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# Plastics recycling sees reduction

by MAURA KELLER

mkeller@americanrecycler.com

Regardless of the myriad of public awareness campaigns about the importance of recycling plastics, the recycling rate of all types of plastic has dropped according to a report by environmental groups, Last Beach Clean Up and Beyond Plastics. Using 2018 figures provided by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a comparison, the report indicates that the plastic recycling rate has dropped from 8.7 percent in 2018 (per the EPA) to between 5 to 6 percent in 2021. The Last Beach Clean Up and Beyond Plastics examined data from the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine, the latest U.S. exports, and the waste industry to document this U.S. plastics recycling rate. The groups also revealed that while plastic recycling is on the decline, the per capita generation of plastic waste has increased by 263 percent since 1980.

In a recent news release highlighting the report, Judith Enck, president of Beyond Plastics and former U.S. EPA regional administrator, stated, "The plastics industry must stop lying to the public about plastics recycling. It does not work, it never will work and no amount of false advertising will change that. Instead, we need consumer brand companies and governments to adopt policies that reduce the pro-



While plastic recycling is on the decline, the per capita generation of plastic waste has increased by 263 percent since 1980. Studies estimate there are now 15 to 51 trillion pieces of plastic in the world's oceans.

duction, usage and disposal of plastics."

Stacy Savage, founder and chief executive officer at Zero Waste Strategies, said that part of the decline in U.S. plastics recycling can be linked to an uptick in singleuse plastics in the era of COVID-19.

"Powerful lobbyists from the petroleum and plastics manufacturing industries have pushed the narrative with elected officials and consumers that single-use plastics are better for protecting health over sanitized reusables wares, such as washable metal cutlery," Savage said. "Greenpeace has countered industry arguments by recruiting over 100 virologists to sign on to a letter of scientific consensus that proves this as a falsehood. By showing study results of transmissibility of the COVID virus among single-use plastics versus reusable wares, one material is not better than the other. At most U.S. recycling facilities, single-use plastics cannot be recycled due to their size and inconsistencies in polymer composition."

Also, Savage pointed out that China's "National Sword" program has halted acceptance of some recyclable materials shipped from other "first world" countries.

"Several other nations have mirrored this type of restriction on contaminated imports of recyclable materials, as well," Savage said. "Through this policy, Chinese port workers can identify and tag contaminated shipments for return to their ports of origin." When contaminated shipments of recyclable materials are returned to the U.S., it is a common practice to landfill and/or incinerate those tonnages due to the lack of nationwide recycling infrastructure.

Savage suspects the estimated rate of 5 to 6 percent of plastics recycling to be even lower in the U.S. As she explained, the toxicity levels

in plastics make it harder to recycle them into new products, and with a major increase in plastics production, virgin plastics are introduced into the commodities market at a much lower price point than plastics that have already been collected and are ready to be used in product remanufacturing.

According to Rick Perez, founder and chief executive officer of Avangard Innovative, the largest waste and recycling company in the Americas with operations in 11 countries, he said the drop in recycling has been due to less access to recycling options, communities reducing what they accept due to overseas countries not buying anymore because of the bans on plastics imports, and lack of options for mixed bales in the U.S.

"The industry is increasing education to better inform consumers that plastics can be recycled, MRFs are upgrading to sort better and produce more grades to market, and capacity for processing post-consumer plastics in the U.S. is on record pace for increasing capacity," Perez said. "Additionally, the government is stepping in with mandates, PCR requirements and targets for recycling rates.

See REDUCTION, Page A4



Chemical recycling plants will be able to consume mixed bales and hard to recycle plastics that will help to increase recovery and consumption.



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# NWRA names 2022 Industry Leadership recipients

The National Waste & Recycling Association (NWRA) announced its 2022 Membership Award recipients across three categories for their contributions in support of the waste and recycling industry and the Association.

The 2022 honorees are: Services Member of the Year Award: Shelley Seyward, Casella Waste Systems; Suppliers Member of the Year Award: Martin Mattsson, Volvo Construction Equipment North America, Inc.; Chapter Leadership Award: Brad Eisenhart, WM; Services Distinguished Service Award: Pete Keller, Republic Services, Inc.; and Suppliers Distinguished Service Award: Mike McLaughlin, McLaughlin Family Companies / New Way Trucks.

The honorees will be recognized at NWRA's Executive Leadership Roundtable event in October.

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

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

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

### Services Member of the Year

Shelley Seyward, Casella Waste Systems – Seyward has been involved in the fight on all of the association's major issues in New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts and Connecticut. She was at the forefront of the successful fight to keep Vermont's new bottle bill from passing and against HB 1454 in New Hampshire requiring a buffer between land-

fills and bodies of water which has been vetoed by the governor. Seyward was also a constant in the battle that is taking place in Maine and helped lead the fight in New York, Connecticut, and Massachusetts on EPR. She is now in her first term as the vice chair of NWRA's Government Affairs Committee.

#### **Suppliers Member of the Year**

Martin Mattsson, Volvo Construction Equipment North America – Mattsson was selected for his significant contributions to the industry through his service leading committees and volunteering on the Supplier Board of Governors as well as supporting NWRA's Future Industry Leaders Alliance.

### Chapter Leadership

Brad Eisenhart, WM – Indiana Eisenhart first took over an unexpired term of a chair who moved to a different state and since has been a steady hand on the wheel of the chapter. He has helped them to navigate successfully many legislative and regulatory challenges that the industry has faced over the past year.

#### **Services Distinguished Service**

Pete Keller, Republic Services, Inc. – Keller had chaired the Recycling Committee since its formation in 2013 until the end of 2021 when he had to step aside due to term limits. During his time as chairman, Pete led the committee through multiple crises starting from China's Green Fence, National Sword and Blue Sky initiatives to the COVID pandemic challenges.

### **Suppliers Distinguished Service**

Mike McLaughlin, McLaughlin Family Companies / New Way Trucks –McLaughlin has consistently supported the industry by volunteering on boards and committees such as the Supplier Board of Governors. He and McLaughlin Family Companies / New Way Trucks continue to provide important financial support to NWRA and the industry.

## Community grants available

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and The Recycling Partnership announced a \$300,000 grant for Ohio communities to dramatically improve residential recycling in Ohio. The grant will fund community projects aimed at working to prevent recycling contamination and improving the quality of materials residents recycle at drop-off locations. This program will provide up to \$180,000 in community awarded grants and \$120,000 to fund statewide webinars, workshops and training programs. The grants will support selected drop-off recycling programs and will provide grantees with direct mail educational materials, new drop-off site signage, and digital and social media advertising. An additional \$135,000 in matching funds from other stakeholders will be available to amplify this program.

This grant builds upon a previous collaborative project between Ohio

EPA and The Recycling Partnership which concluded in 2021. Results showed improved quality of recyclables collected through curbside recycling programs for approximately 155,000 Ohio households by reducing contamination ranging from 10 to 46 percent during the project period.

These recycling quality improvement projects will provide clean, valuable, and much needed recyclable materials to Ohio manufacturers and support job creation and the state's economy.

All solid waste management districts and local jurisdictions currently operating residential drop-off sites are eligible to apply for grants of up to \$3 per household for the program. A request for proposal (RFP) period will be open through November 18, 2022, and complete instructions can be found in the RFP which will be available at www.recycleohio.gov.

# ISRI board approves changes to the guidelines for plastic and nonferrous scrap

The Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI), the Voice of the Recycling Industry<sup>TM</sup>, Board of directors approved new and modified plastic and nonferrous scrap specifications at the ISRI Summer Board Meeting held in Washington, DC on July 14, 2022. The approved plastic scrap specifications, developed in coordination with the Association of Plastic Recyclers (APR), are as follows:

•Bale Specifications: HDPE Colored Bottles

•Bale Specification: PET Bottles (No PET Thermoforms)

•Bale Specification: PET Bottles with PET Thermoforms

•Bale Specifications: HDPE Natural Bottles

•Bale Specifications: HDPE Injection Bulky Rigid Plastics

•Bale Specifications: PET Thermoforms

•Plastic Film Scrap Specifications The ISRI board of directors approved the following changes to the Guidelines for Nonferrous Scrap that were approved on March 20, 2022:

#### New Specifications TANK ALUMINUM CHOPS and STRAWS

Shall consist of clean aluminum, chops or straws, free of screening, hairwire, iron, copper, insulation and other non-metallic items. Must be free of minus 20 mesh material. Must contain 99 percent aluminum content.

### TEASE ALUMINUM WIRE and CABLE

Shall consist of new, clean, aluminum wire or cable free from hair wire, ACSR, wire screen, iron, insulation and other non-metallic items. Must contain 99 percent aluminum content.

### **Revised Specifications**

### REELS Mixed Nonferrous Wheel Weights

To consist of nonferrous wheel weights that are a minimum of 35 percent (overall) Nonferrous and no more than 65 percent Iron (Fe). Anticipated nonferrous material may be both lead and zinc weights. To be free of foreign material. Final material specifications to be determined between buyer and seller.

