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Gypsum recycling presents challenges



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Safety improvements needed in the waste & recycling arena

by MAURA KELLER

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Professional recycling companies are joining the throngs of businesses who have safety and security at the top of their “to improve list.” The decision to establish a safe working environment for workers not only meets state and federal safety regulations for the industry, but it also puts your most important assets – your employees – at the center of your safety measures.

Terry Dussault, an Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) professional and president of Yellowknife Consulting Services, has a background in environmental compliance on a variety of projects, including those involving contamination from prior manufacturing and distribution operations.

According to Dussault, on average, according to the Bureau of Labor statistics, the waste recycling industry has a rate of approximately 45 fatalities per 100,000 full time equivalent workers, which is over 5 times the fatality rate for all industries. Furthermore, the numbers have been continuing to trend upward since 2020.

“Worker struck by and transportation incidents are the top cause and average above 60 percent, which is alarming to safety professionals,” Dussault says. “Automated equipment such as conveyers, which move trash and recyclables through the sorting process, are some of the biggest safety issues at recycling and sorting facilities.”

And while the safety of recycling and sorting facilities is a key area of concern for the industry, so too is the safety of recycling professionals who gather and collect items to be recycled – whether that be curbside pickup in residential areas or transportation of the increase of lithium-ion batteries from electric vehicles.

In fact, many of today’s safety issues are evolving as new waste materials are introduced from the green movement. For example, as Dussault explained, electric cars have been engineered with highly efficient batteries and the competition between auto manufacturers to continuously improve their batteries forces them to use new metals, chemicals and other materials.

“The main issue is that new style batteries are not engineered with sustainability in mind. Meaning, the recycling process is extremely difficult and unprofitable,” Dussault said. “Representatives at Toyota USA have been struggling for years to find a solution for the millions of used and defective electric



Every company should have its own safety management system in place which takes into consideration national and local safety regulations and recommendations.

PHOTO BY AUREMAR | DREAMSTIME

batteries returned to them from dealerships. The cost to store the batteries continues to climb while they try to figure out a logical solution.”

Rick Perez, founder and chief executive officer of Avangard Innovative, a waste and recycling company in the Americas with operations in 11 countries, agreed that as the green movement marches forward at a rapid pace, the addition of teammates increases the opportunity for incidents.

“We are starting to see larger recycling centers, larger equipment, new technology, chemical processing and other factors that are making the recycling industry more industrial,” Perez said. “With the increasing demand for more recycling centers needed to support growth, it is inevitable that there will be more safety concerns. As we grow, it is even more important to onboard new team members with the same training and expectations we currently have in place. We will evolve to reduce exposure where we can and have a highly trained team.”

In addition, Perez said the biggest safety issues facing recycling and sorting are much the same as other manufacturers. Slips, trips and falls present the most hazard when processing materials that involve sorting, washing and processing.

“Facilities tend to require the direct influence of teammates on the floor moving around equipment and material

to assure the process is at standard regardless of the variable feedstock of recyclable material,” Perez said. “Some of the biggest safety issues we see in recycling facilities are hand and eye injuries. This is due to the heavy machinery, conveyor systems, shredders, and chemicals used in the recycling industry.”

Enacting Safety Protocols and Measures

Establishing proper safety protocols depends on many issues including the type of recycling facility, the materials being handled, and the state in which the recycling facility operates.

While there is no national law that mandates recycling facility safety regulations, state and local governments often have their own regulations and requirements. Additionally, as Perez explained, other agencies and protocols, like the EPA or the job safety environmental analysis (JSEA), oversee the resource conservation and recovery act, which would provide non-evident regulation on hazardous waste, landfill regulations and recycling materials.

“Every company should have its own safety management system in place, which takes into consideration national and local safety regulations and recommendations,” Perez said.

Dussault added that the safety measures at recycling facilities should include use of controlled access zones to

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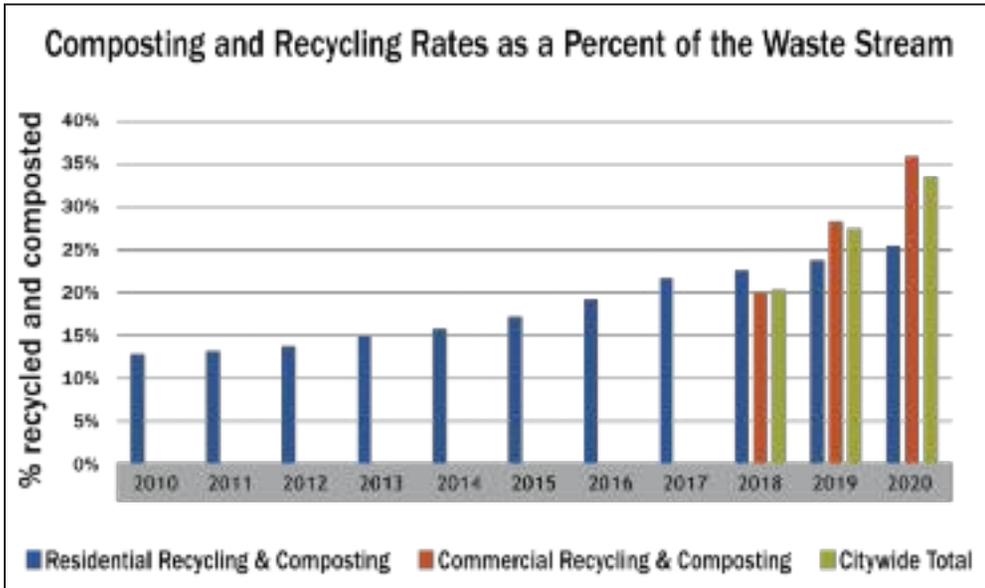
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Denver to double recycling and composting rates



The City of Denver, Colorado, updated its solid waste master plan with a new Sustainable Resource Management Plan.

This updated plan offers a comprehensive view of sustainable materials management strategies across residential, commercial, industrial waste and construction and demolition sectors.

Smart policies are needed to support operations and educational efforts to reduce waste. Many peer cities of similar size have strong waste diversion policies that could serve as a model for Denver. By 2024 the City shall seek to:

1. Pass a Universal Waste Reduction Ordinance (UWRO)

Denver's commercial and construction sectors collectively account for more than 80 percent of Denver's total waste stream, with a diversion rate of only 36 percent, and thus represent a sizeable opportunity for increased waste diversion. This plan recommends a comprehensive policy that provides a time and tiered approach to achieve desired waste diversion results. A UWRO would establish:

- Short term foundational work to support long-term policies
- Diversion requirements for commercial and multi-family buildings
- Diversion requirements for construction and demolition debris
- Phased implementation to allow for growth and acceptance, quality service, and operational excellence

2. Revise the Equal Space Ordinance

Many commercial buildings in Denver lack adequate space for sorting waste at the point of collection (i.e., the loading dock). The current provision in the building and fire code for the city and county of Denver should be strengthened to ensure adequate space in new construction buildings.

3. Explore the efficacy of a cardboard disposal ban

Cardboard is widely recognized as a high quality recyclable that is acceptable in all curbside and dropoff center collections, and in commercial collections, and is a commodity that consistently has positive market value. Despite wide-spread access to recycling,

it is estimated that 47 percent of cardboard is sent to landfill from the residential waste stream and 57 percent from the commercial waste stream. A disposal ban would:

- Prohibit disposal and collection of cardboard in waste receptacles
- Provide education to Denver businesses and residents
- Lay the groundwork for future disposal bans such as food waste

A disposal ban is not a landfill ban, but rather emphasizes the role of the consumer in placing their cardboard in the proper container. Ideally, the combination of weekly recycling service plus the universal waste ordinance will significantly reduce the amount of cardboard being landfilled.

Part of this new plan will include implementing a fee for residential waste hauling services by 2023.

A volume based pricing structure incentivizes waste diversion, often referred to as Pay as You Throw. A volume based pricing program provides trash, recycling and composting to customers and charges a fee based on the size of the refuse cart. This type of program is key to equalizing the waste systems between DOTI's customers and the private sector and will result in consistent waste diversion.



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Improvements

Continued from Page 1



Over three quarters of employees surveyed (76 percent) said their company is taking appropriate safety measures to protect staff, reported "People at Work 2021: A Global Workforce View" from the ADP Research Institute.

prevent ground personnel from accessing high-risk areas with traffic. Transportation vehicles and equipment should be equipped with cameras and proximity sensors to increase safety.

"Inside facilities management can implement engineering controls such as special lighting, ventilation and water misters to mitigate dust and odors," Dussault said. "At metal recycling facilities employers and workers must be trained about the potential for exposure to lead, cadmium and chromium when fumes are generated from smelting. Heavy metals are toxic and known to cause cancer and other health related problems."

Dussault recommends that at lead recycling facilities, routine medical monitoring of workers be conducted for all front line workers to ensure blood lead levels do not exceed OSHA standards.

Avanguard Innovative believes that safety is the primary responsibility of every team, at a teammate level.

"You do not walk past unsafe acts, conditions or hazards without taking immediate action. Even if you do not know what to do, you can alert the rest of the team to remediate the issue," Perez said.

Avanguard Innovative uses standard protocols like personal protective equipment (PPE), safety training and equipment guarding in accordance with OSHA standards. In addition, Avanguard Innovative's teammates are trained and encouraged to recognize unsafe conditions and notify their supervisor for immediate action.

"The most important measure is assuring the teammates who are at the point of execution, fully understand that they have the authority to speak up and act," Perez said. "When they see

something unsafe, companies must support their ability to recognize unsafe acts, conditions, and hazards and know they can take action to make us all safe. Our leadership team from the president to the supervisors also regularly walks the floor with the intention of recognizing safety issues and areas of opportunity."

So who pays the cost for monitoring workers on a routine basis?

"The employer is responsible for all cost associated with a medical monitoring program," Dussault said.

It's important for recycling companies to be aware of the safety requirements of the state in which they operate as there are many recycling requirements that vary from state to state.

"In general, California tends to have some of the most stringent regulations when it comes to waste recycling, treatment and disposal facilities," Dussault said. "Nationally, the U.S. sets the bar high when it comes to workplace safety though. It is believed by most industry experts that rules and regulations around recycling and waste will continue to become stricter and more costly in the future. What is the upside to this? Perhaps it will be the birth of many new and innovative materials not yet realized."

Perez said the future of safety within the recycling industry will require recycling companies to have a voice with organizations like OSHA, local fire marshals, and other regulatory bodies, to adapt and create measures that appropriately fit our industry.

"The variation of incoming recyclable materials and ever-changing processes may challenge existing regulations," Perez said. "And it may require adaptation in order to grow the share of material being recycled."

KAR Global completes sale of Adesa

KAR Global, a provider of digital marketplace solutions for used vehicles, completed its sale of the Adesa U.S. physical auction business to Carvana.

The sale, originally announced in February, includes all Adesa U.S. physical auction sites, operations and staff at 56 Adesa U.S. vehicle logistics centers and exclusive use of the www.adesa.com marketplace in the U.S.

KAR will continue to operate its Openlane platform that supports more than 40 private label programs representing approximately 80 percent of North America's off-lease inventory. KAR will also continue operating its rapidly growing digital dealer-to-dealer businesses – BacklotCars and CARWAVE in the U.S. and TradeRev in Canada. In addition, the company will retain its Adesa Canada, Adesa U.K. and Adesa Europe businesses as well as its affiliated inspections, transportation and other services brands, including leading floor plan solutions provider AFC.



