. The new facility in Austin, Texas, will look for innovative solutions involving robotics and machine learning to improve on traditional methods like targeted disassembly, sorting and shredding. The Lab will work with Apple engineering teams as well as academia to address and propose solutions to today's industry recycling challenges.

Apple also launched a battery replacement and recycling program for all of its products.

Over \$100,000 granted for recycling to rural communities

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) announced that it has awarded \$105,586 in grants to a total of 5 applicants during the first round of Rural Electronics Recycling Grants. These grants will fund 17 permanent community electronics drop-off locations and eight community collection events in rural communities across the state. Community events provide affordable, con-

venient, electronics recycling opportunities to residents. Using properly registered recyclers assures that the electronics are properly managed through their end-of-life. The grants will establish 11 year-round collections sites in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

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

INTERNATIONAL

UN decides to control global plastic waste

In a major step forward in curbing the plastic waste crisis, 187 countries added plastic to the Basel Convention, a treaty that controls the movement of hazardous waste from one country to another. The amendments require exporters to obtain the consent of receiving countries before shipping most contaminated, mixed or unrecyclable plastic waste, providing an important tool for countries in the Global South to stop the dumping of unwanted plastic waste into their country.

After China banned imports of most plastic waste in 2018, developing countries, particularly in Southeast Asia, have received a huge influx of contaminated and mixed plastic wastes that are difficult or impossible to recycle. Norway's proposed amendments to the Basel Convention provides countries the right to refuse unwanted or unmanageable plastic waste.

The decision reflects a growing recognition around the world of the toxic impacts of plastic and the plastic waste trade. The majority of countries expressed their support for the proposal and over one million people globally signed two public petitions from Avaaz and SumOfUs. Yet even amidst this overwhelming support, there were a few vocal outliers who opposed listing plastic under Annex II of the Basel Convention. These included the U.S., a large exporter of plastic waste; the American Chemistry Council; and the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries.

Liberty's acquisition of ArcelorMittal's divestment business approved

The European Commission has approved, under the EU Merger Regulation, Liberty House Group as a suitable purchaser of several ArcelorMittal steel plants, sold under commitments made by ArcelorMittal in order to buy Ilva. The commission has also approved the transaction itself under EU merger rules.

In May 2018, the commission approved the acquisition of Ilva by ArcelorMittal, subject to conditions. In particular, ArcelorMittal was required to sell a large package of steel plant assets to a suitable purchaser. The divestiture was proposed by ArcelorMittal to address the commission's concerns regarding effective competition in European hot rolled, cold rolled and galvanized flat carbon steel markets.

The package of assets that ArcelorMittal chose and committed to divest consists of a number of production sites throughout Europe. These include:

- An integrated steelworks in Galati, Romania;
- An integrated steelworks in Ostrava, Czechia;
- Finishing plants in Italy, Belgium, Luxembourg and North Macedonia.

The divested production sites cover the whole value chain, from liquid steel manufacturing to the production of finished flat carbon steel products. Thus, the divestment includes not only finishing lines but capacity for the production of li-

quid steel at two integrated steelworks that are also able to expand their production.

The commission has made two decisions concerning the sale of these assets by ArcelorMittal to Liberty House Group:

•It has found that Liberty House Group is a suitable purchaser of the ArcelorMittal assets, allaying the Commission's concerns in the European markets for hot rolled, cold rolled and galvanized flat carbon steel.

•It has approved under the Merger Regulation Liberty House Group's acquisition of the assets sold by ArcelorMittal. The Commission concluded that there

were no competition concerns, as there only are limited overlaps between the activities of Liberty House Group and the steel plants acquired.

The commission initially had serious prima facie concerns about the proposal. In particular, in ArcelorMittal's initial submissions the acquisition was highly dependent on borrowed money, including from ArcelorMittal, and part of the purchase price was contingent on the assets' performance. Furthermore, certain assets that had to be divested under the Commitments had been carved out.

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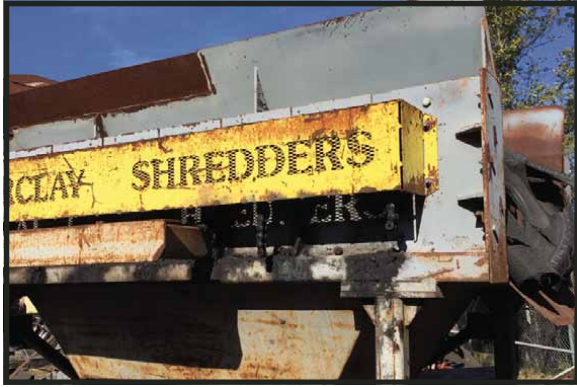
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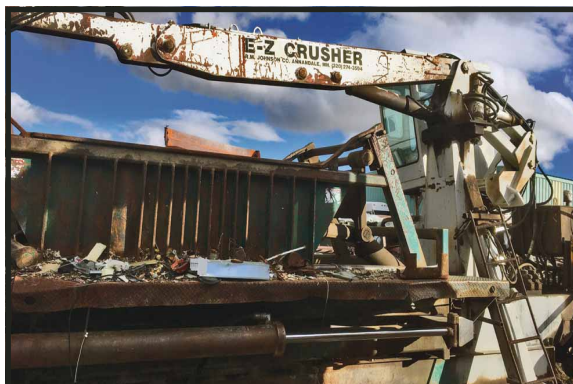
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METALS

Import market share at 20 percent in February 2019

Based on final Census Bureau data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that the U.S. imported a total of 2,433,000 net tons (NT) of steel in February 2019, including 1,744,000 NT of finished steel (down 30.1 percent and 28.8 percent, respectively, vs. January final data). Through the first two months of 2019, total and finished steel imports are 5,912,000 and 4,194,000 NT, up 10.2 percent and down 3.6 percent, respectively, vs. the same period in 2018. Finished steel import market share was an estimated 20 percent in February and is estimated at 22 percent over the first 2 months of 2019.

Major products with significant year-to-date (YTD) increases vs. the same period in 2018 include reinforcing bars

(up 73 percent), line pipe (up 58 percent) and cut lengths plates (up 18 percent).

In February, the largest volumes of finished steel imports from offshore were from South Korea (187,000 NT, down 48 percent from January final), Japan (124,000 NT, up 17 percent), Germany (81,000 NT, down 40 percent), Italy (75,000 NT, up 8 percent) and Taiwan (72,000 NT, down 28 percent). For the first two months of 2019, the largest offshore suppliers were South Korea (548,000 NT, down 13 percent vs. the same period in 2018), Japan (230,000 NT, down 4 percent), Germany (215,000 NT, no change), Taiwan (173,000 NT, down 12 percent) and Brazil (151,000 NT, down 1 percent).