### TALL E.C. ALUMINUM CHOPS AND STRAWS

Shall consist of clean, 1350 and/or 1050 alloy, E.C. aluminum, chops or straws, free of screening, hair-wire, iron, copper, insulation and other non-metallic items. Must be free of minus 20 mesh material. Must contain 99.45 percent aluminum content.

### TALON E.C. ALUMINUM WIRE and CABLE

Shall consist of new, clean, 1350 and/or 1050, E.C. aluminum wire or cable free from hair wire, ACSR, wire screen, tape, iron, insulation and other non-metallic items. Must contain 99.45 percent aluminum content.



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# WM to upgrade Cleveland recycling facility

WM plans to make an approximate \$30 million capital investment in its Cleveland materials recovery facility (MRF) to create a state-of-the-art recycling hub and WM's primary sustainability center for Ohio. Construction on the expanded facility has already begun and the project is expected to be completed by March 2023.

The project is part of WM's planned \$275 million investment in recycling infrastructure in 2022, bringing the company's overall investment in new and upgraded recycling facilities to over \$1.3 billion since 2018. With the demand for recycled content products continuing to rise, the investment is expected to enable WM to capture more recycled materials and increase access to recycling for its customers.

The planned expansion and upgrades to the Cleveland MRF features optical sorting scanners for both fibers and plastic that work to optimize the recovery and quality of recycled materials. Additionally, the project includes

programs overseas. America has been

caught unprepared to educate and

recyclable materials can lead to jobs and

income producer for recycling compa-

nies that collect, process and sell these

materials to commodity market buyers.

From Savage's discussions with recycling facility operators, plastics are more

of a burden due to their toxicity and

inconsistent layering of different poly-

mers per product component. For exam-

ple, a product may have five different

types of plastic throughout the whole

item, so how does a processor break it

"It may be a welcome reprieve for

Plastics have never been a great

and in public spaces."

business growth.

**Industry Impact** 

down to deal with that?

system upgrades to support sophisticated glass recovery and clean up, as well as an advanced fire detection system. The current recycling center's commodity bale storage is expected to increase from approximately 7,000 sq.ft. to 32,000 sq.ft.

As WM commits to working alongside communities to cultivate integrated sustainability solutions, a brand-new recycling education room will be integrated into the Cleveland MRF, which will be open to the public.

#### 30 years, the U.S. has abdicated respon-**Planning Ahead** sibility for its own proper waste management by relying on foreign export

As a zero-waste consultant and corporate trainer, Savage has conducted dozens of waste audits where she was "up to her elbows for six hours" in business trash sorting, weighing, and cataloging the different streams of

"I can tell you that plastic waste is a pervasive and daunting problem and the political will from elected lawmakers, oil companies, plastics manufacturers, and big business lobbyists to reduce plastic waste is almost nil,"

#### empower residents and businesses around sustainable choices. We need responsible policies in place that can materials. allow every American resident and business with convenient access to waste diversion programs at home, at work, Consumers also need to understand the economics behind recycling and be shown how their responsible handling of Savage said.



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Swana's WASTECON 2022. San Diego Convention Center. San Diego, California. www.wastecon.org

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# Reduction

### **■**Continued from Page 1

Chemical recycling plants will be able to consume mixed bales and hard to recycle plastics that will help to increase recovery and consumption."

### **Consumer's Role**

Savage believes that consumers are chomping at the bit to handle their materials responsibly, but there are several barriers to this happening:

•Recycling plastics can be a cog in the materials loop, but it will never solve the pervasive problem of plastic waste, ever. Consumers need to be incentivized and steered toward minimizing their overall consumption of plastics, not only in their product purchases, but in rejecting single-use plastics and the plastic packaging they're sold in.

•Lack of education about how to recycle properly is common for the average American. They likely don't know what the number inside the "chasing arrows" recycling symbol means when they look at the packaging they are holding and trying to decide which bin/receptacle it should go into. People who don't understand the materials will often just put them into the trash so they can be sure they didn't mess up.

"Convenient access to local recycling programs is key for increasing consumer participation rates," Savage said. "Tens of millions of U.S. residents do not have access to recycling programs because of local and state policies that do not advocate for them. For the past



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#### some operators, but most municipalities that do have recycling ordinances 9/27-9/28

require recycling of rigid plastics and may even include recycling of thin, plastic film wraps, as well," Savage says. Perez believes that overall, this is a

short term issue. "We are already changing direction and we will soon realize the results of our industry efforts over the next few years," he said.

### **Manufacturing Response**

Many companies are reducing the number of plastic materials they're using in their products, in their product packaging, or both.

"As we've seen with take-back legislation for electronics (computers, TVs, etc.), mercury-containing products (light bulbs, thermostats, etc.), batteries, and other products, plastics take-back would put the onus on the product manufacturers to recycle responsibly for consumers and businesses that use their products," Savage said. "They need to close the loop by establishing 'cradle-to-grave' life cycle accountability protocols.'

A successful example of this is "bottle bill" or "container deposit" legislation in at least 10 states that have a deposit and return system to ensure the recycling loop is completed and that high quality, uncontaminated materials are used for remanufacturing.

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## Ecomaine tags contamination

Ecomaine, Maine's leader in single-sort recycling, will continue to build on the success of its curbside recycling education program by expanding the project into more Maine communities during the fall.

To provide greater public awareness of acceptable recycling materials, ecomaine hired staff in the two previous summer and fall seasons to examine recycling collected. The program focuses on the education of residents on the topic of recycling contamination. This year, Sanford has been added to the list and interns will return to neighborhoods in South Portland and Saco as well. The ecomaine staff review residents' bins and provide educational feedback.

During cart reviews, inspectors lift the lid and evaluate the contents of the cart. They then issue green tags for acceptable recyclables within the cart or bin, yellow tags for loads that have a handful of items that are not recyclable, and red tags for loads with too many items that cannot be recycled – including trash. The bins with red tags are considered overly contaminated and increase costs for the municipality and taxpayers. Red-tagged bins are not serviced. The tags will identify items that do not belong in the recycling cart for individualized education.

"The impact of the program has been growing, and you can see the difference in the recycling. As a staff member that formally worked tagging bins, I can say providing this education is beneficial for the municipality, the residents, and us alike." said Michelle Radley, ecomaine's acting communica-



Staff members Kayla King, Hunter Johnson and Annie Coburn inspect recycling carts for contamination.

tions manager. "Moving forward we are looking to reach more residents and assess how we can increase the impact, based on what the data tell us and what we hear from the communities."

When ecomaine staff ran the program previously, significant gains were made in reducing contamination from impacted loads of recyclables – in one case, reducing the contamination from over 80 percent down to 25 percent.

The most recent program began in April in neighborhoods in Portland, Scarborough, South Portland, Westbrook and Yarmouth, with data collected and analyzed weekly. On average, through the project this spring, green tags have increased 52 percent, while yellow and red tags have decreased 62 percent and 69 percent, respectively.

### **METALS**

# Steel import permit applications down in July

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 July totaled 2,461,000 net tons (NT). This was a 12.9 percent decrease from the 2,826,000 permit tons recorded in June and a 12.4 percent decrease from the June preliminary imports total. Import permit tonnage for finished steel in July was 2,082,000, down 5.5 percent from the preliminary imports total of 2,204,000 in June. For the first 7 months of 2022 (including July SIMA permits and June preliminary imports), total and finished steel imports were 19,230,000 NT and 15,510,000 NT, up 9.1 percent and 30.0 percent, respectively, from 2021.

Steel imports with large increases in July permits vs. June preliminary imports include wire rods (up 48

percent), black plate (up 42 percent), reinforcing bars (up 31 percent) and cut lengths plates (up 22 percent). Products with significant year-to date (YTD) increases vs. the same period in 2021 include wire rods (up 81 percent), oil country goods (up 62 percent), standard pipe (up 55 percent) and cold rolled sheets (up 48 percent).

In July, the largest steel import permit applications were for Canada (515,000 NT, down 19 percent from June preliminary), Mexico (440,000 NT, down 16 percent), South Korea (257,000 NT, down 14 percent), Brazil (247,000 NT, up 24 percent) and Japan (161,000 NT, up 64 percent). Through the first seven months of 2022, the largest suppliers were Canada (4,093,000 NT, no change from the same period last year) and Mexico (3,395,000 NT, up 37 percent).

## June steel shipments decrease

The American Iron and Steel Insti- change vs. 2021 shipments of tute (AISI) reported that for the month of June 2022, U.S. steel mills shipped 7,606,332 net tons, a 5.3 percent decrease from the 8,031,516 net tons shipped in June 2021. Shipments were down 3.8 percent from the 7,910,730 net tons shipped in the previous month, May 2022. Shipments year-to-date in 2022 are 45,973,141 net tons, no

45,969,876 for six months.