June

6/9-6/11

CARI Annual Convention. The Westin Calgary Hotel. Calgary, AB. www.cari-acir.org 613-728-6946

6/27-6/30

Air & Waste Management Annual Conference & Exhibition. Hyatt Regency. San Francisco, California. www.awma.org 412-232-3444

September

9/21-9/24

Automotive Recyclers Association Annual Convention. The Dolphin Hotel. Orlando, Florida. www.a-r-a.org 571-208-0428

9/27-9/28

Canadian Waste & Recycling Expo. International Centre. Toronto, Ontario, Canada. www.waste-recycling-expo-canada.us.messefrankfurt.com 416-510-5235

October

10/11-10/13

2022 Annual Missouri Recycling Association Conference. Stoney Creek Inn. Independence, Missouri. www.moraconference.org 573-491-4255



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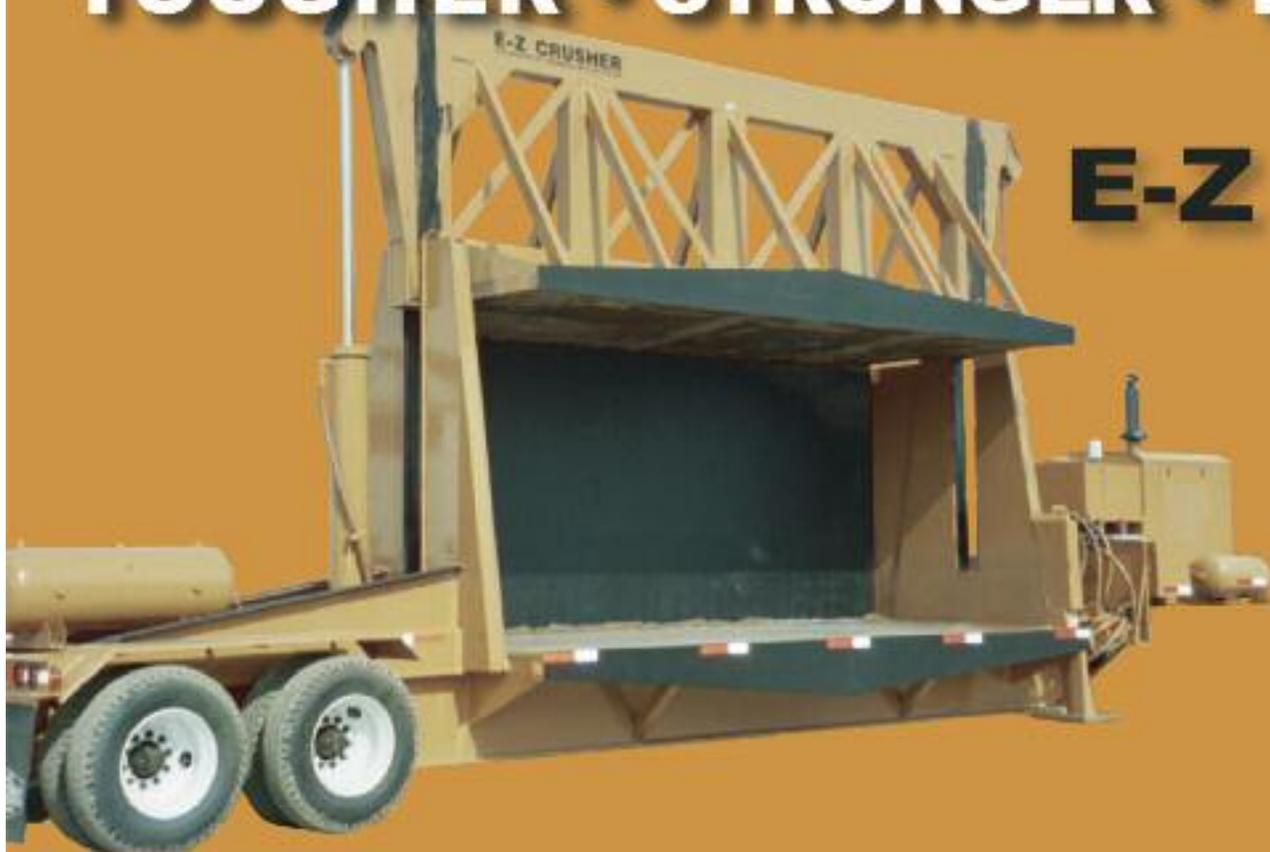
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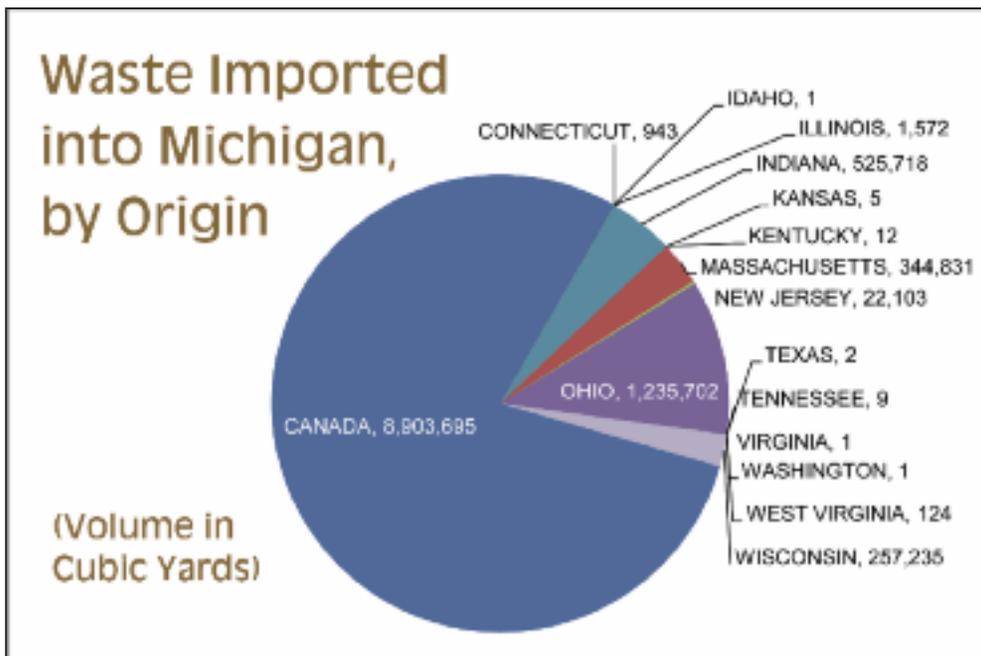
EGLE releases annual solid waste report

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) has released its 26th annual solid waste report, which offers a look at inputs to Michigan's landfills during 2021.

There was a 3 percent overall decrease in solid waste disposed of in Michigan landfills, compared to the same period in 2020. Waste disposed of by Michigan residents and businesses decreased by about 1.2 percent, and waste imported from other states and Canada decreased by about 8.3 percent.

Imported waste represents about 22.1 percent of all waste disposed of in Michigan landfills. The largest source of waste imported into Michigan continued to be Canada, contributing 17.4 percent of waste disposed of in Michigan. Fifteen states imported waste into Michigan. Ohio contributed the largest amount of waste imported to Michigan from an individual state.

All 67 Michigan landfills are required to submit information on disposal to EGLE, which compiles this



information into an annual report for the Legislature.

As part of its mission, EGLE continues to invest in increasing recycling access, improving recycling infrastructure, and providing public education regarding recycling and waste

reduction to reduce overall waste disposal in Michigan.

For a direct download of the report, view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

Republic Services employees claim all NWRA Driver of the Year awards

Republic Services, Inc. announced it swept all National Waste & Recycling Association (NWRA) Driver of the Year awards in the national category for the second year in a row. The four winning Republic employees demonstrate the company's commitment to safety and superior customer experience.

The Driver of the Year awards recognize drivers who safely operate their trucks, maintain a superior performance record and enhance the overall safety and image of the environmental services industry in eight categories.

2022 National Commercial Driver of the Year

Based out of Republic Services' Springfield, Missouri, division, Frank Epps has spent the past 18 years with the company. Epps began working at his family's waste disposal business after school. Over the course of his career, he developed a passion for safety and a commitment to customer service that is second to none. He credits his family, faith and community with his success.

2021 National Industrial Driver of the Year

Jason Tavares is a 28 year Republic Services driver, currently serving the Yorktown, Virginia division. His father was a driver and introduced him to the industry, where he began his career. Tavares has been a part of the Virginia team for the entirety of his tenure and considers his coworkers to be family.

2022 National Residential Driver of the Year: Kevin Johnston

Kevin Johnston has been a residential driver with Republic Services in Mt. Vernon, Illinois, for 14 years. He's passionate about his career, family and his customers. Johnston is respected by his entire team and is often referred to as "Superman."

2022 National Residential Driver of the Year: Richard Denshuick

A proud member of the Republic Services team in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Richard Denshuick has been with the company for 12 years. He has spent the majority of his career as a driver but has also committed his time and expertise toward training new drivers. He is admired and respected by his peers and is known to always lend a hand when he can. Denshuick's commitment to safety and customer service have solidified him as an invaluable member of the team.

This sentence contains exactly three errors.

If you can't find them all, feel free to message us on our Facebook page for the solution!

Former president of Petersburg landfill pleads guilty

A Prince George, Virginia man pleaded guilty to tax fraud and executing a conspiracy to defraud individual lenders, financial institutions and his employer out of almost \$9 million.

According to court documents, from 2012 to 2020, Robert W. Guidry,

conspired with Christopher W. Elko, Petersburg, to enrich themselves by, among other methods, falsely purporting to sell ownership interests in businesses where the conspirators worked, obtaining fraudulent loans and other forms of credit from individual lenders

and financial institutions, and embezzling money from their employer. As part of the conspiracy, Guidry solicited and induced individuals to lend him money under false pretenses, claiming that the loans would be used for investment purposes – when, in fact, Guidry actually used the money for personal expenses or to repay other lenders.

The conspirators also obtained loans and lines of credit from various financial institutions, relying on misrepresentations and deliberate omissions about Guidry's personal financial status, such as the value of his assets and the amount of his liabilities. To repay the individual lenders and financial institutions they had fraudulently borrowed money from, and to pay their own personal expenses, the conspirators concocted a scheme to defraud their employer by misappropriating money through various frauds. For instance, the conspirators diverted customer payments owed to their employer to a bank account controlled by the conspirators, and fabricated payables to their employers' vendors and others, depositing the payments into bank accounts they controlled.

In total, the conspirators' actions caused a total loss of more than \$8.8 million to investors, banks and their former employer.

Guidry is scheduled to be sentenced on September 7, 2022. He faces a maximum penalty of 30 years in prison. Actual sentences for federal crimes are typically less than the maximum penalties. A federal district court judge will determine any sentence after taking into account the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

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Anaergia Inc. commissions natural gas facilities in Italy

New facilities create renewable natural gas from food waste

Anaergia Inc. officially commissioned its Easy Energia Ambiente facility in Pontinia, Italy. The state-of-the-art facility has the capacity to anaerobically digest 36,450 tons of landfill-diverted food scraps and other organic waste each year, and to convert this waste into 3,215,000 cubic meters of renewable natural gas (RNG) that will be injected into the region's gas pipelines. The new plant will also treat the digestate that remains after the anaerobic digestion process to create 4,500 tons per year of high quality natural fertilizer, plus enough water to cover all of this facility's requirements. Anaergia was the technology provider for the project, and it will own and operate the facility.