U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN (Thousands of Net Tons)

	FEB 2019	JAN 2019	2019 Annualized	2018 Full Year	% Change 2018 Annual vs. 2017
SOUTH KOREA	87	361	3,287	2,764	18.9%
JAPAN	124	106	1,381	1,383	-0.1%
GERMANY	81	134	1,292	1,339	-3.5%
TAIWAN	2	101	1,037	1,069	-2.9%
BRAZIL	22	129	905	479	88.8%
VIETNAM	43	104	882	1,110	-20.5%
ITALY	75	69	863	605	42.6%
CHINA	42	77	713	696	2.5%
All Others	1,098	1,369	14,803	16,249	-8.9%
TOTAL	1,744	2,450	25,164	25,694	-2.1%

Ronald J. O'Malley appointed AIST president for 2019-2020

Ronald J. O'Malley, F. Kenneth Iverson chair professor in steelmaking technologies and director of the Kent D. Peaslee Steel Manufacturing Research Center, Missouri University of Science and Technology, Rolla, Missouri, has been appointed president of the Association for Iron & Steel Technology (AIST) for 2019-2020.

O'Malley succeeds James F. Dudek, vice president, asset revitalization and manufacturing excellence, United States Steel Corporation, Gary, Indiana.

O'Malley said that taking on the presidency will give him an opportunity to return something to the organization.

"AIST has given me so much, and I've reached a stage in my career where I feel like I can give back. I have always been active in AIST, but going forward, my rotation on the AIST executive committee gives me an opportunity to serve the larger AIST membership."

Also appointed as officers were:

•First vice president: Steven J. Henderson, vice president and chief supply chain officer, Commercial Metals Company, Irving, Texas.

•Second vice president: Keith J. Howell, chief operating officer, USA Operations, ArcelorMittal USA, Burns Harbor, Indiana.

•Past president: James F. Dudek, vice president, asset revitalization and manufacturing excellence, United States Steel Corporation, Gary, Indiana.

•First officer-at-large: Barry T. Schneider, senior vice president, Flat Roll Steel Group, Steel Dynamics Inc., Fort Wayne, Indiana.

•Second officer-at-large: Brian K. Bishop, vice president, carbon steel operations, AK Steel, West Chester, Ohio.

•Third officer-at-large: Thomas C. Toner, vice president, operations, SSAB Americas, Mobile, Alabama.

•Fourth officer-at-large: Allen C. Behr, vice president and general manager, Nucor Steel-Texas, Jewett, Texas.

•Treasurer: Joseph Dzierzawski, global director, technology and business development, Iron & Steel, Hatch Associates Consultants Inc., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

•Secretary: Ronald E. Ashburn, executive director, Association for Iron & Steel Technology, Warrendale, Pennsylvania.



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METALS

Investigation of imports from Israel initiated

The U.S. Department of Commerce announced the affirmative preliminary determination in the countervailing duty (CUD) investigation of imports of magnesium from Israel, finding that exporters received countervailable subsidies of 7.48 percent.

Commerce will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection to collect cash deposits from importers of magnesium from Israel based on these preliminary rates.

In 2017, imports of magnesium from Israel were valued at an estimated \$43.5 million. The petitioner is US Magnesium LLC, Salt Lake City, Utah.

The strict enforcement of U.S. trade law is a primary focus of the Trump Administration. Since the beginning of the current Administration, Commerce has initiated 160 new antidumping and countervailing duty investigations – this is a 220 percent increase from the comparable period in the previous administration.

Commerce is currently scheduled to announce its final CVD determination on or about September 17, 2019.

If Commerce makes an affirmative final determination, the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) will be scheduled to make its final injury determination on or about October 31, 2019. If Commerce makes an affirmative final determination in this investigation, and the ITC makes an affirmative final injury determination, Commerce will issue a CVD order. If Commerce makes a negative final determination, the investigation will be terminated and no order will be issued.

Commercial Metals' Barbara Smith named Steelmaker of the Year at AISTech 2019

Barbara R. Smith, chairman of the board, president and chief executive officer, Commercial Metals Company was named Steelmaker of the Year at AISTech 2019. The Steelmaker of the Year Award is presented annually by AIST to recognize notable leaders and their contributions to the steel industry.

Smith was honored during the AISTech president's Award Breakfast, recognizing her for her leadership and strategic evolution of Commercial Metals Company. Through fostering a corporate culture of safety, community and customer service, investment in a second continuous process mini-mill in Oklahoma, introducing of spooled rebar to the North American market, and maintaining high customer satisfaction and profitability in the challenging long products market, Smith has positioned Commercial Metals Company as an industry leader.

Other award winners announced during the president's Award Breakfast included:

AIST Distinguished Member and Fellow Award

Harriet G. Dutka, technical marketing manager, SANGRAF International, Westlake, Ohio was given this

award for her sustained contributions and leadership in the Electric Steel-making Technology Committee training seminars resulting in the education of primary operations personnel, for her fellowship in creating a diverse and sustainable steelmaking community through participation in AIST study tours, and in recognition of her distinguished career in the steelmaking industry spanning more than thirty years.

Yakov Gordon, technical director — ironmaking, Iron & Steel, Hatch Ltd., Mississauga, Ontario Canada, received this award in recognition of his dedication and contributions to improving and expanding the science of ironmaking. A recognized expert in ferrous metallurgy, process design and technology development, he freely and frequently shares his knowledge with others. Through his commitment to research, pursuit of innovative technologies and devoted mentorship skills, he has become an internationally recognized leader in developing successful iron- and steelmaking processes.

Johannes (Hans) Schade, AK Steel Corp., Middletown, Ohio was awarded

posthumously in recognition of his long-standing commitment to AIST, and for his exemplary career as a researcher, manager and mentor. His work in continuous casting technology, especially in tundish and mold operations, greatly advanced process knowledge related to steel cleanliness. His passion for technical excellence and innovation contributed significantly to the success of his longtime employer, AK Steel Corp., whom he faithfully represented at AIST Technology Committee meetings and in many technical papers and publications.

AIST Tadeusz Sendzimir Memorial Medal

Raul G. Quintero-Flores, president, Lumidim de Mexico S.A. de C.V., Monterrey, N.L., Mexico was awarded in recognition of his contributions as co-developer and champion of the HYL direct reduction process for more than 40 years. A holder of five international patents related to direct reduction technology, Quintero-Flores' work has led to greater energy efficiency and higher productivity for the utilization of DRI in steel plants around the world.

Nucor Corporation reports first quarter 2019 results

Nucor Corporation reported net earnings of \$501.8 million, or \$1.63 per diluted share, for the first quarter of 2019. By comparison, Nucor reported consolidated net earnings of \$646.8 million, or \$2.07 per diluted share, for

the fourth quarter of 2018 and \$354.2 million, or \$1.10 per diluted share, for the first quarter of 2018.