A comparison of shipments yearto-date in 2022 to the first six months of 2021 shows the following changes: corrosion-resistant sheet and strip, down 3 percent, hot rolled sheet, down 5 percent, and cold rolled sheet, down 11 percent.



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## **METALS**

# Ardagh and Crown Holdings fund can capture equipment for recycling facilities

As part of a concerted effort to increase aluminum beverage can recycling, Ardagh Metal Packaging (AMP) and Crown Holdings (Crown), working with its trade organization Can Manufacturers Institute (CMI), are providing financing for leases of can capture equipment for recycling facilities. While continuing to offer grants as the two aluminum can manufacturers funded last year, the lease option allows material recovery facilities (MRFs) to receive equipment at no cost and pay it off through the additional cans captured with the equipment.

"CMI modeling finds that if all of the more than 350 MRFs sorting residential recyclables across the U.S. had perfect sortation of used beverage cans (UBC), 3.5 billion cans could potentially be captured," said Jennifer Cumbee, chief sustainability officer at AMP. "We are committed to continuing to activate additional can capture equipment in MRFs as part of our industry's effort to build on our industry-leading recycling and recycled content rates, further strengthening the beverage can as the ideal sustainability choice for our customers."

To substantiate the economic and environmental impact of additional can capture equipment, AMP and Crown funded in-person testing at three MRFs that showed significant opportunities for capturing missorted cans. The testing focused on five points across the three MRFs where cans tend to be missorted. Those five points averaged between seven and 36 aluminum UBCs missorted every minute.

The testing is part of a growing initiative to motivate installation of can capture equipment in MRFs. In addition to the testing program, CMI also today released online two additional resources for MRFs to determine the benefits of additional can capture equipment. One is an easy-to-use return on investment (ROI) calculator to determine the ROI from installing additional can capture equipment. The other is a companion playbook that explains how to test levels of can missortation and then plug the data collected into the ROI calculator.

The recycling consultant Resource Recycling Systems (RRS) conducted the testing on behalf of CMI in March and April 2022 at three MRFs that vary in modernization level and geographic location. The testing results illustrate the impressive ability of revenue from captured cans to pay for investments in can capture equipment. While actual revenue generation may be different for individual MRFs depending upon local factors, the average annual revenue loss from beverage cans per loss point according to the testing results was \$71,940 using a 5 year average of UBC scrap prices. At this revenue level, it will only take on average three years of accumulated revenue from the cans captured at one of these loss points to equal the cost to acquire, install and operate additional equipment at a loss point that ensures the cans are captured.

"A lease where the material captured pays for the equipment is uniquely suited for aluminum beverage cans because UBCs are one of the most valuable commodities in the recycling system," said Scott Breen, CMI vice president of sustainability. "The plan is to use the money paid back on the loans to finance equipment at other MRFs."

If the three MRFs were to install additional equipment that captured all the cans at the points tested, the data taken from the three facilities show nearly 22 million more UBCs would be captured each year. CMI has an aluminum beverage can recycling impact calculator at canrecyclingimpact.com that shows recycling 22 million UBCs would generate more than \$350,000 for the recycling system and enough energy savings to power nearly 1,000 U.S. homes for a full year.

Capturing cans from MRFs is one of the four pillars of action CMI has stated will be key to reaching its aluminum beverage can recycling rate targets. Last year, AMP and Crown funded five grants through a program in partnership with The Recycling Partnership that went toward purchasing can capture equipment in MRFs that will collectively result in 71 million aluminum beverage cans captured per year.

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



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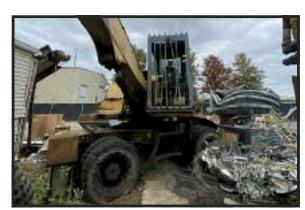




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### METALS

# Steel imports up 2.3 percent in June

Based on preliminary Census Bureau data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that the U.S. imported a total of 2,810,000 net tons (NT) of steel in June 2022, including 2,204,000 NT of finished steel (up 2.3 percent and down 6.0 percent, respectively, vs. May 2022). Total and finished steel imports are up 14.3 percent and 34.7 percent, respectively, year-to-date vs. 2021. Over the 12month period July 2021 to June 2022, total and finished steel imports are up 38.2 percent and 50.1 percent, respectively, vs. the prior 12 month period.

Finished steel import market share was an estimated 25 percent in June and is estimated at 25 percent over the first 6 months of 2022.

Key steel products with a significant import increase in June compared to May are heavy structural shapes (up 61 percent), ingots and billets and slabs (up 51 percent), plates in coils (up 29 percent), sheets and strip all other metallic coated (up 16 percent) and tin plate (up 16 percent). Products with a significant increase in imports over the 12-month period July 2021 to June 2022 compared to the previous 12month period include oil country goods (up 125 percent), wire rods (up 97 percent), cold rolled sheets (up 69 percent), plates in coils (up 69 percent)

U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN (Thousands of Net Tons)						
*Preliminary	JUN 2022*	MAY 2022	YTD 2022	Prev 12 mths to JUN 2022	Prev 12 mths to JUN 2021	% Change 2022 Prev 12 mths vs. 2021
CANADA	635	631	3,578	7,021	6,130	14.5%
MEXICO	521	482	2,954	5,610	3,575	56.9%
BRAZIL	200	128	1,555	3,347	4,012	-16.6%
SOUTH KOREA	299	233	1,480	2,898	2,221	30.5%
RUSSIA	123	20	465	1,374	743	85.1%
VIETNAM	50	56	609	1,312	385	241.2%
GERMANY	84	121	541	1,240	1,017	21.9%
TURKEY	52	155	541	1,132	663	70.8%
JAPAN	98	103	589	1,127	919	22.6%
TAIWAN	97	93	582	1,110	598	85.7%
INDIA	88	91	417	721	201	258.0%
CHINA	69	34	333	618	389	59.1%
NETHERLANDS	57	61	270	617	510	20.9%
ALGERIA	18	63	336	589	106	454.7%
ROMANIA	49	28	259	455	190	139.2%
All Others	369	445	2,260	4,396	2,629	67.2%
TOTAL	2,810	2,746	16,769	33,568	24,287	38.2%

and sheets and strip all other metallic coated (up 61 percent).

In June, the largest suppliers were Canada (635,000 NT, up 1 percent vs. May), Mexico (521,000 NT, up 8 percent), South Korea (299,000 NT, up 28 percent), Brazil (200,000 NT, up 57 percent) and Russia (123,000 NT, up 521 percent). Over the 12-month

period July 2021 to June 2022, the largest suppliers were Canada (7,021,000 NT, up 15 percent vs. compared to the previous 12-months), Mexico (5,610,000 NT, up 57 percent), Brazil (3,347,000 NT, down 17 percent), South Korea (2,898,000NT, up 31 percent) and Russia (1,374,000 NT, up 85 percent).

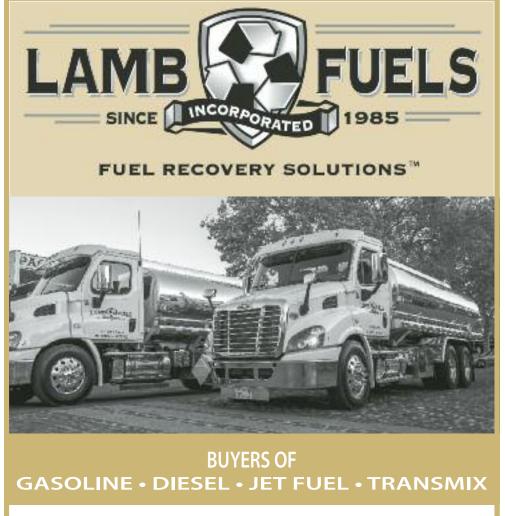
### Nucor to add melt shop at its Arizona Bar Mill

Nucor Corporation will add a new melt shop at its bar mill in Kingman, Arizona. The new \$100 million melt shop will have the capacity to produce 600,000 tons annually and create approximately 140 new full time jobs paying an average annual wage of approximately \$85,000. Construction of the melt shop is expected to take two years pending permit and regulatory approvals.

Wire rod and rebar are used primarily in concrete reinforcement for the construction of roads, buildings, bridges and other structures. Nucor produces steel by recycling scrap metal into new steel products, making the company one of the most sustainable steel producers in the world. Last year, Nucor steel bar products averaged 98.5 percent recycled content.

In September 2021, Nucor announced its intention to build a new melt shop at one of its existing bar mills in the Western U.S. Nucor Steel Kingman is the ideal location for this project because it is a rolling mill that converts steel billets into coiled wire rod and rebar but lacks a melt shop. The Kingman mill currently employs approximately 80 teammates.