"Commissioning this facility marks the first milestone in achieving remarkable growth in Italy this year," said Andrew Benedek, chairman and chief executive officer of Anaergia. "The six new facilities we plan to commission in 2022, and a seventh in 2023, will all add RNG to the Italian gas grid, providing more and more biomethane to replace fossil fuels. This will assist the European Union in achieving greater energy independence."

The Easy Energia Ambiente facility will receive the food waste it processes from waste collection companies operating in the region surrounding Rome. The food waste will be converted into biogas with the company's high throughput and high efficiency Omnivore™ technology, and it will then be upgraded to pipeline quality RNG using other proprietary technologies of Anaergia.

Food waste is the third leading source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions globally, according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Landfilled food waste creates methane emissions, which have a far greater short-term effect in warming the planet than carbon dioxide. Reducing methane emissions curbs the adverse impacts of climate change more significantly in the near term compared to reducing carbon dioxide reductions.

New York DEC to award \$2 million in grants for food scrap recycling

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos announced \$2 million in new grant funding is now available to municipalities statewide to help establish or expand food scrap recycling programs and facilities. The first \$1 million in grants will prioritize eligible projects that dedicate at least half of the funding to serving environmental justice communities to ensure these communities disproportionately overburdened by environmental pollution are able to participate in the initiative's climate and waste-reduction benefits.

"Food scrap recycling infrastructure is critical to achieve New York's waste diversion goals and these grants help ensure equitable access to this new funding opportunity," said Seggos. "Composting can help protect our shared environment by diverting food waste to help reduce our dependence on landfills, protect the planet from harmful methane emissions, and recycle organic nutrients back into the soil to grow healthy food. In addition, successful programs like the Food Donation and Food Waste Scraps Recycling Law support the State's efforts under Governor Kathy Hochul's leadership to reduce waste and climate-altering emissions while getting hundreds of thousands of pounds of quality food to New Yorkers in need."

Commissioner Seggos celebrated the announcement at an event at the Radix Ecological Sustainability Center in the city of Albany with Mayor Kathy Sheehan, recognizing the city's food scraps drop-off location and compost education program. The city received a \$225,000 Food Waste Reduction grant from DEC in 2019 and is putting it to work in the community.

The food scraps and compost initiatives targeted for funding in this round of DEC grants are among many efforts New York State is undertaking to promote both increased food donation and food scraps recycling. Earlier this year, the state implemented the New York State Food Donation and Food Scraps Recycling Law, which requires businesses and institutions that generate an annual average of two tons of wasted food per week or more to donate excess edible food and recycle all remaining food scraps if they are within 25 miles of an organics recycler. Approximately 1,150 businesses across

the state are required to donate, with 320 businesses also required to recycle their food scraps. DEC partnered with Feeding New York State, the food bank association of New York State, to provide assistance to businesses to help set up or enhance food donation programs. In the last six months since this successful partnership got underway, more than 440,000 pounds of edible food was donated to food banks and provided directly to people in need.

Feeding New York State executive director Dan Egan said, "The Food Donation and Food Scraps Recycling Law is already having a big impact on families in need. We have seen a substantial increase in donations from 43 new donors, with more slated to come online shortly. Our partnership with Commissioner Seggos' staff at DEC is what makes this possible. DEC funding and expertise has enabled us to visit dozens of potential new donors, manage new, high quality food donations, and divert over 400,000 pounds of perfectly good food away from landfills."

For a direct link to additional information, view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

Casella Waste shows revenue increased

Casella Waste Systems, Inc., a solid waste and recycling management services company, reported its financial results for the three month period ended March 31, 2022.

Highlights for the three months ended March 31, 2022:

- Revenues were \$234.0 million for the quarter, up \$44.5 million from the same period in 2021.

- Overall solid waste pricing for the quarter was up 5.6 percent, driven by collection pricing, up 6.5 percent, and disposal pricing, up 4.0 percent, from the same period in 2021.

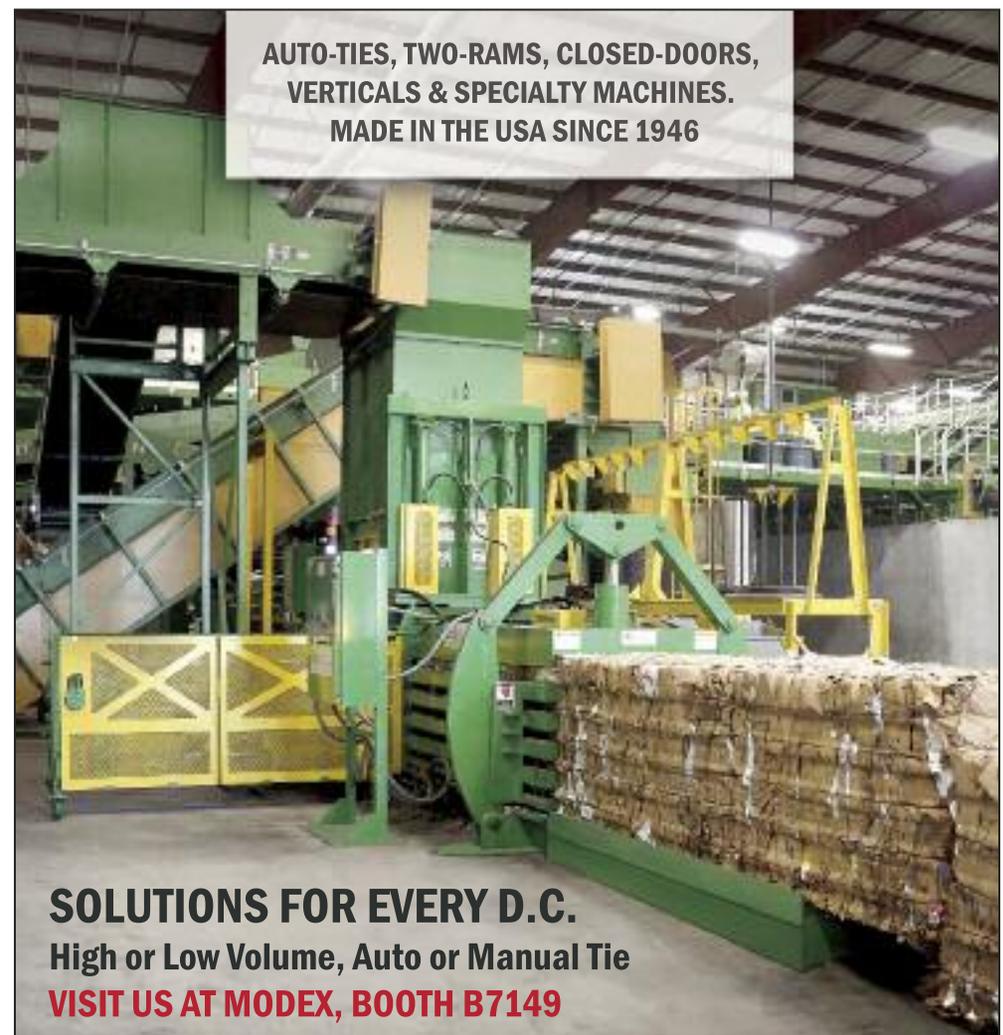
- Net income was \$4.2 million for the quarter, down \$(0.1) million, or down (2.8) percent, from the same period in 2021; with approximately \$1.5 million of the decline associated with a true up of depreciation and amortization expense related to an acquisition in July 2021.

- Adjusted Net Income, a non-GAAP measure, was \$5.8 million for the quarter, up \$1.0 million, or up 21.5 percent, from the same period in 2021.

- Adjusted EBITDA, a non-GAAP measure, was \$45.6 million for the quarter, up \$6.7 million, or up 17.3 percent, from the same period in 2021.

- Net cash provided by operating activities was \$24.7 million for the quarter, down \$(7.4) million.

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METALS

Novelis builds low-carbon aluminum plant

Novelis Inc., an aluminum solutions provider and leader in aluminum rolling and recycling, will invest \$2.5 billion to build a low-carbon recycling and rolling plant in Bay Minette, Alabama. The facility will have an initial 600 kilotonnes of finished aluminum goods capacity annually.

“This investment marks the start of another transformational growth phase for Novelis,” said Kumar Mangalam Birla, chairman of the Aditya Birla Group and the Novelis board of directors. “We continue to invest in each of the markets Novelis serves – from beverage can to automotive, aerospace and specialties – and in all geographies. Novelis has a track record of success in delivering customers the low-carbon, sustainable aluminum solutions they seek, and we will continue that storied history with this investment and others to come.”

More than half of the capacity of the new facility will be used to serve growing demand for aluminum beverage can sheet in North America, which is driven by consumer preference for more sustainable packaging.

Novelis’ decision to build a fully integrated, greenfield recycling and rolling plant is backed by strong North American demand for flat-rolled, low-carbon aluminum from can makers and beverage companies. Aluminum beverage cans, bottles and cups are the mod-

els of sustainable packaging and the circular economy. With an average “can-to-can” lifecycle of just a couple of months, a can that is recycled today can be back on store shelves in as little as 60 days.

The facility will be the first fully integrated aluminum mill built in the U.S. in 40 years. It is expected to create up to 1,000 advanced careers in modern manufacturing. It will also be the most sophisticated and sustainable of its kind. It will aim to be net carbon neutral for Scope 1 and 2, be powered primarily by renewable energy, use recycled water and be a zero waste facility. It will also rely on railroad transportation, which can reduce logistics related carbon emissions by up to 70 percent compared to road transport. The plant will make significant use of advanced automation and digital technologies, including artificial intelligence, augmented reality and robotics.

With the addition of a new recycling center for beverage cans, Novelis will soon be able to recycle 90 billion cans globally, up from the 74 billion used beverage cans the company currently recycles.

Site work is under way now and the company expects to begin commissioning in mid 2025.

In addition to the beverage can market, the facility will also serve the automotive market.

April finished import market share estimated at 25 percent

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 2,579,000 net tons (NT). This was an 19.8 percent decrease from the 3,214,000 permit tons recorded in March and a 16.6 percent decrease from the March final imports total of 3,092,000. Import permit tonnage for finished steel in April was 2,093,000, down 16.3 percent from the final imports total of 2,499,000 in March. For the first four months of 2022 (including April SIMA permits and March final imports), total and finished steel imports were 11,062,000 NT and 8,711,000 NT, up 19.4 percent and 42.3 percent, respectively, from the same period in 2021. The estimated finished steel import market share in April was 25 percent and is 24 percent year-to-date (YTD).

Steel imports with large increases in April permits vs. the March final imports include tin plate (up 31 percent) and standard rail (up 200 percent). Products with significant YTD increases vs. the same period in 2021 include wire rods (up 137 percent), cold rolled sheets (up 88 percent), tin plate (up 80 percent), oil country goods (up 80 percent) and sheets and strip galvanized hot dipped (up 45 percent).

In April, the largest steel import permit applications were for Canada (583,000 NT, down 11 percent from March final), Mexico (392,000 NT, down 28 percent), Brazil (258,000 NT, down 26 percent), South Korea (198,000 NT, down 38 percent) and Taiwan (104,000 NT, no change). Through the first four months of 2022, the largest suppliers were Canada (2,283,000 NT, down 1 percent from the same period last year) and Mexico (1,950,000 NT, up 42 percent).

Schnitzer adds Shoemaker to board

Schnitzer Steel Industries, Inc. announced that its board of directors has appointed Leslie L. Shoemaker as a new independent director, effective immediately. Dr. Shoemaker will serve on the nominating and corporate governance committee of the board.