"Our diversified business model helped us to once again deliver a significant year-over-year improvement in first quarter earnings," said John Ferriola, Nucor's chairman, chief executive officer and president. "Our plate, bar, and structural mills were strong contributors in the first quarter, and several of our downstream businesses also increased earnings as compared to the year ago period."

Nucor's consolidated net sales decreased 3 percent to \$6.10 billion in the first quarter of 2019 compared with \$6.30 billion in the fourth quarter of 2018, and increased approximately 10 percent compared with \$5.57 billion in the first quarter of 2018. Included in the first quarter of 2019 results was a benefit of \$33.7 million, or \$0.08 per diluted share, related to the gain on the sale of an equity method investment in the raw materials segment. Included in the first quarter of 2018 results was an expense of \$21.8 million, or \$0.07 per diluted share, related to the write off of deferred tax assets due to the change in the tax status of a subsidiary.

Average sales price per ton in the first quarter of 2019 decreased 4 percent compared with the fourth quarter of 2018 and increased 13 percent compared with the first quarter of 2018. A total of 6,767,000 tons were shipped to outside customers in the first quarter of 2019, a 1 percent increase from fourth

quarter of 2018 and a 3 percent decrease from the first quarter of 2018. Total steel mill shipments in the first quarter of 2019 increased 2 percent from the fourth quarter of 2018 and decreased 4 percent from the first quarter of 2018. Downstream steel products shipments to outside customers in the first quarter of 2019 decreased 2 percent from the fourth quarter of 2018 and decreased 3 percent from the first quarter of 2018.

The average scrap and scrap substitute cost per ton used during the first quarter of 2019 was \$352, a 2 percent decrease compared to \$359 in the fourth quarter of 2018 and an increase of 4 percent compared to \$337 in the first quarter of 2018.

Overall operating rates at the company's steel mills decreased to 87 percent in the first quarter of 2019 as compared to 88 percent in the fourth quarter of 2018 and 92 percent in the first quarter of 2018.

Nucor's liquidity position remains very strong with \$1.6 billion in cash and cash equivalents as of March 30, 2019.

During the first quarter of 2019, Nucor repurchased approximately 1.2 million shares of its common stock for an average price of \$60.69 per share. At March 30, 2019, Nucor had approximately 304,786,000 shares outstanding and approximately \$1.4 billion available under its share repurchase program.




Commodity		Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5
#1 Bushelings	per gross ton	\$284.00	269.00	298.00	310.00	329.00
#1 Bundles	per gross ton	289.00	250.00	292.00	315.00	345.00
Plate and Structural	per gross ton	291.00	265.00	269.00	312.00	300.00
#1 & 2 Mixed Steel	per gross ton	219.00	251.00	234.00	292.00	295.00
Shredder Bundles (tin)	per gross ton	151.00	163.00	173.00	167.00	181.00
Crushed Auto Bodies	per gross ton	151.00	163.00	173.00	167.00	181.00
Steel Turnings	per gross ton	87.00	91.00	99.00	157.00	160.00
#1 Copper	per pound	2.54	2.62	2.63	2.55	2.54
#2 Copper	per pound	2.40	2.54	2.42	2.37	2.35
Aluminum Cans	per pound	0.68	0.72	0.59	0.59	0.50
Auto Radiators	per pound	1.59	1.50	1.57	1.60	1.70
Aluminum Core Radiators	per pound	0.62	0.57	0.45	0.45	0.42
Heater Cores	per pound	1.07	1.14	1.19	1.18	1.19
Stainless Steel	per pound	0.57	0.56	0.51	0.53	0.52

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

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METALS

New Jersey passes bill supporting metal manufacturers

New Jersey Assemblywoman Nancy Munoz and Assemblyman Anthony Bucco have sponsored Senate Bill 515/Assembly Bill 4060, which reduces taxes on metal manufacturers, eliminating the tax on sand, binders, washes and other material used in the manufacturing process. Governor Phil Murphy signed the bill into Law on May 10, 2019.

“Manufacturing is essential for a thriving economy and a robust job market,” Munoz, R-21st District, said. “This bill makes our state more affordable and more attractive to industry. Most states don’t charge this tax, and this new law makes us more competitive.”

Munoz and Bucco’s Bill was Sponsored by Senator Thomas Kean, Senator Paul Sarlo, Assemblyman Gordon

Johnson, Assemblyman Parker Space, and Assemblyman Harold Wirths. The Bill has also been supported by the New Jersey Bipartisan Legislative Manufacturing Caucus (Caucus), which has been on the Caucus’s list. Assemblyman Bucco is a member of the Caucus.

The Caucus, which is chaired by Senator Greenstein, has been working vigorously to strengthen New Jersey manufacturing in all aspects. From putting New Jerseyans back to work to gaining a deeper understanding of what manufacturers need in order to improve productivity, enhance capacity, increase their competitiveness, and collaboration between government officials and businesses.

“I’m pleased the Legislature passed this bipartisan Bill to help boost manufacturing in New Jersey,” said John W. Kennedy, Ph.D., chief executive officer, NJMEP. “Supporting innovation and manufacturing in New Jersey will help us continue to compete in a global economy. I look forward to building on this success with the Caucus and working with other Legislators to pass policies that encourage more economic opportunity and jump-start good-paying jobs for workers in New Jersey and nationwide,” added Kennedy.

The Caucus continues to work closely with the New Jersey Manufacturing Extension Program (NJMEP) as this organization plays a critical role in helping the Caucus achieve success.

SALVAGING Millions

by Ron Sturgeon
Autosalvageconsultant.com

Focus on the Customer

The first article in this series listed more than 25 tactics to increase your business success, all of them based on my experience. I started with nothing and didn’t attend college, so I know you can achieve maximum success, regardless of your education.

Focusing on the customer is almost always the right place to start.

Whenever you are thinking about changes in strategy, marketing or other policies that could affect the customer, try to err on the side of doing what benefits your customers. When the customer wins, you win.

•In 1978, when I opened, we didn’t guarantee parts. That was the standard in the industry. In hindsight, how dumb was that? Why would anyone try to replace a failed part with a used one with no warranty? We quickly moved to a 30 day warranty, irritating our competitors because they said the customers would take advantage of yards that offered warranties. We marked the parts to make sure any that were returned were actually ours. I am sure some customers disassembled parts to make sure our mark was on the part they returned. In any case, today the minimum standard is usually 12 months, and the smartest operators also sell extended and labor warranties. These policies benefit the customer and they buy more and tell others about us.

•In your marketing, do you think about advertising things that benefit the customer? Discounts can be good, but most customers think you mark things up so you can discount them. Many are more focused on quality and speed of delivery. Do you offer delivery service from a box truck with full service, meaning the customer never has to do anything except give you a purchase order or money? There’s a reason

they use your competitor with those big, clean box trucks and pallet jacks on board and pay more!