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### RUBBER

# Porsche and Michelin are on a sustainability mission



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHEL

The new, fully electric Porsche 718 Cayman GT4 ePerformance will be out to showcase its potential at 2022 Goodwood Festival of Speed on Michelin tires that contain 53 percent sustainable materials

At last August's Le Mans 24 Hours, Michelin revealed the new tire containing 46 percent sustainable materials it had developed for GreenGT's fuel-cell electric racing prototype. Today it has taken the proportion of biosourced and recycled raw materials to 53 percent for the tires it has supplied to Porsche, with no detriment to the performance and safety levels that have long been hallmarks of its competition tires.

The sustainable raw materials that go into these tires range from natural rubber and carbon black recycled from end-of-life tires, to orange and lemon peel, pine-tree resin, sunflower oil and scrap steel. In keeping with its Michelin In Motion policy, Michelin plans to make all its tires exclusively from sustainable materials by 2050.

Looking beyond Porsche's appearance at Goodwood, the German make's upcoming all-electric motorsport program will provide Michelin with a chance to evaluate its sustainable solutions in the extreme conditions associated with topflight racing. The French firm is effectively determined to accelerate the development of its technologies and their carry-over to production electric vehicle tires, while the energy transition provides a valuable opportunity for growth, along with a means to showcase its expertise and penchant for innovation.

# TDEC awards Tennessee Tire Recycling grant of \$750,000

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) announced a grant of \$750,000 for Tennessee Tire Recycling (TTR) in Lebanon from the state's Tire Environmental Act Program.

TTR, a division of Rockwood Sustainable Solutions, will provide matching funds of \$914,170 and use the grant for purchasing equipment related to the hauling, collection and transportation of tires between counties. The company will increase hauling capacity through the purchase of a truck, trailers for collection, and a mobile grinder to support counties across the state with additional options for managing waste tires. The project will cost \$1,664,170 and allow TTR to recycle 700,000 tires annually.

The purpose of the Tire Environmental Act Program is to select and fund projects that best result in beneficial uses for waste tires. Projects must qualify for one of three categories: tire processing/recycling, tire-derived material use, or research and development.

The program provides grant funding to the eligible entities, including: local governments, non-profit organizations, higher education institutions, K-12 schools, and for-profit entities.

Tennessee established the Tire Environmental Fund in 2015. Upon the first retail sale of a new motor vehicle to be titled and registered in Tennessee, a flat fee based on the number of a vehicle's wheels is assessed. The fee goes into the fund, which is used for projects creating or supporting beneficial end uses for waste tires.

Since 2015, grantees have been awarded almost \$4.5 million, and approximately 3.6 million tires or nearly 42,476 tons of scrap tires have been diverted from landfills. The tires are repurposed for use in rubberized asphalt, tire-derived aggregate, tire-derived fuel, granulated rubber, porous flexible pavement and other beneficial end uses that result in tires being diverted from landfill for a higher and better use

# USTMA July 2022 forecast predicts another record year

#### **JULY FORECAST: USTMA 2022 Projected Tire Shipments** Units **Percent Percent** Forecast 2021 vs. 2021 vs. 2021 2019 vs. 2019 vs. 2019 **Original Equipment** 39.2 37.4 1.8 46.3 -15.20% -7 Passenger 4.80% Light Truck 5.9 4.80% 0.3 5.9 0.40% 6.4 7.80% -2.50% -0.2 Truck Replacement Passenger 226.8 224.8 0.90% 2.1 222.6 1.90% 4.2 Light Truck 39.5 38.6 2.30% 0.9 32.5 21.40% 6.9 Truck 24.3 22.9 6.50% 18.9 28.50% 1.5 5.4 335.2 **Total Shipments** 342.1 2.10% 332.7 2.80% 9.4

The U.S. Tire Manufacturers Association (USTMA) projects total U.S. tire shipments of 342.1 million units in 2022, compared to 335.2 million units in 2021 and 332.7 million units in 2019.

Compared with 2021, original equipment shipments for passenger, light truck and truck tires are expected

to increase by 4.8 percent, 4.8 percent, and 7.8 percent respectively, with a total increase of 2.5 million units. Replacement passenger, light truck and truck tire shipments are also projected to increase by 0.9 percent, 2.3 percent, and 6.5 percent respectively, with a total increase of 4.4 million units.

The state trooper was driving down the highway when he saw a truck driver pull over, walk to the side of his truck with a tire jack, bang on the side of the truck several times and then drive away.

Two miles down the road he did the same thing. Another two miles, same

thing. The trooper pulled the truck over and asked the truck driver to explain. The driver said, "The load limit is ten tons, and I'm carrying fifteen tons of parakeets! I've got to keep some of them flying around all the time."



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## **NEW PRODUCT SHOWCASE**



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### **NEXT-GENERATION DOOSAN** CRAWLER EXCAVATORS AVAILABLE

Doosan Infracore North America introduces its nextgeneration 7 Series crawler excavators in the United States and Canada. The initial launch includes four models, with more to be announced in the coming months. The first models are the Doosan® DX140LCR-7, DX225LC-7, DX255LC-7 and DX350LC-7.

The innovative Doosan 7 Series crawler excavators deliver the fuel efficiency and productivity that operators need to complete the work of today and prepare for the challenges tomorrow brings. With more comfort features, intelligent controls and smart machine functionality, operators can handle whatever comes their way.



Hendrickson USA, LLC 2070 Industrial Place SE Canton, OH 44707 330-489-0050 www.hendrickson-intl.com

### HENDRICKSON PARTNERS WITH MACK FOR HAULMAAX EX

Hendrickson Truck Commercial Vehicle Systems announced today that it has partnered with Mack Trucks to offer the Next Generation Haulmaax® EX heavy-duty rubber suspension.

Haulmaax EX's equalizing beam distributes the load equally between both axles in off-road and uneven terrain conditions and provides 17" of diagonal articulation. The design eliminates fixed center bushing pivot points to reduce wheel hop. An integrated jounce stop provides overload protection. The tire clearance was increased to include packages with 315 tires and 9" steel wheels while continuing to meet standards.



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### **HOSPECO CREATES WASTE** CONTAINER & DUMPSTER SYSTEM

Hospeco Brands Group offers the Nilodor Waste Container and Dumpster System, a product mix developed to keep dumpsters and trash cans, trash rooms, loading docks and other high-odor areas deodorized and clean. An important distinction between the Nilodor family of products compared to other odor-fighting tools is that Nilodor products do not mask odors; rather, they

The lineup starts with Chute and Dumpster Wash All-Purpose Cleaner and Chute & Dumpster Wash PLUS Bio-Enzymatic Cleaner, with Nilodew Deodorizing Granules providing maintenance between cleanings.



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### INNOVATIONS MAKE REDWAVE'S XRF SORTER THE MOST VERSATILE

Redwave, the leader in XRF nonferrous metal sorting technology, announces a breakthrough machine that has an average return in 1 to 2 years. Exclusive upgrades, minimal downtime, adaptable footprint and adjustable sorting widths make Redwave's XRF sorter the most versatile in the industry.

Unique features available in this machine:

- Sortable material sizes from (5) 10 to 180mm
- Compact and versatile footprint
- Design eliminates moving parts and downtime
- Throughputs of up to 14 t/hr (ZORBA)
- Expandable chassis for different sorting widths



### YANMAR INTRODUCES NEXT **GENERATION MINI EXCAVATORS**

Yanmar Compact Equipment introduces a new generation of its ViO17 and ViO25 mini excavators. The ViO17-1E and ViO25-6B are upgraded for improved operator comfort, convenience and ease of use while retaining Yanmar equipment's reputation for high performance and reliability in tight spaces.

The ViO17-1E is best suited for residential work, landscaping and small general construction projects. The ViO25-6B also excels in those applications but brings additional power and size for benefits in building maintenance projects, irrigation, plumbing pipeline and more.

## **AUTOMOTIVE**

# Volvo Cars reports electric car market at 7.9 percent

45,952 cars in May, down 28.3 percent compared with the same month last year. Demand for the company's cars remains strong, especially for its Recharge line-up of electrified cars.

In May the share of fully electric cars grew from last year to 7.9 per cent. Sales of Recharge models represented 33.6 per cent of total sales, an increase of 10 percentage points compared with the same month in 2021.

During May, the Covid-19-related lockdowns in eastern China continued to add more stress to already strained global supply chains, resulting in loss of production. The company has recently seen signs of improvement in supply with gradual easing of restrictions, allowing for a slight improvement in production volumes. The expectation is that production will progressively increase.

Orders for fully electric Volvo cars continue to increase. However, the

Volvo Cars reported retail sales of lockdowns have impacted production of fully electric cars in the second quarter and this will negatively affect the share of fully electric cars being delivered in the third quarter.

European sales for May reached 18,752 cars, down 24.3 percent compared with the same month last year. Sales of Recharge cars accounted for 47 per cent of the total sales in the region during the month.

Volvo Cars' U.S. sales for the month reached 9,372 down 29.1 percent compared with May last year, with Recharge models making up 35.7 percent of the total sales.

China sales declined by 43.8 percent in May to 9,488 cars compared to the same month last year.