Shoemaker is the president of Tetra Tech, a provider of consulting and engineering services. Shoemaker joined Tetra Tech in 1991 and has

served in various technical and operational capacities of increasing responsibility. She also serves as Tetra Tech’s chief sustainability officer. Shoemaker holds a BA in Mathematics from Hamilton College, an MEng from Cornell University and a PhD in Agricultural Engineering from the University of Maryland. Shoemaker was recently elected to the National Academy of Engineering.

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Scrap Metals MarketWatch

Commodity		Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5
#1 Bushelings	per gross ton	\$408.00	402.00	420.00	495.00	620.00
#1 Bundles	per gross ton	401.00	400.00	419.00	498.00	615.00
Plate and Structural	per gross ton	389.00	412.00	424.00	501.00	539.00
#1 & 2 Mixed Steel	per gross ton	359.00	415.00	418.00	469.00	499.00
Shredder Bundles (tin)	per gross ton	217.00	212.00	275.00	275.00	285.00
Crushed Auto Bodies	per gross ton	217.00	212.00	275.00	275.00	285.00
Steel Turnings	per gross ton	201.00	209.00	261.00	260.00	312.00
#1 Copper	per pound	4.21	4.23	4.40	4.13	4.40
#2 Copper	per pound	4.01	4.01	4.19	3.92	4.19
Aluminum Cans	per pound	.87	.88	1.05	.91	.95
Auto Radiators	per pound	1.99	1.91	2.31	2.42	2.52
Aluminum Core Radiators	per pound	.84	.72	.76	.81	.85
Heater Cores	per pound	1.59	1.61	1.62	1.84	1.99
Stainless Steel	per pound	.92	.91	1.01	.98	1.05

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

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METALS

World Steel short range outlook released for 2022/23

The World Steel Association released its short range outlook for 2022 and 2023. World Steel forecasts that steel demand will grow by 0.4 percent in 2022 to reach 1,840.2 Mt after increasing by 2.7 percent in 2021. In 2023, steel demand will see further growth of 2.2 percent to reach 1,881.4 Mt. The current forecast is made against the backdrop of the war in Ukraine and is subject to uncertainty.

In 2021, recovery from the pandemic shock turned out to be stronger than expected in many regions, despite continuing supply chain issues and COVID waves. However, a sharper than anticipated deceleration in China led to lower global steel demand growth in 2021. For 2022 and 2023, the outlook is highly uncertain. The expectation of a continued recovery from the pandemic has been shaken by the war in Ukraine and rising inflation.”

The magnitude of the impact of this conflict will vary across regions, depending on their direct trade and financial exposure to Russia and Ukraine. There is an immediate devastating effect on Ukraine, consequences for Russia, and major impact on the EU due to its reliance on Russian energy and its geographic proximity to the conflict area. The impact will also be felt globally via higher energy and commodity prices – especially raw materials for steel production – and continued supply chain disruptions, which were troubling the global steel industry even before the war. Furthermore, financial market volatility and heightened uncertainty will undermine investment.

Such global spillovers from the war in Ukraine, along with low growth in China, point to reduced growth expectations for global steel demand in 2022. There are further downside risks from the continued surge in virus infections in some parts of the world, especially China, and rising interest rates. The expected tightening of US monetary policies will hurt financially vulnerable emerging economies.

The outlook for 2023 is highly uncertain. This forecast assumes that the confrontation in Ukraine will come to an end in the course of 2022 but that the sanctions on Russia will largely remain.

Additionally, the geopolitical situation surrounding Ukraine poses significant long-term implications for the global steel industry. Among them are a possible readjustment in global trade flows, a shift in energy trade and its impact on energy transitions, and continued reconfiguration of global supply chains.

China

Chinese steel demand saw a major slowdown in 2021 due to the tough government measures on real estate developers. Steel demand in 2022 will remain flat as the government tries to boost infrastructure investment and stabilize the real estate market. The stimuli

introduced in 2022 are likely to support small positive growth in steel demand in 2023. There is upside potential from more substantial stimulus measures, which is likely if the economy faces more challenges from the deteriorating external environment.

Advanced economies

Despite the sporadic COVID infection waves and the manufacturing sector's supply chain constraints, steel demand recovered strongly in 2021, especially in the EU and the U.S. However, the outlook for 2022 has weakened due to inflationary pressure, which is further reinforced by the events surrounding Ukraine. The impact of the war will be particularly pronounced in the EU due to its high dependence on Russian energy and refugee inflows. Steel demand in the developed world is forecast to increase by 1.1 percent and 2.4 percent in 2022 and 2023 respectively, after recovering by 16.5 percent in 2021.

Developing economies excluding China

In the developing economies, recovery from the pandemic faced more challenges with the continued impact of the pandemic and surging inflation, which prompted a monetary tightening cycle in many emerging economies. After falling by 7.7 percent in 2020, steel demand in the developing world excluding China grew by 10.7 percent in 2021, slightly less than our earlier forecast. In 2022 and 2023, the emerging economies excluding China will continue to face challenges from the worsening external environment, the Russia-Ukraine war, and U.S. monetary tightening, leading to low growth of 0.5 percent in 2022 and 4.5 percent in 2023.

Steel using sectors

Global construction activity continued to recover from the lockdowns to record growth of 3.4 percent despite a contraction in China in 2021. The recovery was driven by an infrastructure push as part of recovery programs in many countries, and these and investments related to the energy transition will likely drive the construction sector's growth for years to come. However, the construction sector faces some headwinds from rising costs and interest rates.

The recovery of the global auto industry in 2021 was disappointing as the supply chain bottlenecks arrested the recovery momentum in the second half of the year. The war in Ukraine is likely to delay any return to normal of the supply chain issues, especially in Europe. Despite the slump in global auto production, the EV segment grew exponentially during the pandemic. Global sales of EVs in 2021 reached 6.6 million units, almost doubling from 2020. The share of EVs in total car sales increased from 2.49 percent in 2019 to 8.57 percent in 2021.

Norsk Hydro ASA to build new recycling plant in Cassopolis, Michigan

Hydro is bringing its next-generation recycling technology to the new plant

Global aluminum company Hydro broke ground on a state-of-the-art aluminum recycling plant in Cassopolis, Michigan. When completed, the plant will provide 70 new local jobs, support automotive innovation and be a key stepping-stone in Hydro's ambition of doubling recycling of post-consumer aluminum by 2025.

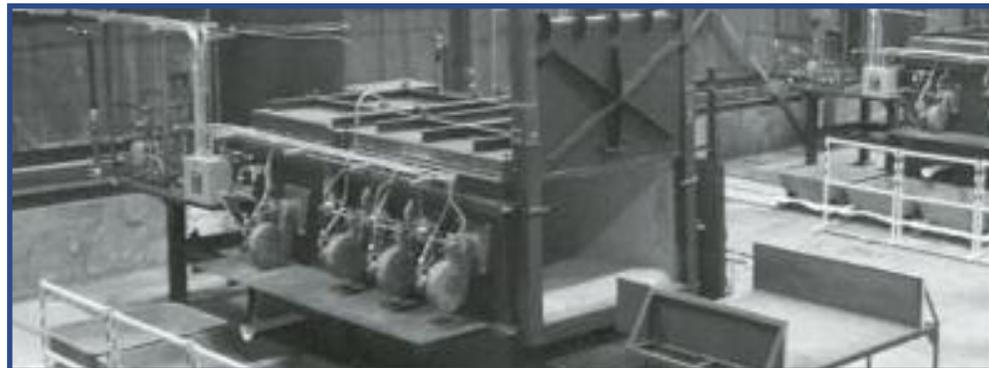
The plant will produce 120,000 metric tonnes (265 million pounds) of aluminum extrusion ingot per year and create approximately 70 local jobs. Hydro will invest an estimated 150 million dollars to complete the project. Applications for the aluminum produced in Cassopolis will include critical automotive applications as well as other transportation uses, consumer and building system applications.

“Aluminum is a key enabler in the green transition. Recycling aluminum scrap reduces energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions whilst promoting a more circular economy. Our plant in Cassopolis will be an example of sustainability and profitability going hand in hand,” said Hilde Merete Aasheim, president and chief executive officer of Hydro.

Hydro is positioning itself to become a leading producer of low-carbon, recycled aluminum in North America. Recycling scrap aluminum requires only 5 percent of the energy used to produce primary aluminum, saving energy and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Following completion of the Cassopolis plant, Hydro will have the ability to produce over one million metric tonnes of recycling-based aluminum billet each year in the U.S., further strengthening its position as the largest producer in the country.

Hydro is bringing its next-generation recycling technology, pioneered in Europe, to the plant in Cassopolis.

The Cassopolis plant will be the first large-scale producer of Hydro CIRCAL® in North America. Unique to Hydro, Hydro CIRCAL aluminum extrusion ingot contains at least 75 percent post-consumer scrap, certified by third party auditors DNV GL, and has a market leading CO2 footprint of just 2.3 kg CO2e/kg aluminum. With a growing focus on sustainably produced aluminum, several North American customers have expressed interest in Hydro CIRCAL.



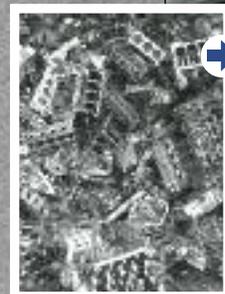
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by Ron Sturgeon
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Do you have a succession plan?

Well over half of my consulting assignments end up being about succession. It's always the same story, the business isn't doing as well as it used to. The leaders – many times dads – are getting older and haven't changed enough, and are waiting for things in the industry and marketplace to return to the way that "they used to be."

Business owners almost never sell at the top. Ego prevents them from doing so. From the top, the businesses have only one way to go: down. Decline usually happens slowly at first. Eventually it reaches a critical point where the business won't support the lifestyle of the owner or even pay the bills. Those who consider selling usually have unrealistic expectations about what the business is worth. They always think it's worth more than it is. That's human nature. The owners wait too long to sell partly because they never created a smart succession plan.

If you own a business, when should you start talking about succession? You should at least talk about it 10 years before you expect to turn the business over to your successor. If you are about 50 years old, now is a good time to have a conversation about what will happen to your business after you exit.

Usually when I get a call for consulting about succession, this is how it goes: The business is headed downward and the owners have figured out that they don't have a succession plan. If there are kids, the parents are convinced their kids aren't ready to run the business.

That's why I recommend having a talk about succession long before you think you need to. With a decade to the time of succession, you can do quite a bit to create a mentoring plan to ensure that, if the kids are keeping the business, they will be prepared to run it successfully.

Of course, successors are going to make mistakes, just as you did when you started. In fact, they can make mistakes that you couldn't because a mature business insulates them more from failure than you were insulated when you started from scratch.

If you are an owner, trying to value your yard, I offer one caution in assigning value to inventory. Just because your warehouse is full does not mean that everything you have really adds value to the business. A lot of what is in the warehouse is there because you have not been able to sell it, because no one wants it.

When I was growing, I bought a few salvage yards. Almost the first

thing we did was to back a dump truck up to the roll up door and start throwing away what our systems showed us would not sell quickly enough or for enough to be worth holding. Sellers were always shocked at what we disposed of, but we needed the space for inventory we could turn profitably.

Here's some good news: Your relatives can likely pay you a little more than market price for your business. The premium they can pay is partly because you will have to offer seller financing. They are paying extra to get reasonable terms. No one else is going to finance the sale of your yard to your sons or daughters.