•Considering new methods to pull parts or fill orders? Think about how to better serve the customer as part of those discussions; don’t just focus on how to save you money. In many cases, you can save money and improve service. Look at your ad. Does it make you want to purchase from you?

•Pricing of merchandise – I see yards so myopic about getting every nickel that they take all the latitude away from their sales staff to cut prices. The best yard management systems for recyclers prompt the salesperson about whether he or she should cut prices, based on supply and requests and past sales. Those same computers tell the owner that Salesperson A gets 96 percent of the screen price 100 percent of the time, while others get 90 percent or less. Think about what benefits the customer (lowered prices), in the context of training salespersons when to cut and when not to cut, and everyone will win.

•Use a mystery shopper to understand the customer experience. Prepare an objective way to measure the results, with points for asking for the customer’s name, mentioning warranty, and of course, most importantly, asking for the sale. You will likely be amazed at how poorly phones are handled.

In the old days, we owned the customer. But today, they have so many other options; we don’t own or control anything. The outcome we want, sales, is more difficult than ever before. We must focus on the customer and their experience if we expect to ring the register. Those who deliver the best experience consistently are likely to be the market leaders.

April 2019 steel import permit applications showed increase

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 April totaled 2,894,000 net tons (NT). This was a 3.6 percent increase from the 2,794,000 permit tons recorded in March and a 27.4 percent increase from the March final imports total of 2,271,000.

Import permit tonnage for finished steel in April was 1,983,000, up 6.6 percent from the final imports total of 1,861,000 in March. For the first four months of 2019 (including April SIMA permits and March final imports), total and finished steel imports were 11,079,000 NT and 8,039,000 NT, down 11.1 percent and 17.2 percent, respectively, from the same period in 2018. The estimated finished steel import market share in April was 21 percent and is 21 percent year-to-date (YTD).

Finished steel imports with large increases in April permits vs. March final imports included standard rails (up

223 percent), sheets and strip electrolytic galvanized (up 153 percent), wire rods (up 80 percent), black plate (up 70 percent), cut lengths plates (up 49 percent), sheets and strip hot dipped galvanized (up 18 percent), hot rolled bars (up 16 percent), and hot rolled sheets (up 12 percent). Products with significant year-to date (YTD) increases vs. the same period in 2018 include line pipe (up 21 percent) and wire rod (up 13 percent).

In April, the largest finished steel import permit applications for offshore countries were for South Korea (234,000 NT, up 35 percent from March final), Japan (160,000 NT, up 61 percent), Germany (141,000 NT, up 50 percent), Brazil (68,000 NT, up 403 percent) and Taiwan (63,000 NT, down 43 percent). Through the first four months of 2019, the largest offshore suppliers were South Korea (956,000 NT, down 33 percent from the same period last year), Japan (489,000 NT, down 1 percent) and Germany (450,000 NT, up 10 percent).

Tata Steel joint venture called off

After a meeting with the European Commission, thyssenkrupp and Tata Steel expect that the planned joint venture of their European steel activities will not go ahead due to the Commission’s concerns.

The European Commission took the improvements of the submitted covenants proposed by thyssenkrupp and Tata Steel as an opportunity to conduct another market test. The new market survey did not resolve the Commission’s concerns, although the partners had offered significant further concessions.

From the point of the view of thyssenkrupp and Tata Steel, further

commitments or improvements would adversely affect the intended synergies of the merger to such an extent that the economic logic of the joint venture would no longer be valid.

Consequently, the partners assume that the European Commission will not approve the joint venture.

With the expected unsuccessful outcome of the steel joint venture, the executive board of thyssenkrupp AG has reassessed the strategic options for the company and will propose to the supervisory board to not go ahead with the planned separation into two independent companies.

A second grader came home from school and said to her mother, “Mom, guess what! We learned how to make babies today!”

The mother, more than a little sur-

prised, tried to keep her cool. “That’s interesting,” she said. “How do you make babies?”

It’s simple, replied the girl. “You just change y to i and add es.”

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.

PLASTICS

The Chemical Recycling Alliance grows

The Plastics-to-Fuel and Petrochemistry Alliance has changed its name to The Chemical Recycling Alliance (TCRA) and added three new members. The expanding membership demonstrates the wide range of economic and environmental potential of these technologies.

“Advanced recycling and recovery technologies, such as chemical recycling, present a critical and tremendous opportunity for the entire plastics value chain. Members of the American Chemistry Council’s Plastics Division have committed to recycling or recovering all plastic packaging in the U.S. by 2040, and TCRA technology providers will play an important role in realizing that goal,” said Craig Cookson, senior director, recycling and recovery. “A recent report found that many chemical recycling technologies are still in a nascent phase, but can reach scale with strategic investments and new, vertically-integrated business models.

TCRA’s newest members are Sealed Air Corporation, New Hope Energy, and Golden Renewable Energy, LLC. The companies join chemical recycling technology providers Agilyx Corporation, Renewlogy, and RES Polyflow (now Brightmark Energy) and associate members Americas Styrenics LLC and Tetra Tech, Inc.

Texas becomes 6th state to pass legislation to help recover plastics

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) applauded the Texas Legislature for passing HB 1953. When signed, Texas will become the sixth state to pass legislation to promote advanced plastics recycling and recovery technologies to convert more post-use plastics into valuable raw materials.

“Legislation such as HB 1953 attracts new businesses and supports job creation by treating post-use plastics as raw materials for ‘manufacturing’ and not as waste. We thank Representative Ed Thompson and Senator Kelly Hancock for their leadership in managing this important legislation and urge Governor Abbott to sign this bill into law,” said Craig Cookson, senior director of recycling and recovery for ACC.

A recent report by ACC found the potential economic impact of expanding

advanced plastic recycling and recovering technologies, also called chemical recycling, in the U.S. to be nearly \$10 billion. Simultaneously, demand for recycled plastics is growing, according to a report released earlier this month by the Closed Loop Partners. If chemical recycling technology companies meet growing demand, they have potential revenue opportunities of \$120 billion in the U.S. and Canada.

“Plastics are valuable materials that should be used and reused,” added Rick Wagner, sustainability policy and program manager, for Chevron Phillips Chemical Company. “By expanding chemical recycling facilities, we can repurpose more plastics and meet the growing demand for recycled plastics. HB 1953 will help make this a reality in Texas.”

Texas is the largest chemical manufacturing state in the U.S. with over \$117

billion of industry investment. Texas joins Florida, Wisconsin, Georgia, Iowa and Tennessee in passing similar legislation, reinforcing states’ growing recognition of the economic and environmental benefits of recovering post-use plastic resources. “Advanced recycling and recovery technologies provide a wide array of opportunities for Texas,” added Hector Rivero, president and chief executive officer of the Texas Chemical Council.

In Texas, it’s estimated that converting the state’s post-use plastics into transportation fuel could power 859,700 cars each year. Experts also determined that converting just 25 percent of the state’s post-use plastics into manufacturing feedstocks and transportation fuels could support 40 advanced recycling and recovery facilities and generate \$501 million in economic output annually.