Volvo Cars' top selling model for the month was the XC60 with sales of 15.177 cars (2021: 19.835 units), followed by the XC40 at 12.097 cars (2021: 20,350) and the XC90 at 8,790 cars (2021: 9,962 units).

#### ■ For more AUTOMOTIVE news, see Page B1

On the first day of college, the Dean addressed the students, pointing out some of the rules:

"The female dormitory will be out-ofbounds for all male students, and the male dormitory to the female students. Anybody caught breaking this rule will be fined \$20 the first time."

He continued, "Anybody caught breaking this rule the second time will be fined \$60. Being caught a third time will cost you a fine of \$180. Are there any questions?"

At this point, a male student in the crowd inquired, "How much for a season pass?"







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### INTERNATIONAL

# Anaergia to build one of Japan's largest cow manure renewable energy facilities

Anaergia Inc. plans to construct a biogas plant in Kasaoka, Okayama for Toyo Energy Solution Co., Ltd.. The facility will produce renewable electricity using biogas made by anaerobically digesting cow manure from Okayama Prefecture farms. The plant will prevent about 13,500 tonnes of CO2e in emissions from the manure and from fossil fuels that would have been used to generate the power, the equivalent of taking about 2,900 cars off the road for a year (calculated based on a 20 year Global Warming Potential).

The project will anaerobically digest about 250 tonnes per day of cow manure from the region and use the resulting biogas to fuel a combined heat and power generator system. The system will produce about 1.2 megawatts of clean renewable electricity, enough to power about 2,200 homes each year. Anaergia will design, engineer, install, and commission the plant. Toyo will serve as the engineering, procurement, and construction contractor.

The Kasaoka project is Anaergia's second with Toyo; the company also recently built a facility for Toyo in Yabu City, Japan, that converts farm and food waste into renewable energy. The new facility will use Anaergia's anaerobic digestion technology.

"Wastes such as manure, sewage biosolids, and food scraps create twothirds of all point source emissions of methane, a greenhouse gas that is 85 times more potent than carbon dioxide. Stopping these methane emissions from waste must be a central tactic in curbing global warming," said Andrew Benedek, Chairman and chief executive officer of Anaergia. "This new bioenergy plant will not only help Japan reduce methane emissions from manure, it will also reduce the need for LNG to generate electricity. We look forward to building many more plants in Japan with our partner Toyo Energy Solution Co., Ltd. to help the nation meet its carbon neutrality goals."

# Steel Dynamics to acquire Mexican metals recycler

Steel Dynamics, Inc. announced that as part of its North American raw material procurement strategy, the company has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire the equity interest of ROCA ACERO S.A. de C.V. to be funded with available cash. ROCA is headquartered in Monterrey, Mexico and operates a ferrous and nonferrous scrap metals recycling business. ROCA's primary operations are comprised of four scrap processing facili-

ties, strategically positioned near highvolume industrial scrap sources located throughout Central and Northern Mexico. These combined facilities currently ship approximately 575,000 gross tons of scrap annually and have an estimated annual processing capability of approximately 850,000 gross tons.

This transaction is subject to customary closing conditions and receipt of required regulatory approvals.

# Neste acquires European rights to Alterra Energy's technology

Neste has purchased the European rights to Alterra Energy's liquefaction technology. Alterra Energy is a U.S. company that has developed a proprietary thermochemical solution for liquefaction of hard-to-recycle plastic. In Akron, Ohio, the company is already running a facility that transforms end-of-life plastics into an intermediate product which can be further refined.

In 2020, Neste acquired a minority stake in Alterra Energy. Neste has further processed liquefied waste plastic sourced from, among others, Alterra Energy in a series of trial runs at its refinery in Finland. Together with Ravago, Neste also plans to set up a joint venture to deploy the Alterra Energy technology in Vlissingen, the Netherlands. Furthermore, to scale up processing capacities for liquefied waste

plastic at its Porvoo refinery in Finland, Neste is currently conducting a feasibility study to examine investing in proprietary pretreatment and upgrading capabilities.

With the clear target to process more than one million tons of waste plastic per annum from 2030 onwards, Neste continues engaging with companies along the plastics value chain. This includes upstream partners such as recycling companies and technology developers, but also chemicals production partners and brand owners looking for more sustainable, circular solutions.

While Neste has acquired the European rights to the technology, Alterra Energy will continue to operate independently in the rest of the world with the aim of commercializing the technology through licensing.

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## **BUSINESS BRIEFS**

## Timken appoints three executive officers

The Timken Company announced new appointments for company executives Christopher Coughlin, Andreas Roellgen and Natasha Pollock.

Coughlin has been named executive vice president and president of Industrial Motion. In this role, he will build on Timken's engineered bearing leadership by continuing to diversify and grow industrial motion offerings to serve customers' future needs. Coughlin joined Timken in 1984.

Roellgen has been named executive vice president and president of Engineered Bearings. He is responsible for the leadership and profitable growth of Timken's global Engineered Bearings business, which operates across 42 countries and serves a diverse industrial end-market mix and customer base. Most recently, he led the company's strategy to grow its global market share across Europe, Asia and Africa. Roellgen began his Timken career in 1997.

Pollock, vice president of human resources, has been appointed an executive officer by The Timken Company board of directors. She will continue to advance Timken as an employer of choice that attracts, engages and develops a world-class team of problem solvers. Since joining Timken in 2001, Pollock enabled the company's geographic expansion through her development of global HR strategy, talent and culture.

The person who invented knock-knock jokes should get a no bell prize.

# AF&PA promotes Andrew Topps to VP position

The American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) announced the promotion of Andrew Topps as the next vice president, general counsel and corporate secretary, effective September 1, 2022.

Topps assumes the role following the retirement of Jan Poling, vice president, general counsel and corporate secretary.

Poling joined AF&PA in 2007 and has been responsible for the association's legal affairs and governance issues, and guidance in overall direction for the association. Prior to joining AF&PA, she served as associate general counsel for Natural Resources in the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

In his new role, Topps will be responsible for the association's legal affairs and governance issues and providing overall direction of the association as a member of the Senior Leadership Team. Topps joined AF&PA's legal team in 2010 and currently serves as deputy general counsel.

He has helped formulate and implement AF&PA's approach to various issues, including antitrust compliance, key environmental issues, employment law, lobbying guidance and corporate compliance.

Topps' prior experience includes nine years representing private law firm clients in federal and state agency antitrust investigations and litigation. Early in his legal career, Topps also spent nearly three years with the Federal Trade Commission.

# Connecticut Metal Industries hits milestone

Connecticut Metal Industries, located in Ansonia, Connecticut, reported that they have recycled over 100 million pounds of flexible packaging materials at their facility.

This plant, opened in 2010, was set up to recover foil, paper and polymer laminates used in the food, pharma and cosmetics industries.

In the last decade, Connecticut Metal has expanded to encompass printed and unprinted paper, plastic laminates and tapes. Metal containers from the beverage and aerosol can industries are still a major part of their recyclable feedstock. They remain committed to working with the rapidly developing flexible packaging industry.

## American Chemistry Council names new VP

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) announced that Mitchell Toomey will serve as ACC's vice president of sustainability and responsible care. Toomey will transition from his current position starting in September.

In his four years with BASF, Toomey has led a team working across twelve businesses to embed sustainability in the company's business strategies, including leadership of long-term renewable power purchasing agreements, non-fossil feedstocks for circular economy value chains and customercentric portfolio evaluations and expansions based on emerging sustainability drivers.

# Barbie Russo appointed to advisory board

Meridian Waste, an integrated, nonhazardous solid waste services company, announced that Barbie Russo, Government and Community Affairs Manager, was named to the Mark Twain Regional Council of Governments Solid Waste Advisory Board.

The council provides administrative services for the Mark Twain Solid Waste Management District Region G. The District serves as a regional solid waste planning agency for Macon, Shelby, Marion, Randolph, Monroe, Ralls, and Pike counties. Region G Solid Waste District is designated to assist in the development of local and regional waste reduction by providing grants to individuals and private and non-profit sectors. The executive board provides guidance in developing policies pertaining to the management of solid waste.

Russo has been employed by Meridian Waste Missouri since June 2021 and oversees connections with municipal contracts, HOAs, special waste customers and community outreach initiatives, including implementing the company's partnership with the local Toys for Tots chapters. She has 30 years of experience in the solid waste industry and brings valuable knowledge and perspective to Meridian Waste and the Advisory Board.

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### **Material Handlers**

### KUHN © EQUIPMENT



2007 Fuchs RHL360D Gantry MH,100 ACTUAL HOURS, 60 reach front, MH boom w/drop nose stick, hydraulic elevating cab, heat & A/C, Genesis 3.25 yd3 clam shell bucket w/360 degree hydraulic rotation, Deutz Tier 3 engine, 95%++ U/C remaining w/flat pads. P.O.R.