So, what does a perfect succession look like for a current owner? Write a succession plan at 50. Prepare the next generation for a decade. Sell it when you are 60. Get a 20 year note that provides income and a comfortable standard of living for you in retirement and that offers your children an opportunity to carry on your legacy through the business that you started.

Another way that can work well is selling the business first, on a shorter note, and renting your successors the land with an option to buy the real estate later, with little or no down payment and financing over a longer term.

You may want to add a modest salary for staying around and doing whatever needs to be done (taking bank deposits, helping with banking and community relations, etc.) during times when you are not out travelling and enjoying life.

Perfect or not, make a succession plan. I admit that it's hard to talk about the future of a business that you founded. I try to make it easier. Usually, I talk to potential buyers and sellers separately, then together, and reach agreement or lay the groundwork. Having a facilitator can be helpful because he or she is not emotionally involved. Often, owners thinking about succession planning make the wise choice to work with an attorney, an accountant, or an industry expert.

No matter where you are on the journey in succession planning, it is also wise to have more than one source of income. Don't rely solely on your business. Before you get to 60, make sure you are investing some of your profits in rental property or other assets that will produce income for you after you sell the business. Put your eggs in a few baskets. That will also make it a little easier to pass the business on, when the right time comes.

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.

AUTOMOTIVE

NJ invests \$6 million to offset cost of electric trucks

Furthering its commitment to protect all New Jersey residents from the worsening impacts of climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the transportation sector, the Murphy Administration is announcing an additional \$6 million investment to offset the cost of electric trucks in vulnerable communities.

Leveraging proceeds from New Jersey's participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), the additional \$6.6 million investment will offset the cost of 16 new electric vehicles that include garbage trucks, dump trucks and ambulances.

"Governor Murphy's persistence in bringing clean energy, a green economy and climate change reduction strategies to the Garden State will enable us to confront environmental challenges head on," commissioner Shawn M. LaTourette said. "The range of vehicles to be purchased with this latest investment will also demonstrate a broad suite of successful electric vehicle applications in the northern,

southern and central regions of New Jersey."

The funding also includes an e-mobility project in Jersey City that will reduce vehicle miles traveled through an electric car sharing program.

To date, funding from the federal Volkswagen settlement and RGGI auction proceeds have enabled the purchase of 362 electric trucks and buses statewide. Electrifying the trucks that drive through these local communities every day will provide much-needed benefits to residents by reducing air pollutants.

New Jersey is eligible to compete for funding from the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act that will further fund the electrification of vehicles. Further, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is expected to announce a \$1 billion competitive grant for electric and alternative fueled school buses. The U.S. Department of Transportation announced a \$1 billion competitive grant for low and zero emission transit buses.

BMW Group to incorporate sustainably produced aluminum wheels from 2024

The BMW Group is stepping up its activities in the field of sustainability and will use cast aluminum wheels produced with 100 percent green power for its BMW and MINI brands from 2024 onwards. For the BMW Group, this is another step towards its goal of creating the most sustainable supply chain in the automotive industry. The transition applies, in particular, to the energy intensive electrolysis used in producing aluminum and to the wheel-casting process. To this end, corresponding agreements have been reached with all BMW Group wheel suppliers.

Up until now, wheels have accounted for about five percent of supply chain CO2 emissions. Transitioning to more sustainable production that relies on green power will reduce these emissions by more than half. The BMW Group procures about 10 million light alloy wheels per year; 95 percent of these are made from cast aluminum.

Through independent audits, the BMW Group can ensure conscious and sustainable use of aluminum by its contracted producers, saving up to 500,000 tonnes of CO2 per year. "Green power is one of the biggest levers for reducing

CO2 emissions in our supply chain. We have already signed more than 400 contracts with our suppliers, including suppliers of wheels and aluminum, requiring them to use green power," said Joachim Post, member of the board of management of BMW AG responsible for purchasing and supplier network.

Aluminum has good recycling properties, making it easier to melt down old wheels as part of the circular economy. This eliminates the need for energy intensive electrolysis to produce the primary raw material. At the same time, the secondary raw material must also meet the BMW Group's premium requirements for quality, design, safety and mechanical properties.

MINI will become a pioneer in this field in 2023, when it will begin using light alloy cast wheels made from 70 percent secondary aluminum in the new generation of the MINI Countryman. The combination of 100 percent green power for production and 70 percent secondary raw material content can reduce CO2 emissions by up to 80 percent, compared to conventional manufacturing processes.

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RUBBER

Bridgestone to debut race tire made with natural rubber from American Southwest desert shrub

As part of a broader initiative to accelerate the use of sustainable technologies in the NTT INDYCAR Series, Bridgestone Americas (Bridgestone) plans to debut Firestone Firehawk race tires made with guayule natural rubber grown and extracted at the company's guayule R&D facilities in Arizona. The guayule race tire, featuring a new green sidewall, will be introduced during the Indy 500 Pit Stop Challenge. Firestone Firehawk alternate race tires made from guayule rubber will make their competition debut at the Big Machine Music City Grand Prix in Nashville.

"The introduction of guayule natural rubber to America's preeminent open-wheel racing series speaks to the confidence we have in the technology and its promise as a scalable, sustainable and domestic source of our industry's most vital raw material," said Nizar Trigui, chief technology officer and group president, Solutions Businesses, Bridgestone Americas, Inc. "It will take partnership and collaboration to combat the impacts of global climate change and we are proud to partner with Penske, INDYCAR and IMS to advance the future of sustainable mobility."

Bridgestone aims to commercialize use of sustainable guayule natural rubber in tires by 2030, creating a promising new domestic industry.

- Guayule is a heat tolerant, woody shrub that thrives in America's desert southwest.

- The shrub can be farmed with existing row crop equipment, saving costs for farmers.

- Guayule creates up to 10 new industrial processing jobs per 1,000 acres of harvested crop.

- Bridgestone believes guayule rubber has the potential to have a lasting economic impact, while reducing the energy and other environmental impacts associated with the transportation of rubber sourced overseas.

Bridgestone launched its guayule research initiative in 2012, when it broke ground on a guayule processing and research center in Mesa, Arizona. Today, the company operates the research center in Mesa, as well as a 281 acre guayule farm in Eloy, Arizona. Bridgestone has invested more than \$100 million in its efforts to commercialize guayule, achieving major milestones such as producing the first tire made from guayule-derived natural rubber in 2015, and continued expansion of its guayule molecular breeding program.



Bridgestone is using racing as a proving ground to demonstrate the performance of a new sustainable natural rubber derived from guayule. PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIDGESTONE AMERICAS, INC.



Guayule is a heat tolerant, woody shrub that thrives in America's desert southwest. PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIDGESTONE AMERICAS, INC.

EGLE awards funding for 92 projects to collect, recycle scrap tires

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) announced that it has awarded \$674,000 in grants to fund 92 community scrap tire drop-off events and other tire cleanups across the state.

Community events provide affordable, convenient, tire recycling opportunities to residents, including the creation of yearlong collection sites and roadside pickups. Additionally, eight grant projects will fund the removal of old scrap tire piles at

private properties.

Improperly dumped, scrap tires pose a fire hazard and create mosquito breeding grounds. Recycled scrap tires can be used in asphalt to pave roads, as mulch in gardens and playgrounds, and in manufacturing processes.

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

actively researching a range of solutions to support the recycling of materials from end-of-life tires and promote the replacement of non-renewable materials such as oil, silica and virgin carbon black in new tires.

Guayule is part of the Bridgestone plan to achieve carbon neutrality and make tires from 100 percent renewable materials by 2050. The company is

actively researching a range of solutions to support the recycling of materials from end-of-life tires and promote the replacement of non-renewable materials such as oil, silica and virgin carbon black in new tires.

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PLASTICS

Students rewarded for recycling plastics



PHOTO COURTESY OF MOSCOW CHARTER SCHOOL

Trex Company concluded its nationwide Trex® Plastic Film Recycling Challenge. The challenge kicks off each fall on America Recycles Day and concludes the following spring. Over the course of five months, students in grades K-12 worked together to collect and recycle the most polyethylene plastic film for the chance to win high performance Trex products to beautify their campuses. For the first time ever, students involved in the latest challenge also competed for the chance to win cash prizes for their schools, thanks to corporate sponsor Charter Next Generation (CNG), one of the leading providers of specialty polyethylene films in North America.

Started in 2007, the Trex Plastic Film Recycling Challenge was conceived to educate students about upcycling and actively engage them in the recycling of plastic film, a key ingredient in the company's low-maintenance and eco-friendly composite decking, which is made from 95 percent recycled and reclaimed materials.

Fifty-seven regional winners were recognized this year, representing schools from across the country. Coming out on top in the 2021-2022 chal-

lenge was Moscow Charter School, located in Moscow, Idaho, where students collected 7,735 lbs. of recycled plastic film through classroom challenges and community-wide outreach.

New to this year's program, CNG's sponsorship funds further incentivized the overall first and second place elementary, middle and high schools that recycled the most polyethylene plastic film during the collection period. CNG presented \$5,000 each to the top recyclers at Moscow Charter School, E.L. Wright Middle School in Columbia, South Carolina, and North Cross High School in Roanoke, Virginia. Prizes of \$2,500 each go to the second place winners at each level, including Woodland Elementary School in Monroe Township, New Jersey, Einstein Middle School in Appleton, Wisconsin, and York Community High School in Elmhurst, Illinois.

Additionally, a special award of \$2,500 goes to the students at Maple Grove Elementary School in Greenfield, Wisconsin, in recognition of their creativity and impressive activity on social media. Through teamwork, this school educated and engaged its community to get involved in recycling.

Advanced plastic recycling facility to open in Hebron, Ohio

Freepoint Eco-Systems announced the construction of an advanced recycling facility in Hebron, Ohio. In connection with this project, Freepoint Eco-Systems is partnering with Van Dyk Recycling Solutions to build a front-end sorting system that will enable the facility to recycle 90,000 tons per year of end-of-life plastic. The project will employ approximately 200 people during the construction phase and an additional fifty people when fully operational. Commercial operations are expected to commence in 2023.

Brian Schellati, director of business development for Van Dyk said,

"Joining our experience in system design with Freepoint Eco-Systems' dedication to finding renewable avenues for plastics led to a project that we believe is going to be very successful. The facility will accept post sorted plastics from material recovery facilities. Those materials will pass through an advanced sortation system and then ultimately become pelletized."

The feedstock produced by the facility will have a smaller carbon footprint than crude oil-derived feedstocks and will contribute to a more circular economy for plastic production.

BRIEFS

NERC executive director to retire in Fall 2022

■ The Northeast Recycling Council (NERC), a multi-state non-profit that conducts research, projects, training and outreach on issues associated with source reduction, recycling, composting, environmentally preferable purchasing, and decreasing the toxicity of the solid waste stream, has announced the planned retirement of its longstanding executive director, Lynn Rubinstein. Her tenure will continue through early fall 2022.

NERC will work with TSNE, an expert in non-profit executive director transitions, along with the board and key stakeholders to ensure that NERC continues to be the outstanding organization that it has been for the past 35 years, with no loss in performance or quality during the transition or with the hiring of a new executive director.

NERC will begin accepting expressions of interest in the position in the near future and anticipates posting a job description in early June.

Veolia North America earns Intel supplier award

■ Veolia North America has earned Intel's EPIC Distinguished Supplier Award. Through its dedication to excellence, partnership, inclusion and continuous quality improvement, Veolia North America has achieved a level of performance that consistently exceeds Intel's expectations.