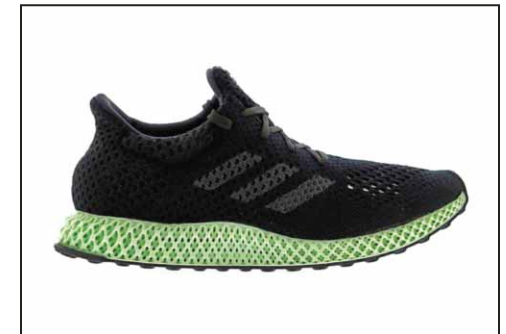
Adidas creates first truly recyclable shoe

Adidas is strengthening its commitment to tackling plastic waste with the reveal of Futurecraft.loop – a 100 percent recyclable performance running shoe.

Together with Parley for the Oceans, Adidas will produce 11 million pairs of shoes containing recycled ocean plastic through intercepting plastic waste on beaches, remote islands and in coastal communities. Adidas is committed to using only recycled polyester in every

product and on every application where a solution exists by 2024. Creating products with premium materials by Parley, made from up-cycled marine plastic waste, is the first pillar of Adidas’ sustainability strategy.

The Futurecraft.loop project is aimed at tackling the problem of plastic waste, enabling a “closed loop” or circular manufacturing model, where the raw materials can be repurposed again and again.



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PLASTICS

American Chemistry Council comments on the impact of inadequate waste management

A new report called “No Time to Waste: Tackling the Plastic Pollution Crisis Before it’s Too Late” and released by Tearfund looks at the relationships between poverty, human health effects and the lack of waste management systems in developing regions. The American Chemistry Council (ACC) released the following statement, which may be attributed to Steve Russell, vice president of ACC’s Plastics Division:

“Unmanaged waste is an urgent problem, and America’s Plastic Makers are deeply committed to working with governments, scientists and nonprofits to help bring about meaningful solutions. Major plastics producers recently partnered with companies from across the plastics value chain to establish the Alliance to End Plastic Waste, which aims to provide \$1.5 billion USD to help keep plastic waste out of the environment. The Alliance has adopted a comprehensive strategy to catalyze investment in waste management infrastructure, innovation to minimize waste and improve recycling, reuse and recovery rates for all types of plastics, education, and clean up—all focused on the areas of the world where the challenge is greatest. The Alliance is based on the principle that through collaboration we can help end plastic waste in the environment in a way that helps make communities cleaner and healthier, while also creating opportunity and encouraging economic development.

“We share the goals and commitment of this study’s authors. However we question the report’s methods and believe the characterization of the report’s findings is misleading. The report itself

attributes health impacts to all types of municipal solid waste – organic, paper, cardboard, metals, glass and plastics. Organic waste, in particular, is more likely to contribute to various health effects cited in the report and studies show that it makes up a large portion of unmanaged waste.

For example, according to a study by the World Bank, over 40 percent of the waste flowing through Indonesia’s rivers is food and other organic waste, and the remainder includes a range of health and hygiene products, among other things. And a separate study from the World Bank Group found that plastics constitute only a small fraction (6.4 percent) of waste in low-income countries.

There is no question that dumping of waste in streams and rivers, on roadsides or open spaces, and open pit burning of waste is neither healthy nor sustainable. All segments of society must work together to reduce waste and enable responsible, effective waste management solutions in all regions of the world.

With the world’s population expected to reach 9.8 billion by 2050, society will increasingly rely on strong, lightweight plastics to deliver more food, clean water, hygiene and medical supplies to more people in more places, with lower greenhouse gas emissions than alternative materials. While discussions on this report will surely focus on the most controversial and disputed conclusions, plastic producers will continue to focus on being part of the solution to some of the world’s most significant sustainability challenges.”

\$260M set for nation’s first commercial-scale plastics-to-fuel plant

Brightmark Energy, a San Francisco-based waste and energy development company, announced the closing of a \$260 million financing package for the construction of the nation’s first commercial scale plastics-to-fuel plant, which will be located in Ashley, Indiana. The financing for Brightmark Energy Ashley Indiana includes \$185 million in Indiana green bonds, which were underwritten by Goldman Sachs & Co. As part of the financing closure, Brightmark has become the controlling owner of RES Polyflow, an Ohio-based energy technology company that innovated the process for converting plastics directly into transportation fuel and other products.

The Ashley facility will be the first of its kind to take mixed waste single use plastics and convert them into usable products at commercial scale. The facility will initially convert approximately 100,000 tons of plastics into over 18 million gallons per year of ultra-low sulfur diesel and naphtha blend stocks and nearly six million gallons a year of commercial grade wax in a process that is expected to be 93 percent efficient. Ultimately, the output of this technology could also be used to produce the feedstocks necessary for manufacturing plastic again.

“We are excited about the market’s confidence in the validity of this technology to economically convert single-use plastics for new uses,” said Bob Powell, chief executive officer of Brightmark Energy and of RES Polyflow.

RES Polyflow’s plastics-to-fuel process sustainably recycles waste that has reached the end of its useful life – including items that cannot readily be recycled, like plastic film, flexible packing, styrofoam and children’s toys – directly into useful products, like fuels and wax.

According to analysis released this week by Closed Loop Partners, there is an existing \$120 billion addressable market in the U.S. and Canada for plastics and petrochemicals that could be met, in part, by recovering waste plastics like those used as feedstock in the Ashley, Indiana facility.

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WASTE

Alpine Waste expands recycling facility

To stay ahead of the growing emphasis on recycling in Colorado, Alpine Waste & Recycling recently completed a \$2.5 million expansion and upgrade of its Altogether Recycling plant.

The investment translates into a 33 percent increase in recycling speed, giving Alpine the ability to divert increasing amounts of material away from landfills. Alpine currently recycles approximately 13,000 tons of material per month, and this upgrade to the plant will allow the company to handle over 17,000 tons.

This expansion is Alpine's third since the plant opened at 645 West 53rd Place in 2007. The last expansion was in 2015; and Alpine has invested a total of more than \$15 million in the plant (capital costs) in the last 13 years.

The new equipment at the plant includes a metering bin at the front of the processing line and a second ballistic separator. For years, Alpine has been the only recycling company in Colorado with a ballistic separator, which bounces 2D and 3D materials, and now Alpine has two to improve the separation between paper and containers.

Other major pieces of new equipment include an additional optical sorter and a four deck cardboard screen which allows Alpine to pull smaller bits of cardboard from the recycling stream.

City of Honolulu and Waste Management settle with EPA over landfill violations

The U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) have settled with the City and County of Honolulu (CCH) and Waste Management of Hawaii, Inc. (WMH), over Clean Water Act violations at the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill in Kapolei, Oahu.