2018 Hitachi ZX310-6 w/5900 hrs, EROPS, A/C, 6 yd3 GP bucket w/BOE, ride control, LSD axels, auto lube, rear camera, scales system, and 26.5x25 Michelin radials. Ex-sand & gravel unit that is like NEW!!! P.O.R.



2015 Fuchs MHL335E w/ 6800 hours, hyd elevating cab, heat & A/C, 42 ft reach, MH boom w/drop nose stick, generator, scrap grapple, outriggers x4, and excellent solid tires. Dealer maintained since new with history. P.O.R.

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### **Miscellaneous**

### BHS Bag Breaker 72" LH Drive

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•Removed from service this year.

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### **Miscellaneous**

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# FOCUS on AUTOMOTIVE

SECTION B www.AMERICANRECYCLER.com SEPTEMBER 2022

# Transitioning from ICE to EV impacts recyclers

by MAURA KELLER

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New technologies and innovative products can keep any industry fresh. And the innovation and subsequent influx of electric vehicles (EVs) into the country's transportation market – albeit slow – is no exception. Thousands of companies, including most automotive recyclers, are paying close attention to the new technology and how this growing market will affect their enterprise. While recyclers – both large and small – are continually enhancing and expanding their products, processes and automotive recycling know-how, they are also aware that the transition from internal combustion engines (ICE) to EVs may change the way they do business.

According to Anthony Schiavo of Lux Research, many automotive manufacturers are moving away from internal combustion engines and limiting or ending development. Groups like Volvo and Nissan have already confirmed plans to end or spin off ICE development.

"To the extent that ICEs continue to be deployed they will be used in trucks and some performance vehicles," Schiavo said. "Development will still focus on efficiency, with partial electrification being the core development area. Partial electrification is already the most cost-effective way to improve vehicle efficiency, and it will only get cheaper as OEM's battery supply chain improves."

Allen Schaeffer, executive director, Diesel Technology Forum added that heavy-duty commercial truck makers are gearing up for another tightening of EPA emissions standards that will take effect starting in 2027. As Schaffer explained, this will impact Class 3-8 vehicles and will make them more expensive than current new model diesels. At the same time, California, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey and Oregon have adopted California's more stringent emission standards and a separate mandate in the Advanced Clean Truck Rule that requires manufacturers to sell an increasing percent of zero emission vehicles starting in 2024.

"Manufacturers are trying to balance continued investments in ICE with new zero emission vehicles (ZEV) products. There are some uncertainties about performance and acceptance, limited infrastructure for charging and some are still committed to diesel," Schaeffer said.

So, what is the instigator for the changes regarding ICE vehicles and how will this impact the automotive recycling industry?

"Regulations still play a major role in driving EVs, but consumer preference is also very clear," Schiavo said. "For example, the new F150 Lightning has a wait list of more than three years – indicating



As part of its battery strategy and its sustainability strategy, Volkswagen AG is very interested in the realization of closed loop of cell materials.

PHOTO COURTESY OF VOLKSWAGE

that current demand for EVs outstrips supply. On a design level, there's also a clear consumer preference for larger cars. Partial electrification is a good way to deliver those larger sizes while keeping fuel efficiency reasonable."

Schaeffer said practical reality is playing a key role in the adoption of EVs and its impact on automotive recycling. As he explained, today's diesel and gasoline engines pay the bills and they will continue to do so for a long while until ZEV technology is embraced and the charging and fueling infrastructure is available to support it.

"I'd guess 2040 or later," Schaeffer said.

Efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and federal policies and corporate OEM commitments will also play a significant role in determining the relative speed and ultimate success of transition to EVs.

"With a major political shift in Washington we could see less emphasis on climate change and more investment in oil and natural gas. That would likely slow any major shift in vehicles due to diminished policies that encourage incentives or mandates," Schaeffer said.

As far as passenger vehicles go, Schaeffer believes battery electric vehicles will be the future for

passenger vehicles as they do offer performance advantages and economic savings.

"They have only about 20 moving parts compared to over 2,000 in today's gas or diesel vehicle so the demand and supply of used parts in the future could change dramatically," Schaeffer said. "With no engines or transmissions, that is a huge change from today."

### **Impact on Recycling**

Experts agree that the near term impacts from the switch from ICE vehicles to EVs will be modest. Schiavo expects it will take at least a decade for substantial numbers of EVs to come off the road.

"Nonetheless, we are already seeing many OEMs become active in vehicle end of life as it relates to electrification," Schiavo said. "As EVs continue to scale, tailpipe emissions will be less of a concern and total vehicle lifecycle impact (in terms of emissions, waste, and resource usage) will be more important." Schiavo suggested that OEMs may need to get more active in recycling to ensure the lower value materials in the car are handled responsibly.

"Additionally, a robust recycling program can help ensure a supply of raw materials for batteries See TRANSITION, Page B2





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# Police discover stolen catalytic converters at recycling facility

Fremont Police Detectives (FPD) have worked tirelessly over the last year investigating Arrow Recovery, located in Fremont, California. Through their investigative efforts, FPD Detectives identified Arrow Recovery as a business that was accepting stolen catalytic converters that were later recovered. Accordingly, detectives began an operation where an undercover officer sold cut catalytic converters to Arrow Recovery marked or etched with "stolen" or other markings suggesting they had been illegally obtained. During the several-month operation, Arrow Recovery repeatedly purchased stolen catalytic converters from undercover detectives.

In conjunction with Fremont Fire Department, Silicon Valley Regional Computer Forensics Lab, and the State Toxic and Hazardous Waste Department, FPD Detectives served a search warrant in June 2022 at Arrow Recovery. As a result, detectives located multiple 55-gallon drums of refined and semi-refined catalytic converter material, along with approximately eight pallets containing at least 300 suspected stolen catalytic converters. Fremont Detectives will continue to work collaboratively with the agencies and

the Alameda County District Attorney's office, to prosecute Arrow Recovery for receiving stolen property. In addition, permitting and environmental impact penalties will be evaluated and levied where appropriate.

The goal of this operation was to shut down a major pathway for criminals to sell stolen catalytic converters, thereby reducing the desire of thieves to victimize community members and businesses. Detectives collected and inventoried a large amount of evidence requiring multiple tow trucks and trips they logged. Detectives will be looking for any identifying markings or engravings on collected items and will reach out to people who may have been a victim of a catalytic converter theft. However, due to the condition of the recovered items, it is generally not possible to confirm the origin of many of the recovered items.

The City of Fremont has seen a drop in stolen catalytic converter thefts over the last few months, which corresponds with this investigation. This remains an active and ongoing investigation, and additional details may become available as the investigation unfolds.

# **Transition**

■Continued from Page B1

which is the top concern of automakers today," Schiavo said.

Schaeffer also stressed that there won't be an influx of ICE vehicles to recycle. He said that would only happen if the government were to ban the use of ICE, and that would be difficult. "A legislator in California has previously introduced legislation to ban new ICE registration in California in 2030, but it went nowhere," Schaeffer said. "Some manufacturers have pledged to end production of new light-duty ICE by 2035. There are about 15 million commercial trucks out there today and 3/4 are diesel. I expect recycling to remain pretty constant as it is today. If major shifts occur, it won't be until 2040 or later."

Part picking business models are also going to be more challenging; Schiavo pointed out that EVs are likely to have fewer moving parts overall and a higher proportion of electronics which will be difficult to interchange.

"Existing automotive recyclers will need to form partnerships with OEMs and cell manufacturers to ensure they benefit from the EV transition," Schiavo said.

In addition, working on EVs requires special training about de-energizing the battery and charging systems. That's why Schaeffer believes the biggest issue facing automotive recyclers will be EV battery recycling itself.

"That has tremendous opportunity well beyond current 12V lead acid batteries exchange and recycling programs," said Schaeffer. "The lithiumion batteries will be of high value. Also, EVs are heavier vehicles generally more than a comparable ICE, so that might be an issue for some recyclers."

In addition, lithium ion (Li-ion) battery recycling will become a key battleground area as the batteries represent a large portion of the value of an EV. However, Schiavo pointed out that there's a large number of new groups — both start-ups and larger corporations — looking to capture the emerging battery recycling market.

So, what advice do industry experts have for automotive recyclers evaluating the future of the industry in light of the transition from ICEs to EVs?

"Plan to quickly ramp up to accept and manage influx of EVs that are inevitably coming," Schaeffer said. "Those that are early adopters of this capability will excel."

Schiavo added that existing auto recyclers will need to move quickly to secure the technology they need to effectively recycle batteries. "However, auto recyclers do have the advantage of better access to end-of-life vehicles, which will help them stay relevant in the near terms."

It's also likely that there will be an oversupply of ICE end-of-life vehicles relative to the demand for parts – especially for sedans. "More and more ICE vehicles will be coming off the road, and there will be a smaller and smaller pool of operating cars that need parts," Schiavo said.