The Intel EPIC Distinguished Supplier Award recognizes a consistent level of strong performance across all performance criteria. Of thousands of suppliers, only a few hundred qualify to participate in the program. The award is the second highest honor a supplier can achieve.

To qualify for an Intel EPIC Distinguished Supplier Award, suppliers must exceed expectations, meet aggressive performance goals and score 80 percent or higher in performance assessments throughout the year. Suppliers must also meet 80 percent or more of their improvement plan deliverables and demonstrate formidable quality and business systems.

NWRA board of Trustees makes position changes

■ The Board of Trustees for the National Waste & Recycling Association (NWRA) elected Don Ross to serve as chairman of the board of trustees and reelected Dave Call as its treasurer.

Ross follows Ben Harvey, who is completing his sixth consecutive one-year term as chairman. Harvey will continue to serve as a member of the board of trustees.

Ross is the vice president of McLaughlin Family Companies. Call is the senior vice president for business development at Republic Services. NWRA has traditionally alternated the chairmanship between its services and suppliers members.

ISRI names Holly Arthur to chief operating officer

■ The Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI), announced that senior vice president Holly Arthur has been named the association's new chief operating officer (COO). As COO, Arthur continues her responsibilities of overseeing all revenue generating departments and organizational strategic planning.

During her time at ISRI, Arthur has led the way in helping to digitally transform the association – particularly the successful shift from print to online delivery of ISRI news products – while also helping to expand marketing, communication, and membership retention and sales efforts. She will continue to provide strategic oversight of communications, marketing, membership, meetings and events, education and training, and business technology/IT.

Arthur is an accomplished communications strategist and practitioner, with experience as a journalist, in government, public relations firms, and both large and small trade associations representing highly regulated industries. Prior to her service at ISRI, she held positions as vice president of communications with the Portland Cement Association, the Association of American Railroads and Ogilvy Public Relations.

Don Spaziani named service manager at Brokk

■ Brokk, a manufacturer of remote-controlled demolition machines, has hired Don Spaziani as service manager for Brokk East Coast, located in Stanhope, New Jersey. Brokk East Coast, which houses Brokk and Aquajet inventory, offers operator training, equipment demonstrations, parts and repairs. Spaziani is responsible for building a service team in that location and expanding repair and refurbishment services in the region.

Spaziani, who lives in Montville, New Jersey, brings 35 years of industry experience to his position at Brokk Inc. After graduating from the Engine City Technical Institute in Union, New Jersey, he started his career as a mechanic at a Caterpillar dealership in the area and worked his way up to service manager. He then joined John Deere Construction and Forestry Equipment Company as regional service/warranty manager, covering nine branches extending from Maine to New York.

He most recently worked as a regional service manager for the local John Deere Construction and Forestry dealership that covers New York City, the Hudson Valley and Northern New Jersey. During his 9 years in that role, he led the creation of a new Long Island branch that included 12 mechanics and offered service, parts, rentals and sales.

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Gypsum recycling presents challenges

by MAURA KELLER

mkeller@americanrecycler.com

The construction and demolition industry continues to experience tremendous growth in new construction of housing and commercial buildings across the U.S. As such, gypsum drywall scrap (from both demolition and construction activity) is also growing exponentially.

However, according to Isabelle Kavanagh, sustainability engineer at BuroHappold in New York, current estimates indicate a very low recycling rate for gypsum and data from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) suggests that just two percent of the millions of tons of gypsum waste produced annually is recycled into wallboard.

“Clearly there is significant room for growth, given this extremely low recycling rate,” Kavanagh said. “And it’s critical to make progress for many reasons – including the fact that gypsum is a natural mineral that must be mined. An industry that adapts to reuse and recycle gypsum whenever possible will help avoid exploitation and depletion of natural resources.”

Terry Weaver, owner of USA Gypsum Drywall Recycling in Denver, Pennsylvania, said that gypsum drywall recycling in the U.S. is currently limited to a handful of successful recyclers but is well established in Canada and the European Union. For 24 years USA Gypsum has recycled new gypsum drywall trim scrap and recycles them for beneficial use in agricultural, Portland cement and closed loop wallboard manufacturing.

“The outlook is strong because the demand for gypsum is growing while produc-



Gypsum is widely mined and is used as a fertilizer and as the main constituent in many forms of plaster, blackboard chalk and drywall. Gypsum board is commonly known as sheetrock or plasterboard.

tion in the U.S. is diminishing as coal fired power plants, which produce synthetic gypsum, are being closed and mines struggle to expand due to environmental challenges,” Weaver said. “Reduced production is offset by imports which are subject to supply chain and transportation costs. Gypsum reclaimed from drywall will increasingly be viewed as a competitive source.

Indeed, the good news is that industry pressure and organizations like Building Product Ecosystems, founded by Amanda Kaminsky and the Durst Organization, are pushing for growth in this area.

“This is important because decomposing gypsum can pro-

duce dangerous gases such as hydrogen sulfide, so not only is a potentially valuable resource being wasted, but there is the possibility of harm to the health of those who live near landfills,” Kavanagh said.

Most gypsum sent to landfills comes from the demolition of older buildings. In these cases, the gypsum is not source-separated during demolition, and therefore cannot be recovered for proper recycling and/or reuse. Also, the recycling infrastructure is still developing and expanding to meet this need.

According to Matt Dunyon director of operations at DTG Recycle, there is a noticeable increase in volume

from builders and drywall installers due to the current construction boom.

“It is a topic of conversation in the industry, especially with landfills facing more and more scrutiny around hydrogen sulfide gas emissions that result from landfilling drywall,” Dunyon said. “Based on these concerns, we believe drywall recycling will have a significant upside in the near term.”

Currently, DTG Recycle uses recycled gypsum as a soil amendment for the agricultural market for farms, including cherries, apples, and potatoes, and mixing it with topsoil and manure for compost.

“We also have a robust product development pipeline

through our Recycling Innovation Center, where we have partnered with local universities to develop a variety of gypsum-based construction and plant nursery-related products,” Dunyon said.

Challenges Aplenty

Michael McCamley, manager, technical services and market development at New West Gypsum Recycling (NWGR), said that one of the key issues for gypsum recycling is keeping it free from asbestos and lead. Lead based paints are a concern but asbestos is the biggest danger. NWGR recycles post-consumer gypsum waste into a product that’s used in the wallboard manufacturing process.

See GYPSUM, Page B2

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Gypsum

■Continued from Page B1

Since 1985, the company has recycled more than six million tons of gypsum waste.

As McCamley explained, until the late 1970s asbestos was used in the mud joint compound to plaster walls and ceilings. It was never used in the production of wallboard. It is an important practice to test for asbestos prior to any deconstruction or renovation if the building was built before 1990.

"It's also paramount that gypsum recyclers never accept gypsum that contains asbestos. For that to happen they need to have robust safety and screening procedures for incoming loads before accepting pre-1990 gypsum waste, third-party testing in place to test waste to be processed and the end product before is shipped out to re-ensure there is no asbestos," McCamley said. "If asbestos is discovered, all operations need to cease and abatement of facilities must occur."

This was the case for New West Gypsum Recycling (NWGR) in 2015 at its British Columbia, Canada operation.

"All it took was one bad actor to upset the market. We ended up paying the price for this bad actor and the toll it took on the local construction industry," McCamley said. "In total, all the gypsum waste recycling came to standstill in the Metro Vancouver area. The reason being is that we receive the vast majority of gypsum waste for recycling within Metro Vancouver. Meanwhile NWGR worked closely with Work-SafeBC to strengthen our policies, which are more robust and stricter than ever before, for accepting gypsum waste. In my opinion, every gypsum recycler should be made to police themselves as well as being regulated by local work authorities, for their safety, for employee safety, for customer safety and for those who use

recycle gypsum as a product. Asbestos is most dangerous when airborne and everyone must do their due diligence to reduce the risk of exposure."

As Weaver noted, end markets are another big challenge surrounding gypsum recycling. In addition, gypsum is a low valued commodity that is expensive to transport.

According to Weaver, of the 42 million metric tons supplied, 10 percent is used to manufacture Portland cement, 36 percent for agriculture and miscellaneous, and 53 percent for wallboard and plaster.

"Producing quality recycled gypsum for beneficial use with chemistry similar to mined or synthetic gypsum begins by removing foreign material and paper facing," Weaver says. "Understanding the physical characteristics, such a moisture and particle sizes the specific market needs, are the key to determining the type of process needed to successfully replace competing sources of gypsum."

DTG's current end markets require the gypsum to be contaminant free. Accordingly, they spend a great deal of time educating construction customers on how to separate and keep their drywall scraps clean and free of contamination.

Successful gypsum recycling requires attention to source separation: intentional efforts by contractors on construction and demolition sites to separate materials before they are sent to recycling facilities.

"This requires behavior change, which can be challenging," Kavanaugh said. "Also, what constitutes end of life for recycled gypsum is evolving. For example, factory scrap and some trim



Raw gypsum.

PHOTO BY JAMES E. PETTS

scrap from new construction can be used to constitute new wallboard, but demolition scrap is trickier. Some potential end-of-life scenarios for demolition scrap include use in soil amendment or cement manufacturing."

A Concerted Effort

Due to the growing interest in recovering gypsum from the C&D waste stream the Construction and Demolition Recycling Association (CDRA) recently formed a gypsum recycling committee with key stakeholders including gypsum drywall manufacturers, contractors, recyclers and building owners to move the industry forward. The CDRA Gypsum Recycling Committee's mission is to provide guidelines and other assistance in developing and expanding recovery and end markets for recovered gypsum.

According to Weaver, who is the first chairman of the committee, the initial action steps that the committee will take include:

- Creating a drywall diversion policy to develop clear definitions on what types of wallboard can and should be recovered and marketed back to manufacturers of drywall with the goal of closing the loop on this construction product.

- Developing end product specifications recyclers have to meet in order to sell the recovered material back to drywall manufacturers.

- Creating best management practices (BMPs) for contractors and processors to increase the diversion of drywall.

- Working with drywall companies to set post-recycled content for new drywall.

- Promoting that recyclers must be third-party certified using a program developed to an ISO level so accurate diversion rates can be obtained and that drywall manufacturers would use a similar certification program to demonstrate the recycled content of their products.

- Defining specifications for other end products made from recycled drywall.

Kavanaugh said that everyone in the construction and demolition industry needs to be more ambitious with their targets for waste recycling. She noted that setting a high bar will help

increase demand for effective recycling infrastructure for gypsum wallboard and other C&D materials, ultimately helping create more circular supply chains.

"Continued industry pressure can also help make source separation of gypsum more common practice on job-sites," Kavanaugh said. "Also the creation of new, innovative products that use recycled gypsum, will increase demand for the resource."

Weaver said that there is a consensus that more gypsum can be recovered by source separating at the job-site and not adding the dry-

wall scrap to mixed C&D containers where the gypsum can become contaminated. As it is crushed and gets wet, it crumbles in small pieces that cannot easily be recovered and contaminates other materials that become more difficult to recover.

"We expect this practice to become more widespread," Weaver said.

In addition, Weaver pointed out that drywall scraps in mixed C&D that are processed mechanically are mostly lost to C&D process screens and become mixed with other fines such as soil and aggregate which are often used as alternative daily cover (ADC) in landfills.