CCH and WMH will pay a combined penalty of \$425,000, which will be split evenly between the U.S. and the State of Hawaii. The state will use the funds for coral reef and habitat restoration, monitoring and conservation on the leeward coast of Oahu.

The agreement also calls for a series of facility upgrades to maintain compliance with stormwater regulations. CCH and WMH will retrofit the landfill's existing stormwater drainage pipeline, install a trash screen, revise their stormwater pollution control plan, comply with specific operational and monitoring limits for the stormwater basin, and apply for an individual stormwater permit for the facility. The consent decree is subject to a 30 day public comment period.

Waste Management operates the Waimanalo Gulch landfill, which is owned by the city and county of Honolulu. In 2009, WMH and CCH began work on a landfill expansion and new stormwater diversion structure. During construction, Waste Management used



—Downtown Honolulu

temporary stormwater pipes to divert stormwater around the landfill.

Before completion of the permanent stormwater diversion structure, WMH began placing waste in the landfill expansion area. In December 2010 and January 2011, several large storms overwhelmed the temporary pipes and flooded the expanded area of the landfill. The flooding discharged stormwater contaminated with leachate, trash and medical waste into the Pacific Ocean. Medical waste washed up on area beaches for several weeks, prompting leeward Oahu area beach closures.

EPA issued an order in January 2011 requiring cleanup of leachate, trash and

medical waste discharged during the storms. EPA issued an additional Clean Water Act order in 2012 requiring WMH and CCH to: Complete construction of the facility's stormwater diversion system; finish a study of the landfill's detention basin to evaluate its capacity to store and treat stormwater; and develop an interim stormwater monitoring plan. WMH and CCH have completed the requirements in those orders.

In July 2015, WMH pleaded guilty to criminal violations for negligent discharge of pollutants on seven days in violation of the Clean Water Act. The company paid \$400,000 in criminal fines, and \$200,000 in restitution.

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WASTE

Neste and the City of Oakland partner to fuel the city fleet with the city waste

The city of Oakland and Neste shared that waste feedstock from the city is now being converted to Neste MY Renewable Diesel™ and fuels the city's fleet.

The city, Neste, fuel distributor Western States Oil and local collectors for used cooking oil joined forces to gather waste cooking oils from restaurants and other businesses in the Oakland metropolitan area and convert it to fuel the city's fleet. By making waste more valuable and supporting jobs that collect and treat it, this concept helps the local economy in the city while the cleaner burning Neste MY Renewable Diesel improves the lives of its residents by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the city's fleet.

"We are excited to partner with the city of Oakland to make 'from city waste to city fuel' a reality and do our part to improve the lives of the people in the city," said Jeremy Baines, vice president of sales, Neste US, Inc. "Oakland's choice for a more sustainable diesel fuel and their support for making local waste part of their energy solution sets an example for the Bay Area, for all of California and beyond."

"Switching from petroleum diesel to renewable diesel automatically converts the city's oldest and dirtiest pollut-

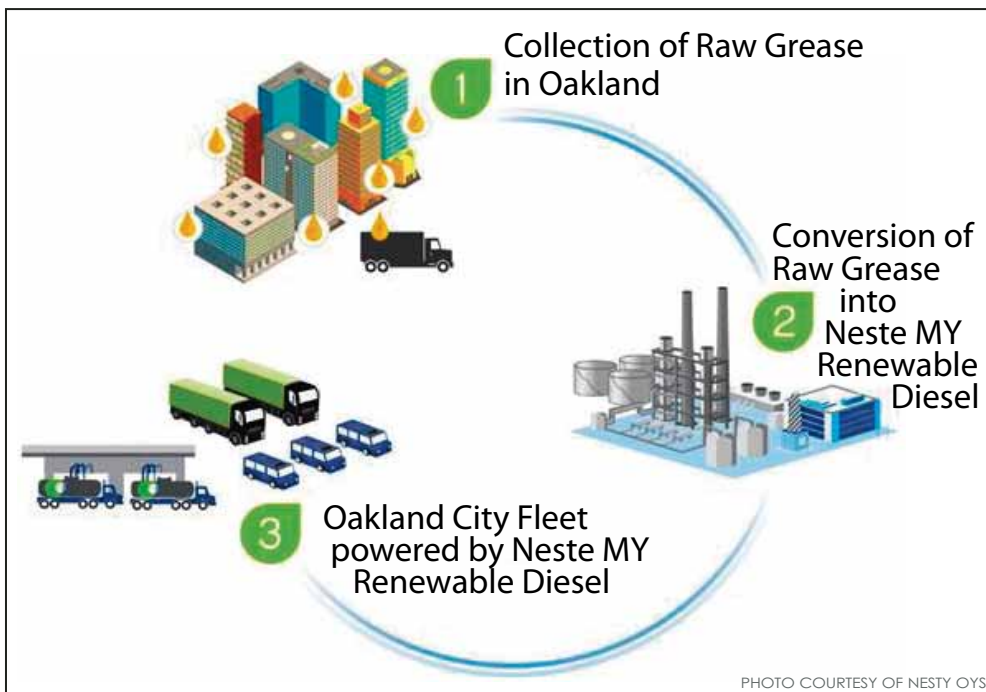


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ing vehicles into alternative fuel vehicles – overnight and with no additional costs," Oakland Public Works director Jason Mitchell said.

Neste MY Renewable Diesel is a low-carbon fuel produced from 100 percent renewable and sustainable raw materials, primarily wastes and residues. It cuts engine-out emissions of nitrogen oxides by 9 percent, those of carbon monoxide by 24 percent and fine partic-

ulates by 33 percent, all while enhancing fleet performance. The concept by the city of Oakland and Neste saves greenhouse gas emissions by 74 percent compared to conventional, fossil diesel. Neste MY Renewable Diesel is a direct replacement fuel that requires no blending and is compatible with all diesel engines.

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Revenue up for Waste Connections

Waste Connections, Inc. reported its results for the first quarter of 2019.

Revenue in the first quarter totaled \$1.245 billion, up from \$1.140 billion in the year ago period. Operating income, which included \$16.1 million in impairments and other operating items, was \$184.9 million; this compares to \$188.7 million in the year ago period. Net income attributable to Waste Connections in the first quarter was \$125.6 million, or \$0.48 per share on a diluted basis of 264.3 million shares.

In the year ago period the company reported net income attributable to Waste Connections of \$124.9 million, or \$0.47 per share on a diluted basis of 264.6 million shares.

Adjusted net income attributable to Waste Connections in the first quarter was \$163.9 million, or \$0.62 per share, versus \$148.6 million, or \$0.56 per share, in the prior year period. Adjusted EBITDA in the first quarter was \$385.7 million and 31.0 percent of revenue, as compared to adjusted EBITDA of \$356.9 million and 31.3 percent of revenue in the prior year period.