As EV adoption spreads, the automotive industry's focus will shift from tailpipe emissions to whole vehicle impact (in terms of manufacturing emissions and end of life). Schiavo said auto recyclers can proactively position themselves as key partners to auto OEMs by helping them both manage that end of life and by supplying lower impact raw materials.

"The business models and technologies used by auto recyclers are going to change a lot over the next two decades," Schiavo said. "But the importance of auto recycling will only increase."

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# Body found in SUV just before crushing

A man's body was found inside an SUV at a Lake Stevens, Washington scrap yard, authorities said.

The scrap yard workers discovered the body in the vehicle while prepping it for crushing. The SUV was purchased from an abandoned vehicle auction through a Lynnwood towing company.

According to reports, Michael Smith, an employee of the scrap-yard, stated, "I've worked in this business for over 10 years (and) this is the first time we've ever gotten a body in." He explained that they bought the auctioned and abandoned 2002 Ford Explorer from a towing company. "The seats were laid down. He was in a sleeping bag laid out towards the back of the vehicle, feet towards the front."

Generally, cars in auctions become impounded by the police for various reasons and are then towed to the respective towing company's lot. Those cars are later sold at auction.

An employee at the scrapyard said he typically inspects vehicles before purchase, but this particular vehicle was included in a large lot and was not individually scrutinized

After police were summoned, the body and evidence were removed, and the vehicle was returned to the business.



# Law to curb catalytic converter thefts takes effect in Maine

Following increasing reports of catalytic converter thefts around the state, the Maine Legislature passed a new law, signed by Gov. Janet Mills, to strengthen chain of custody requirements and discourage these thefts.

"For victims of catalytic converter theft, this has been an infuriating trend," said Secretary of State Shenna Bellows. "The Bureau of Motor Vehicles, particularly our Enforcement Division, is proud to work with our counterparts in law enforcement, vehicle sales and recycling around the state to implement this new law and provide some peace of mind to Mainers who are worried they may be next."

L.D. 796, "An Act Governing the Sale, Purchase, Removal, Transport and Disposal of Catalytic Converters Removed from Motor Vehicles, Governing Scrap Metal Processors and Creating the Motor Vehicle Services Fund" creates engraving and marking requirements for catalytic converters at risk of being stolen from vehicles and sold to recyclers.

Catalytic converters are exhaust emission control devices for vehicles with internal combustion engines. They are often in an external location and use valuable precious metals, making them a prime target for thieves. Federal environmental law requires the use of catalytic converters on American vehicles.

Under the new law, which went into effect August 8, these entities are required to engrave or mark catalytic converters:

•New and used car dealers must engrave the full VIN of a vehicle on a catalytic converter unless the vehicle is sold at wholesale, or the catalytic converter is not in a location where it is clearly visible from the underside of the vehicle.

•Recyclers must engrave or permanently mark either the full VIN or the recycler's license number and stock number.

•Recyclers removing catalytic converters for final disposal or deconstruction must mark the catalytic converter with the recycler's license number and maintain a record of the catalytic converter and the method by which it was disposed.

•Private individuals who remove an unmarked catalytic converter from a vehicle (other than temporarily for maintenance or repairs) must engrave or permanently mark the catalytic converter with the full VIN.

Additionally, unless a catalytic converter is removed under specific circumstances in the law, any catalytic converter removed from a vehicle must be immediately permanently marked with the vehicle's VIN. The law also includes limitations on the purchase and sale of catalytic converters by recyclers; establishes record-keeping requirements; and provides guidelines for final disposal, deconstruction and transportation of catalytic converters.

For catalytic converters which have been removed from a motor vehicle and

the VIN of the motor vehicle cannot be identified, or if the catalytic converter is too damaged to mark it permanently and legibly, the person in possession of the catalytic converter must request an identification number to assign to it from the Secretary of State.

Violation of most of the provisions of the new law are Class E crimes, except:

- •A recycler purchasing, selling or acquiring an unengraved or unmarked catalytic converter;
- •A person knowingly possessing an unmarked catalytic converter which has been removed from a motor vehicle; and
- •A person who defaces or removes required markings from a catalytic converter:

•Commits a Class D crime such as aggravated possession or defacing.

"Anyone engaged in the sale or recycling of motor vehicles, or their parts, is encouraged to make themselves familiar with the new law," said Deputy Secretary of State for the Bureau of Motor Vehicles Cathie Curtis. "Reliable transportation is vital in a rural state like Maine, so drivers need to know their vehicles won't have essential components taken from them by bad actors – if we all work together, we can minimize the risk."

For a direct link to the form to request identification numbers, view this article on www.AmericanRecycler.com.

# Clean Air Act violations discovered

Red Deer Exhaust Inc. (doing business as Flo~Pro Performance Exhaust) and Thunder Diesel & Performance Company have agreed to stop selling devices that bypass or disable vehicle emissions control systems, and pay a \$1.6 million penalty, to resolve allegations that they violated the Clean Air Act (CAA).

The complaint, filed simultaneously with the consent decree, alleges that the parts described above are "defeat devices" prohibited by the CAA. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that prior to its 2018 investigation, Flo~Pro manufactured or sold more than 100,000 aftermarket defeat devices in the U.S. per year. In early 2019, Flo~Pro suspended sales of the defeat devices in an effort to resolve this matter.

Under the agreement, Flo~Pro, an auto parts manufacturer based in Alberta, Canada, has agreed to stop manufacturing and selling parts for diesel pickup trucks in the U.S. that bypass, defeat or render inoperative emission controls and harm air quality. Thunder Diesel, a distributor based in Mountain Home, Arkansas, has shut down its operations and is no longer selling auto parts. The companies will pay a \$1.6 million penalty.



# EQUIPIVIENT SPOTLIGHT

# **Attachments**

#### by MARY M. THORNTON

maryt@americanrecycler.com

In the auto and scrap recycling industries, a large variety of attachment products are needed to handle the variety of materials that are recovered and further processed. Shears, crushers, buckets and magnets are just a few examples of the items commonly used by machine operators.

Bateman Manufacturing has provided scrap handling solutions to their customers for decades via products such as orange peel grapples, maggrabs and the ships gear grapple. The company offers grapples in varying sizes to fit the needs of the scrap industry. "Whether you need a 1 yard grapple or a 13 yard, we offer the most diverse scrap grapples on the market. Our orange peel grapple has become a staple for auto recycling. The ease of use and durability of this product are two of the most common reasons why our customers continue to choose Bateman over other manufacturers," commented Mark Vandenburg, general manager.

Bateman has experienced significant growth in the last few years due to the high demand for their products. In order to meet the needs of their customers, Bateman has made broad improvements to streamline production rate and to ensure quick lead times. "We've made strides this year because our production volume increased significantly, compared to last year. Along with Bateman products for scrap applications, we manu-



**SAS of Luxemburg LLC** 

facture a range of other attachments, vital to other industry sectors as well. Whether it's a clamshell bucket for port use, a wood rake power grapple for forestry, contractor grapples for demolition, or rail grapples for railway settings, we can provide the equipment needed to help get the job done. We're proud to offer our 30+ years of experience in manufacturing high quality products to our customers in whichever industry may be involved," Vandenburg concluded.

SAS products are designed to meet the needs of high volume; high production auto processing facilities and their product line of wheel loader forks and auto processing equipment "will get the job done faster and easier. SAS employees strive to design and manufacture the most cuttingedge, highly durable attachments with every product supplied to the market and we work diligently to advance the process of saving time and increasing profits throughout the industry, stated Adam Lindley, president.

He added, "Our Extreme Auto Processor continues to provide performance that stands at the forefront of the market. Best suited for excavators weighing 16 to 31 metric tonnes, the product allows customers to extract ferrous as well as valuable nonferrous materials, garnering extra revenue from every vehicle. As many continue to manage a labor force deficit, this product allows an operator to do the job of several people, which helps decrease costs and helps to eliminate injuries from sharp metal and broken glass when manually removing wire. As scrap prices fluctuate, processing vehicles thoroughly will increase revenue across the board and allow customers to maintain volume throughout their facility."

Evolving from an auto salvage yard in the early 70s, SAS developed the first long car handling forks, which marked the birth of the company. Now, SAS is celebrating 50 years of business, manufacturing engineered tough attachments, which

See ATTACHMENTS, Page B5

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### **Attachments**

#### **■**Continued from Page B4

supply solutions to the auto salvage and scrap metal industries, for severe duty applications.

ShearCore has experienced incredible growth in the scrap, recycling and demolition industries. The firm's FS Mobile Shear series includes eight models - FS25 (5,900 lbs.), FS35 (7,200 lbs.), FS45 (11,200 lbs.), FS 55 (13,000 lbs.), FS75 (15,700 lbs.), FS85 (17,900 lbs.), FS 95 (21,600 lbs.), FS145 (29,200 lbs.). All model weights are listed as rotating shears and nonrotating models are available in FS45-FS145. "The Fortress Mobile Shears are designed and manufactured to cut more, last longer, and are easier to maintain. Our shears are purpose-built for scrap metal processing, demolition, and demolition/reconstruction. Our unique machining capabilities allow us to utilize a 6" high-yield plate and use few overall components. Fewer components mean fewer welds for a structurally superior shear. The shear has a two-piece piercing tip with a zipper seam and dowel pins, along with a longer razor blade that sits outside of the guide blades," explained Jay McDevitt, sales director.