"The sulfate in the gypsum can produce hydrogen sulfide which in addition to odors can contaminate leachate. For this reason, many landfill operators refuse to accept or limit the use of ADC," Weaver said. "Regulators in various states have reacted to sulfate problems in landfills and a patchwork of landfill bans and restrictions has emerged around disposal of gypsum drywall in landfills. Because disposing of gypsum is problematic in landfills and demand for gypsum is increasing, we expect gypsum drywall recycling in the U.S. to increase following successful examples set by Canada and the European Union."

So what is the outlook for the gypsum recycling segment of the industry? Industry experts agree that it's bright.

"I personally have seen a greater interest in the subject of gypsum recycling, which is awesome. Of late, there have been a lot of emerging gypsum recyclers entering the market, which is good, but with the gypsum recycling industry growth will come the bad actors looking to make a 'quick buck' ultimately setting back our industry on whole," stated McCamley. "With that all being said, NWGR is proud to be a part of the CDRA Gypsum Recycling Committee in the protection of our industry by promoting best practices and to help guide the gypsum recycling industry with all the other major gypsum industry stakeholders involved in the committee. With due care, NWGR has proven it safe and possible to recycle gypsum wallboard and we want to keep it that way."

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Three out of four metro areas add construction jobs from March 2021 to March 2022

Construction employment increased in three-fourths of U.S. metro areas between March 2021 and March 2022, according to an analysis by the Associated General Contractors of America of new government employment data. Association officials noted that labor shortages likely kept many firms from adding even more workers during the past year.

"It is heartening to see construction employment come back from the depths of pandemic-induced job losses in most areas," said Ken Simonson, the association's chief economist. "But the skyrocketing number of job openings shows the industry needs far more workers than are available in many parts of the country."

The government's Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey shows that there were 364,000 job openings in construction going into March – a 52 percent jump from a year earlier, Simonson noted. Openings exceeded the 342,000 employees hired in February, implying that construction firms would have added twice as many employees if they had been available, the economist asserted.

Construction employment rose in 268 or 75 percent of 358 metro areas over the 12-month period. Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, Texas added the most construction jobs (9,300 jobs, 4 percent), followed by St. Louis, Missouri-Illinois (6,300 jobs, 10 percent); Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale, California (6,000 jobs, 4 percent); and Dallas-Plano-Irving, Texas (5,300 jobs, 4 percent). Cheyenne, Wyoming had the highest percentage gain (42 percent, 1,300 jobs), followed by Bay City, Michigan (27 percent, 300 jobs); Lake Charles, Louisiana (24 percent, 3,700 jobs); and Gary, Indiana (18 percent, 2,600 jobs).

Construction employment declined in 48 metro areas from March 2021 and was stagnant in 42 areas. New York City lost the most jobs (-3,400 or -2 percent), followed by Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford, Florida (-2,400 jobs, -3 percent) and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (-1,900 jobs, -3 percent). The largest percentage declines were in Danville, Illinois (-17 percent, -100 jobs); Charleston, West Virginia (-10 percent, -700 jobs); San Luis Obispo-

Paso Robles-Arroyo Grande, California (-8 percent, -800 jobs); and Tuscaloosa, Alabama (-8 percent, -500 jobs).

Association officials said that too few young adults and high school students are exposed to the many high-paying opportunities that exist within the construction industry. The association has launched a range of efforts, including a digital advertising recruiting campaign, to reach more potential workers. They also urged federal officials to boost funding for career and technical education programs to expose more future workers to construction career opportunities.

"Many people out there would love to make a good living while working with their hands and technology to build amazing projects," said Stephen E. Sandherr, the association's chief executive officer. "But too few schools are willing to challenge the prevailing orthodoxy that the only path to success is college."

Recycler of the year named

The Construction & Demolition Recycling Association (CDRA) recognized excellence in the C&D industry with the announcement of its 2022 awards recipients:

Dan Costello from Costello Dismantling Company, Inc. in West Wareham, Massachusetts will be inducted into the C&D Hall of Fame, the industry's highest honor.

Posillico Materials in Farmingdale, New York, has been named C&D Recycler of the Year.

Becky Caldwell from Caldwell Environmental Solutions in Nashville, Tennessee, has been named CDRA Member of the Year.

"All of the 2022 CDRA winners have helped move the C&D industry forward," said Jason Haus, chief executive officer of Dem-Con Companies and CDRA president. "Thanks to their efforts the C&D industry is better off."

C&D Hall of Fame

Long-time CDRA supporter Dan Costello, founder and president of Costello Dismantling Company, Inc., will be inducted into the C&D Hall of Fame. Costello has always recycled demolition debris and, more than any other contractor, has remained innovative in finding ways to recover more materials from his company's demolition projects. While this thinking may be more common in the demolition industry today, Costello made his company a pioneer in this approach.

Costello served as a CDRA board member for many years and chaired a task force that put together the first specifications for C&D wood fuel. His company also owns crushing equipment to process rubble into a recycled aggregate.

C&D Recycler of the Year

Posillico Materials is being recognized for its long time aggregate

recycling operations, and for its innovative use of a wash plant to turn what are considered contaminated materials, which previously went to the landfill, into construction material end products. Posillico's operations include:

- Five permanent concrete recycling operations that each have their own crushing systems and supply spec recycled aggregate for various markets.

- Two HMA plants that use RAP in their mixes as much as possible.

- A wash plant that takes in excavation waste, contaminated fill, general fill, vacuum truck and dredge waste, and mixed loads and from that turns out various end products, such as washed sand.

The addition of the wash plant shows Posillico's willingness to take a risk to recover more materials, and the company's R&D department is actively looking for more materials to recycle. In addition, despite taking in what is considered contaminated materials, the NY DEC works closely with Posillico and supports the company's efforts in recycling.

CDRA Member of the Year

In the past year Becky Caldwell from Caldwell Environmental Solutions has stepped forward to rejuvenate and expand the CDRA's safety & risk management committee, convening meetings to discuss safety issues facing recyclers, as well as starting subgroups for human resource managers in the C&D field. She has also been an active member of the CDRA's environmental justice task force, participated on virtually every CDRA committee, and attended all in-person CDRA meetings. Her work has been important in helping the C&D industry move forward, which is why the CDRA is recognizing her strong volunteer support.

Choate named nation's safest construction company

Choate Construction Company was recognized for having the nation's best construction safety and wellness plan in 2021 by the Associated General Contractors of America. The association, which oversees the WTW Construction Safety Excellence Awards, an annual ranking of construction safety programs, noted that 46 other companies were also selected as winners for the quality of their safety programs.

"Safety and health is the number one priority for the construction industry and it's important that we recognize our member companies for their efforts to lead by example," said Bob Lanham, the association's president and president of Williams Brothers Construction Co., Inc. in Houston, Texas. "These awards also provides an opportunity for them to share the innovative ideas they are implementing to keep safety at the forefront in the construction industry. This experience makes us all better, which is the goal."

Lanham noted that there are multiple winners because the awards are distributed for several categories, based

on the amount and type of work performed. He added that the AGC-Willis Towers Watson Construction Safety Excellence Award winners are selected by a panel of five independent safety professionals within the government, corporate, and insurance industries. Finals judging for the awards program took place during the contractors' association's annual convention in Grapevine, Texas.

Choate Construction was judged and selected as the grand award winner from among 15 first place winners across 6 occupational divisions. Another Charlotte-based firm, Crowder Construction Inc., was selected as the third-place winner in the under 400,000 work hours category in the Heavy Division. The firms developed and implemented exceptional safety and risk control program through continuous improvement and maintenance of their safety and health management systems. Lanham noted that the firm's commitment to protecting its most valuable asset, the workforce, makes them a leader in the industry.

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EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

■ Tub Grinders

by MARY M. THORNTON

maryt@americanrecycler.com

Construction and demolition settings commonly involve the need to clear and process wood material, whether for ease of movement in the work space or to reduce the volume of material which must ultimately be moved from the site. Tub grinders are frequently used in such situations and the following firms possess an abundance of expertise with those products and related equipment as well.

Tim Wenger, vice president and sales manager of CW Mill Equipment stated, "CW originally began building hay grinders for the agriculture industry but as we began to see the shift in government regulation for landfills and burn bans, we saw the need for a higher quality, heavier duty, industrial wood grinder. We've been providing recycling industry solutions ever since. For industrial wood grinding, we started from the ground up with a specific goal of taking on the toughest applications. We knew we'd ultimately manufacture the most reliable, highest capacity tub and horizontal grinder on the market and that machine is the HogZilla."

HogZilla Grinders, manufactured by CW Mill Equipment Co., Inc., are used for C&D debris, land clearing, waste reduction, recycling, tires or any other tough grinding application. The company has built grinders for over 40 years, and to this day CW employees continually strive to advance the product's "best grinder" status through added efficiency, torque, proven production, reliability, visible quality, durability, solid value and customer



CW Mill Equipment Co., Inc.

service. HogZilla tub and horizontal grinders have continuously improved over the years. CW now offers over 20 HogZilla grinder standard models for buyers to customize, ranging from mid sized to massive, including self propelled track driven and self loading units, which can be powered by either diesel or electric power.

"As the cost of diesel fuel has increased, electric powered wood grinders have become the grinder of choice for an increasing number of professionals. If your operation can be situated in a centralized location, you certainly owe it to yourself to research an electric powered HogZilla," said Wenger. When a stationary machine simply isn't a practical solution and a portable, wheeled product is needed, those machines along with track mounted HogZilla grinders are avail-

able, with numerous options and also can be built to spec.

"CW began building HogZilla track mounted grinders 20 years ago to help with increased options in portability. A HogZilla on tracks is unparalleled in production and mobility. It offers many advantages you can't get with a wheeled machine – such as grinding in wet weather or soft terrain. Tracks eliminate the need for an extra truck to move the grinder from pile to pile at a job-site, which saves time and increases production. A HogZilla track machine allows for one man operation and helps with cleanup around and under the grinder, further reducing maintenance. CW is always looking ahead to identify new ways we can improve work processes for our customers. We look forward to helping new customers choose the exact machine they need for their grinding operation. We know businesses depend on a reliable machine with optimum efficiency, reduced maintenance, heavy duty construction, and simplicity. Our customer service speaks for itself and our customers can attest to that," Wenger concluded.

Duratech Industries manufactures a wide variety of tub grinders to service the construction, recycling, land clearing and composting industries. "Our tub grinders range from a 9' tub with a 325 hp diesel engine to a 12' tub with a 950 hp diesel engine. Some models are available with an optional grapple loader to help relieve the need for more support



Haybuster + DuraTech Industries

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603-382-0556
www.terex.com

CW Mill Equipment Co., Inc.
Tim Wenger
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Vermeer Corp.
Jeff Bradley
641-621-7481
www.vermeer.com

W.H.O. Manufacturing Co.
Jon Littler
719-336-7433
www.who-mfg.com

equipment," said Jamie Kramlich, sales manager. Duratech has been building high quality industrial wood waste grinders for over 30 years and markets over 20 products through a North American and International dealer network. The network includes over 600 dealers worldwide who sell and service the diverse line of products offered by Duratech. "As a respected equipment manufacturer

See TUB GRINDERS, Page B5

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Tub grinders

■Continued from Page B4



Precision Husky Corporation

in the global marketplace, we offer products known for being durable and built to exceed market expectations, relative to cost. Our quality built units offer today's busy operator new and better cost effective methods for performing their many and varied functions," stated Kramlich.

Precision Husky Corporation, a 58 year old international company, manufactures waste wood processing equipment for the recycling, sawmill and forestry industries. Whether whole tree chippers and flail debarkers for use in Australia or stationary electric 5200 tub grinders for use in Japan, Precision Husky has manufactured equipment for use in 120 countries. Precision offers six different models of tub grinders and three horizontal grinder sizes. Tub style grinders are offered as trailer mounted, track mounted or electric powered stationary or portable machines. Horizontal grinders are offered as trailer mounted, track mounted, or stationary or portable electric powered units.