The board of directors has declared a regular quarterly cash dividend of \$0.16 U.S. per common share of the company.

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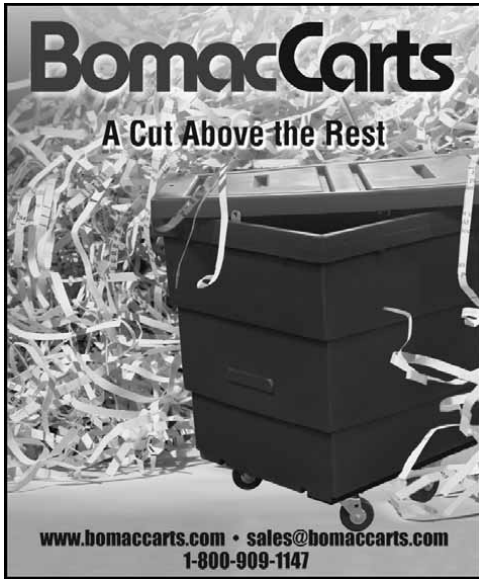
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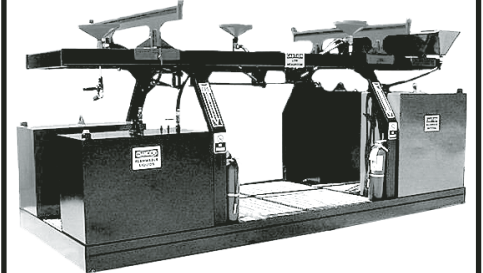
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BUSINESS BRIEFS

TerraCycle joins partners for the environment

■ TerraCycle, a New Jersey based, international recycling company that specializes in recycling the unrecyclable been admitted into the Suppliers Partnership for the Environment (SP).

The Suppliers Partnership was established with the purpose of advancing environmental sustainability through the automotive supply chain. SP functions as a forum for global automotive manufacturers, their large and small suppliers, the EPA and other government entities from around the world to meet and address focus issues. These include: biodiversity preservation, energy efficiency, health, safety, water usage and the use of both eco-friendly materials and environmentally sound supply chain management. Membership is open to companies that supply goods or services to an automotive manufacturer or parts supplier.

This forum and common purpose allows SP to continually identify new, innovative, and more environmentally sustainable ways to enhance the competitiveness of the automobile industry through the global supply chain.

British Steel names Gerald Reichmann CEO

■ British Steel appointed Gerald Reichmann as the chief executive officer.

Reichmann joined the company in 2017 and previously served as its chief financial officer and deputy chief executive officer.

Partners to create financial and routing software

■ FleetMind Solutions, Inc., a technology leader for “smart truck” solutions for solid waste management, and ITA Dynamics, a provider of Microsoft Dynamics based billing solutions for the waste and recycling industry, have integrated their two products in order to provide North American waste management and recycling companies with a seamlessly integrated solution for billing, route management, and service verification.

Using FleetMind’s FleetLink™ Route System and ITA Dynamics’ Microsoft Dynamics 365 Business Central ENWIS products together, solid waste fleets can create customers, assign subscriptions, dispatch routes and handle on-demand stops, while maintaining a single version of events. They can also leverage FleetLink Reports’ extensive service verification capabilities, which provide time-stamped, location-based photographic evidence of service delivery, to provide conclusive proof from within Microsoft Dynamics ENWIS to rapidly resolve customer service queries, particularly complaints about missed service or excessive billing.

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The customer was shocked. “I’ll never be able to teach him all of that by tomorrow!”

Vortex Global wins 2019 export award

■ Vortex Global Ltd., a solids and bulk handling components company, has been recognized by Solids Handling and Processing Association (SHAPA) with the 2019 Solids Handling Industry Export Award.

The award was presented at the SHAPA AGM & Solids Handling Industry Awards Dinner. Other companies honored include Lontra, who received the Solids Handling Industry Innovation Award, and Spirotech, who was named the Solids Handling Industry Company of the Year.

In order to be considered for each award, companies must have demonstrated achievement, improved sales success, or deployment of industry best practices.

Joining Vortex Global on the 2019 Export Award shortlist were Russell Finex and Vent-Tech.

Vortex Global’s award recognition is largely due to its demonstrated achievement in exportation activities. This includes a significant percentage increase in export sales, as well as successful entry into new global markets. Most notably, Vortex expanded markets into Finland and revised its sales strategy in the Middle East, contracting with new equipment representatives in Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Oman and Qatar, as well as nearby Egypt.

Vortex revised its sales strategy in Asia as well, contracting with a new equipment representative in India. In Central America, Vortex relocated its Latin America office from Pachuca, Mexico to Queretaro, Mexico. The move enhances transportation accessibility, in order to travel to clients throughout the region.

Green EnviroTech Holdings adds to its board

■ Green EnviroTech Holdings Corp. has added two to its board of directors.

Mark Gantar is managing director at USWTE Investments and is responsible for business and corporate development in Africa, specializing in Foreign Direct Investment.

Gantar develops and manages relationships with Africa sovereigns, banks and local corporations active in Africa. Gantar is also the president and founder of Arcsoft Consulting, an IT services organization that focuses on business intelligence and training for Government agencies.

Burak Erten, president of USWTE investments, has a background in structured finance and investment banking with a specialization in de-risking projects and converting project risk to credit risk. He is also a specialist in off the balance sheet funding techniques for banks and has experience in fund structuring. Erten has also innovated various financial products including off-plan mortgage products in the Turkish Banking system.

Nucor executive VP to retire; Slate promoted

■ Nucor Corporation announced that chief digital officer and executive vice president, R. Joseph Stratman, plans to retire on June 8, 2019 after more than 29 years of service with Nucor.

Stratman began his career with Nucor in 1989 as controller of Nucor Building Systems-Indiana. He then served as controller of Nucor-Yamato Steel Company, general manager of Nucor Steel-Nebraska and General Manager of Nucor-Yamato. He was promoted to vice president of Nucor in 1999 and to executive vice president of beam and plate products in 2007. Stratman later served as executive vice president of business development, executive vice president of raw materials and most recently as chief digital officer and executive vice president.

Effective May 19, 2019, MaryEmily Slate will be promoted to executive vice president and will assume responsibilities for the Tubular Products Group, logistics and certain joint ventures. Slate began her career with Nucor in 2000 as district sales manager at Nucor Steel-Arkansas. She later served as sales manager at Nucor Steel Decatur, LLC and then as cold mill manager. In 2010, Slate was promoted to general manager of Nucor Steel Auburn, Inc. and was elected vice president in 2012. She was promoted to vice president of Nucor Steel-Arkansas in 2015.

Ladd Hall will continue to serve as executive vice president of sheet products, and Ray Napolitan will assume responsibility for Nucor’s digital initiatives while continuing his role as executive vice president of engineered bar products.