ProGrind tub grinder models range from the 250 hp ProGrind 900 to the 1,200 hp ProGrind 5200. The 5200 and ProGrind 4000 are available with or without a Husky

knuckle boom loader attached. Precision tub grinders include a thrown object deflector shield attached and all have the option of a remotely controlled thrown object tub cover. The ProGrind H3045 with 520 hp, the H3060 with 600 to 755 hp, and the H4060 with up to 1050 hp, round out horizontal grinder offerings. All Precision ProGrind horizontal grinders may be easily converted to chippers by changing the standard hammermill to a 2 knife or 4 knife chipper head. Chipper heads are capable of producing chips down to 3/8". "Precision grinders have always been known for their ease of maintenance and reliable operational controls. Precision Husky tub and horizontal grinders are widely used by land clearing contractors, governmental agencies, landfill operators, composting processors and sawmills around the world," Steve Briscoe, ProGrind sales manager commented. The machines are used for processing construction, yard or forestry waste, pallets and storm cleanup. Processed material is then used to manufacture compost, fuel, mulch and more.

Briscoe continued, "As emission standards become more prevalent, Precision Husky is moving rapidly ahead with our offerings in the electric powered equipment arena. Not only do we offer all grinders with an electric power option, we can also provide complete bark and chip manufacturing plants. With our founder, Bob Smith, and his son Scott Smith leading our company, we look forward to the future and will work through the challenges as they come."

The CDRA names 2022 safety award recipients

The Construction & Demolition Recycling Association (CDRA) announced its 2022 Best Practices in Safety award recipients:

Gold Recipients

- Champion Waste & Recycling
- Cherry Companies
- Dem-Con Companies
- DTG Recycle
- Gray & Son
- Lautenbach Recycling
- Michael Brothers Hauling & Recycling
- Premier Recycle Company
- Southwind RAS

Silver Recipients

- R&B Debris
- JR Ramon Demolition

Construction and demolition recycling and related operations have inherent risk factors and the most successful operators have created a specific action plan to minimize those risks and create a culture of safety. The CDRA developed the Best Practices in Safety awards program to recognize companies that have achieved a high level of safety management and to identify a level of safety performance that will help C&D operators manage their business.

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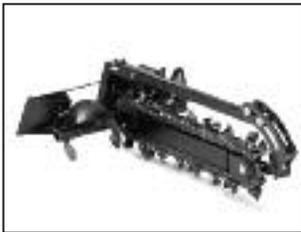
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ASV EXPANDS LINE OF PRODUCTS WITH BRANDED ATTACHMENTS

ASV Holdings Inc., a manufacturer of all-purpose and all-season compact track loaders and skid steers, has expanded its line of branded attachments tested for use on ASV machines.

The new lineup features augers and bits, breakers, trenchers and soil conditioners. The attachments are tested to ensure maximum efficiency and performance with ASV equipment. Plus, contractors can benefit from working with a single point of contact for a comprehensive package of ASV equipment and attachments.

The attachments are available through ASV's dealer network and include a two-year warranty through ASV.

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Several basic models are available including air-operated light duty, air-operated heavy duty, twin-motor vibrating pan and grizzly feeders, electromagnetic, twin motor and special application feeders.

Best Process Solutions
1071 Industrial Parkway
Brunswick, OH 44212
330-220-1440
www.bpsvibes.com



DOOSAN INTRODUCES NEXT-GENERATION MINI EXCAVATORS

Doosan Infracore North America is introducing its all-new line of next-generation series mini excavators in the United States and Canada.

The four completely new mini excavators are designed and manufactured by Doosan. They are equipped with a family of products, including Doosan® engines and diagnostics. The first four excavator models include the zero tail swing DX27Z-7, DX35Z-7 and DX50Z-7, as well as the reduced tail swing DX55R-7. The new DX27Z-7 expands the Doosan mini excavator lineup with a model that appeals to customers who need a smaller machine.

Doosan Infracore, LLC.
2905 Shawnee Industrial
Suwanee, GA 30024
678-714-6000
www.doosanequipment.com



MCCLOSKEY ROLLS OUT NEW COMPACT CONE CRUSHER

McCloskey International unveils the new C2C as the latest entry into McCloskey's cone crusher line.

The C2C brings the power of a 200hp cone to a compact footprint offering high manoeuvrability, with an exciting line up of features aimed at boosting productivity.

Standard features are far from standard including a full-size MC200 cone, premium quality components, unrivalled ground level access, powerful engine, efficient conveyor design and continuous load and material monitoring.

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Yanmar Compact Equipment is offering a line of reliable compact wheel loaders built for maximum efficiency and ease of operation. The machines include comfort features across the line, including a comfortable, spacious cab and dual doors for easy entry from each side.

Their combination of power, comfort and compactness make them ideal for applications that require fast travel speeds, high lift capacity and a small turning radius. The lineup includes the V4-7, V8, V10 and V12. All four models come with Yanmar's signature reliability standards and a 3 year/3,000 hour warranty.

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DaVinci Roofscapes recycles nine million pounds of waste

During the past 10 years, DaVinci® Roofscapes, a division of Westlake Royal Building Products™, has reprocessed more than 9.2 million lbs. of polymer scrap materials. The composite roofing manufacturer announced that its operations successfully recycled 1,146,902 lbs. of polymer waste in 2021.

"Each year around Earth Day we calculate these numbers to showcase our dedication to net zero landfill scrap," said Mark Pagel, general manager at DaVinci Roofscapes in Lenexa, Kansas. "This is the fifth consecutive year we've achieved this status. The over 1.1 million pounds of scrap reprocessed in 2021 went into starter shingles and other pieces.

At DaVinci, every pound of scrap generated by the company's expansive manufacturing operations goes into repurposed product. Green initiatives are always being enhanced to assure

scrap from making roofing tiles is recycled back into the company's manufacturing operations.

"We make our composite roofing and siding tiles with virgin polymers," said Pagel. "We make our products in dozens of colors and color blends. When we switch from one color to another, there's a natural transitioning period between the colors. Those transition tiles are 'off spec' and cannot be used, so we recycle them."

Pagel relates that the transition tiles are carefully pulled off the product line and segregated into specifically colored scrap bins by employees. The tiles are then ground up and repurposed into starter tiles, which are generally not seen on a roof. In the past year, the reground product has also been used in the underside of the cavity on solid accessory parts, where virgin resins are used on the top visible portion of the product.

Rumpke selects construction company and equipment vendor for Columbus facility

Rumpke Waste & Recycling has selected Elford, Inc., a Columbus-based, construction company and Machinex Technologies, a leader in recycling technologies, to join Columbus-based architect Moody Nolan in building Rumpke's \$50 million Recycling & Resource Center. Rumpke's facility will be fully operational in Spring 2024 and it will be the fifth largest recycling facility in North America.

While selecting its first partner for the new center, Rumpke said the company's objective was to partner with

firms that share its vision for best in class construction, safety and compliance and recycling innovation.

The 200,000 square foot facility will be the fifth largest and most technologically advanced recycling facility in North America. The new facility will feature high tech AI sorting capabilities, high-tech jobs and a unique research and development initiative and educational opportunities with the Ohio State University. The recycling facility will feature green, sustainable design elements such as solar panels and a living green roof.

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Project spending rose for 12th straight month

Officials warn of growing challenges

Spending on construction projects rose for the 12th month in a row in February, according to an analysis by the Associated General Contractors of America of government data. Association leaders warned that further gains may stall unless the supply of workers and materials improves. They urged officials to end tariffs on key materials and broaden training and education opportunities for construction careers.

“Construction is contributing significantly to the expansion of employment and the overall economy,” said Ken Simonson, the association’s chief economist. “But the sector is facing growing challenges in terms of filling job openings, obtaining materials, and keeping up with soaring wages and prices.”

Industry employment totaled 7,628,000 in March, topping the pre-pandemic peak set in February 2020 for the first time. Residential building and specialty trade contractors added 7,600 employees in March, and the sector’s employment exceeded the February 2020 level by 161,000 or 5.4 percent. Employment increased by 11,300 for the month among nonresidential firms – building, specialty trade, and heavy and civil engineering construction contractors – but remained 157,000 or 3.4 percent shy of the February 2020 mark.

Despite the recent employment increases, construction job openings at the end of February totaled 364,000, the largest February total, by far, in the 22-year history of that series, Simonson pointed out. Openings exceeded the 342,000 workers hired in February,

implying that contractors wanted to hire more than twice as many workers as they were able to, he added.

Construction spending increased for the 12th consecutive month in February to \$1.70 trillion, a rise of 0.5 percent for the month and 11.2 percent year-over-year. All 3 major subsectors posted year-over-year increases. Private residential construction rose 1.1 percent in February and 16.6 percent over 12 months. Private nonresidential spending edged up 0.2 percent for the month and 9.7 percent since February 2021. Public construction rose 1.5 percent from a year earlier despite slipping 0.4 percent from January to February.

Association officials said the industry will need to obtain materials on a more timely basis and hire hundreds of thousands of additional workers in order to execute projects that will soon be funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure law, on top of the continuing demand for homebuilding and private nonresidential structures. Officials urged Congress and the Biden administration to end lumber, steel, and other tariffs, increase funds for career and technical education, and support a wider range of apprenticeship and training opportunities.

“Contractors are doing their part to add employees and complete projects,” said Stephen E. Sandherr, the association’s chief executive officer. “But there won’t be enough materials or workers to go around if officials in Washington fail to allow more goods into the U.S. and prepare more job-seekers for these opportunities.”

AZEK enters recycling alliance

The AZEK Company Inc., A manufacturer of environmentally sustainable outdoor living products, including TimberTech® decking, Versatex® and AZEK® Trim, and StruXure™ pergolas, announced a PVC recycling alliance with DTG Recycle, the largest recycler of construction and demolition (C&D) waste in the Pacific Northwest. The alliance expands AZEK’s Full Circle PVC Recycling program to now include the collection of PVC-based C&D debris.

As part of the alliance, PVC scrap and debris collected by DTG Recycle will be processed by Return Polymers, AZEK’s vertically integrated recycler, and then incorporated into one of AZEK’s many sustainable outdoor living product lines made with recycled PVC material, including TimberTech AZEK decking and AZEK and Versatex Trim.

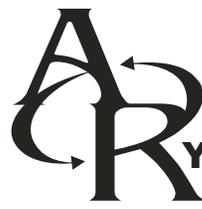
DTG Recycle will utilize its collection and processing network to help AZEK and Return Polymers expand its Full-Circle PVC Recycling program

beyond post-industrial producers. Items such as PVC siding, windows, fencing, and pipe that enter the C&D channel are typically destined for the landfill and are amongst one of the recycling industry’s most significant challenges.

“PVC has always challenged the C&D recycling community,” said Tom Vaughn, chief executive officer of DTG Recycle.

“While the industrial PVC recycling market is more established, the larger C&D market remains largely untouched. It will require the special skills, expertise and unique technologies developed by Return Polymers to lead the market into these uncharted waters. This, combined with the leadership and reputation of DTG Recycle, sets us on a path to scale more rapidly and expand our C&D PVC recycling program to other regions in the U.S.,” said David Foell, founder of Return Polymers, a wholly owned subsidiary of AZEK.

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