River Metals achieves SHARP safety recognition

■ River Metals Recycling (RMR) Xenia received the prestigious SHARP (Safety & Health Achievement Recognition Program) designation from the U.S. Department of Labor.

Ken Nishiyama-Atha, regional SHARP administrator, recognized the Xenia recycling facility teammates for their commitment to creating and maintaining a safe and healthy workplace. SHARP is the highest honor OSHA awards to small worksites that demonstrate an exemplary commitment to workplace safety and health.

River Metals Recycling is the largest scrap recycler in Kentucky and in the greater Cincinnati area, with nine locations in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio.

Headquartered in Crescent Springs, Kentucky, RMR has over 250 teammates. River Metals Recycling’s Xenia facility specializes in scrap recycling services for households, tradesmen and businesses, and buys ferrous scrap as well as common household nonferrous scrap metal items like aluminum cans and other aluminum, stainless steel, copper and brass products.



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BUSINESS BRIEFS

EPA appoints Sopkin as Region 8 Administrator

■ The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Andrew Wheeler announced the appointment of Gregory Sopkin of Colorado to become regional administrator for Region 8. Sopkin will oversee environmental protection efforts in Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, South Dakota, North Dakota and Montana.

Sopkin has spent much of his career working in public service and private legal practice in Colorado. Sopkin will join the agency having worked for the last 12 years on energy, environment, and telecommunications matters. He most recently worked at Wilkinson Barker Knauer LLP.

Prior to entering private practice, Sopkin served as chairman of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission from January 2003 to January 2007 where he was responsible for conducting quasi-judicial and quasi-legislative proceedings, drafting legal decisions, meeting with state legislators and investigating service outages. He also served as Assistant Attorney General from September 1997 to August 2000 where he represented the Colorado Public Utilities Commission Staff electric, gas and telecommunications proceedings before the Commission, and the PUC in appeals to District Court, Colorado Supreme Court and Federal Courts.

Doosan partners with big data unicorn Palantir

■ Doosan Infracore announced that it formed a strategic partnership with U.S. big data unicorn Palantir Technologies for the first time in Korea, as part of the effort to accelerate digital transformation.

Palantir is a Silicon Valley-based big data startup that provides big data analysis platforms to organizations in various fields, ranging from the public sector to finance to manufacturing, to be used for arresting criminals, preventing financial risk, improving productivity and product quality, etc.

Through a strategic partnership with Palantir, Doosan Infracore will build a big data platform to optimize the business operation and speed up the decision making process. More specifically, the company will visualize data across businesses including sales, production, R&D, quality control, customer services and IOT solutions

USW members ratify agreement for AK Steel plant

■ AK Steel said that members of the United Steel Workers (USW), Local 9545, have ratified a three year labor agreement covering about 220 hourly production and maintenance employees at the company's Mountain State Carbon (MSC) coke-making plant in Follansbee, West Virginia.

The agreement will be in effect until April 30, 2022.

Novelis appoints new executive leaders

■ Novelis Inc., an aluminum rolling and recycling manufacturer, announced changes to its executive leadership team to further focus on enhancing its manufacturing capabilities, developing its talent pipeline and improving its operations.

Tadeu Nardocci, currently senior vice president and president, Novelis South America, has been promoted to senior vice president and chief manufacturing officer, effective June 3, 2019. In this new role, Nardocci will lead Novelis' Global Manufacturing Excellence function and Manufacturing Council. He will be responsible for executing global manufacturing standards and practices to further enhance the company's ability to meet its key business and operational objectives. Nardocci will also oversee the development of the operations and technical talent pipeline agenda across Novelis. He will continue to report to Steve Fisher, Novelis' president and chief executive officer and will remain based in São Paulo.

With the addition of chief manufacturing officer to his role, Nardocci will assume the Manufacturing Excellence responsibilities from Nick Madden, senior vice president of Manufacturing Excellence and Procurement, who has chosen to retire in September 2019, after a distinguished career of more than 40 years in the aluminum industry.

As part of this transition, Francisco Pires, currently chief operating officer (COO), Novelis South America, will succeed Nardocci in the role of president, Novelis South America, effective June 3, 2019. In this position, Pires will be responsible for providing strategic leadership to the region by working with management to establish and execute long-range goals, strategies, plans and policies.

Pires will be accountable and responsible for the region's financial and operational performance and continue to report to Nardocci and remain based in São Paulo.

Pires joined Novelis South America in 2012 as director of procurement. In 2013, he assumed the position of director, procurement and supply chain. In 2014, he was appointed vice president, commercial, followed by his current role as COO.

Prior to Novelis, Pires held positions of increasing responsibility with Fibria, Votorantim Cellulose & Paper, Maxlog and Bureau Veritas.

NAPCOR relocates headquarters to Charlotte

■ The National Association for PET Container Resources (NAPCOR) has moved its headquarters to Charlotte, North Carolina.

This change comes with the appointment of Darrel Collier as NAPCOR's new executive director. Collier, who is located in the Charlotte area, replaced outgoing executive director Rick Moore, who retired in April after serving the organization for five years.

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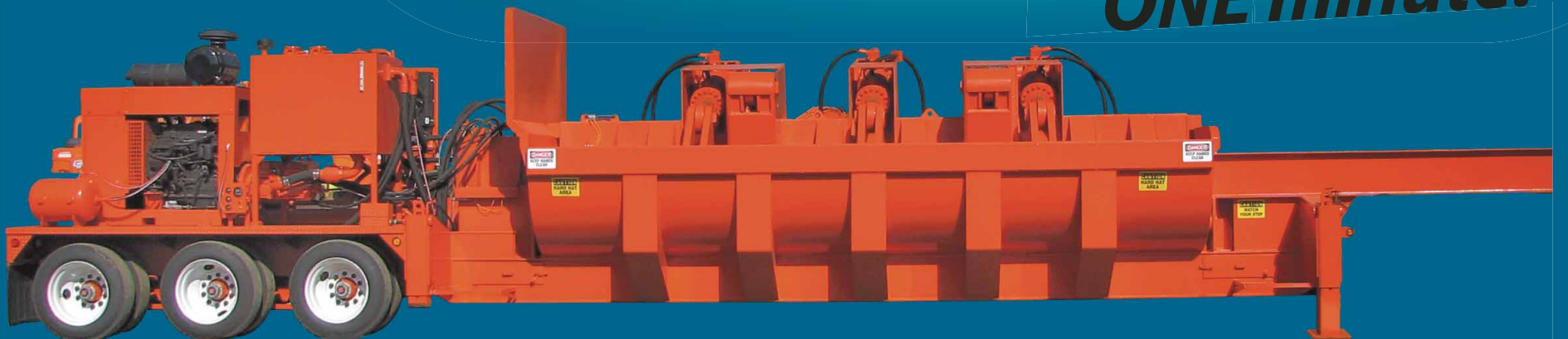
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