Shear Core's FC Demolition Shear (concrete processor) series offers 3 models – FC25 (6,000 lbs.), FC35 (8,100 lbs.), FC45 (10,000 lbs.). Weights may vary, depending on con-



ShoarCoro

figuration options and listed weights are typical flat top, so with no bracket. The Fortress Demolition Shear is purpose-built for crushing and processing concrete in both primary and secondary demolition. The FC offers unmatched power all the way out to the tip. The FC series utilizes a solid upper with no welds and press-fit pivot group (as with

ShearCore mobile shears), which allows for tolerances tight enough to shear rebar all the way out to the tip. Full-length side plates are machined from solid 3" high-yield structural plate steel, resulting in no weld seams.

FS Mobile Shears and FC Demolition shears can be installed on a variety of carriers, fitting everything from smaller excavators up to massive highreach demo machines. All shears are rated for up to 5,500 psi. The company manufactures approximately 180 shears total, annually and as a division of Exodus Global, is also a privately held, family business. Exodus Global has invested in state-of the-art equipment where product design, engineering and manufacturing are located, at their world-class Wisconsin facility, established in 2014. With customers throughout the world, and an especially strong market presence domestically and in the United Kingdom, Exodus Global includes BladeCore, Connect Work Tools and OilQuick Americas.

"Customer's processing volume can range from 1,000 to 50,000 tons a month and demand for our products is very high right now. We are committed to never compromising quality and increasing output as much as possible within those boundaries. We simultaneously strive to increase the size of our service and parts teams in order to stay ahead of our customers," McDevitt said.

# Fenix Parts acquires two businesses

Fenix Parent LLC, operating as Fenix Parts, a leading recycler and reseller of original equipment manufacturer automotive parts, has completed its acquisition of the assets of A&P Auto Parts and U-Pull U-Save Auto Parts in central New York. This is the largest acquisition completed by Fenix Parts since the company was acquired by affiliates of Stellex Capital Management LLC in April 2018.

A&P is a full service automotive recycler servicing the Syracuse and Rochester markets with locations in Cicero and Palmyra. U-Pull U-Save is a self-service automotive recycler servicing the Syracuse market with a location in East Syracuse.

Bill Stevens, chief executive officer of Fenix Parts, said, "We are thrilled to announce the acquisition of A&P and their sister company U-Pull U-Save. We are excited about the addition of its experienced and talented team to the Fenix family. This acquisition expands Fenix's existing footprint in New York, adding both full and self-service operations, and further solidifies our industry-leading Northeast position. I want to give a special welcome to the incredible team at both A&P and U-Pull U-Save, we sincerely look forward to working with you."

Fenix Parts continues to pursue opportunities that align with its strategic development plans.







# One in five U.S. vehicles has unfixed safety issue

Even after years of heightened warnings about car safety recalls, new Carfax data shows more than 50 million vehicles on U.S. roads today are being driven with a known issue that should be repaired. While the overall number of vehicles with an open recall is down almost 6 percent from 2021, tens of millions of drivers remain still at risk, even though repairs will be made at no charge to the owners.

Carfax data shows in 2022, sedans and SUVs are the vehicles most likely to have unfixed recalls. Southern states continue to have the highest openrecall percentages including Mississippi at 24 percent, and Texas and Louisiana (both at 23 percent).

Here are the top 10 states with the most vehicles with open recalls:

- •California: 5.6 million
- •Texas: 5.1 million
- •Florida: 3.1 million
- •New York: 1.9 million
- •Pennsylvania: 1.8 million
- •Ohio: 1.8 million
- •Georgia: 1.7 million
- •North Carolina: 1.6 million
- •Illinois: 1.6 million
- •Michigan: 1.4 million

"We are heading in the right direction when it comes to the number of open recalls on the road, but the numbers remain incredibly high" said Faisal Hasan, general manager of Data at Carfax. "We still have a long way to go but free recall monitoring services,

such as Carfax Car Care, are making a difference." In California, for example, there was a dramatic double-digit percent drop – 12 percent – in the number of open recalls. California drivers also have the highest number of registered vehicles in the Carfax Car Care app with nearly 4 million vehicle identification numbers (VINs) registered. Every Car Care user is notified when a new recall has been issued for any of their registered vehicles.

Nationwide, drivers have registered more than 37 million VINs in Carfax Car Care. This free service continuously monitors vehicles for open recalls. Because recalls are issued regularly – even for older models – it's crucial that owners be aware of new federal actions.

There has also been a growing effort from Departments of Motor Vehicles around the country, partnering with Carfax and the Alliance for Automotive Innovation, to provide free supplemental recall notifications to consumers, including during a consumer's registration, renewal, or inspection processes.

Recall repairs can often be completed in only an hour or two, and most repairs take far less than a day. Federal law requires that all recall work be completed at no charge to owners. Owners can check whether their vehicle has an open recall for free at www.carfax.com/recall.

# Volkswagen partners with Redwood to recycle batteries

with Volkswagen Group of America to recycle all end-of-life batteries from Volkswagen and Audi electric vehicles. Redwood's mission is achieved by working with leaders across the electric vehicle and clean energy industries who share their mission to create a domestic, closed-loop battery supply

Redwood will work directly with Volkswagen Group of America's network of more than 1,000 dealers to recover, safely package, transport and recycle end-of-life EV battery packs from Volkswagen and Audi vehicles. At the Northern Nevada facilities, they will recover more than 95 percent of the metals like nickel, cobalt, lithium and copper from their batteries and then, rather than exporting those metals overseas, use them to remanufacture anode and cathode components that will supply back to U.S. battery cell manufacturers without these minerals ever leaving the country.

Annually, 6 GWh of lithium-ion batteries, enough to build more than 60,000 EVs, come through Redwood's doors – the majority of the lithium-ion batteries recycled in North America today – and they have been ramping up processes in preparation for even more batteries as the first wave of electric vehicles begins to retire from our roads. Redwood's partnership with Volkswagen Group of America will

Redwood Materials is partnering increase what's available for Redwood to recycle so that they can make even more sustainable and affordable battery materials. As more and more electric vehicles reach end-of-life, their battery packs will provide a sizeable, infinitely recyclable resource that can continue to make EVs more and more sustainable and affordable.

### Making batteries can become more sustainable.

Batteries are the most expensive part of an electric vehicle, often accounting for 20 to 30 percent of the vehicle cost. To drive down the cost of electric vehicles material cost must be reduced and this can be done by localization and use of recycled content.

Redwood's end-to-end process is recapturing the value of those lithiumion batteries and passing it to U.S.based cell manufacturing partners, ultimately making EVs and American manufacturing more sustainable and affordable. Given the distance that materials inside batteries must travel from mine to battery cell - more than 50,000 miles - and these metal's infinite recyclability, the initial carbon cost of mining these materials can be reduced every time, making batteries more and more sustainable.

# Salvaging Millions

by Ron Sturgeon Autosalvageconsultant.com

### Your business plan isn't just for your banker

I talk to many people who are trying to borrow money to start a business or expand their business. Most don't have a business plan competed. If you're going to borrow money to try to start or grow a business, you must have a business plan which includes a pro forma financial analysis of your operations including your sales and projected profits for at least three years and projected balance sheet for the same period.

Many novice business people think that a banker is just going to loan them money because they come in and ask for it, and many of the entrepreneurs borrowing funds think that the business plan is something they prepare just for the banker, but it's not.

It's important that you have a

business plan with monthly results and that you've thought about those results. You should use the business plan and look at it every month to see if you have achieved the results. If you have not, you should make a plan to fix the disparity and get back on track so that you are meeting what you said you would achieve when you applied for the

Your banker will be watching see how you perform against your projections and will be interested in your plan if you have a miss. Even on the simplest of loans, like a small SBA loan, you should expect to produce the business plan and projected financials. As you prepare your business plan, remember it's not just for your banker.

### 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.



# Autonomy orders 23,000 electric vehicles to diversify subscription fleet

Autonomy<sup>™</sup>, the nation's largest electric vehicle subscription company, placed an order for 23,000 electric vehicles with 17 global automakers to expand and diversify its subscription fleet beyond Tesla. The fleet order is valued at \$1.2B.

"Tesla was certainly the right launch partner for Autonomy given their dominance in the electric vehicle market today," said Scott Painter, founder and chief executive officer of Autonomy. "With every automaker going all-in on electric and so many exciting new products coming to market in the next 6 to 18 months, we have placed our fleet order and are excited to expand our subscription lineup and make it easier for consumers to make the transition to electric."

The 23,000 order represents 1.2 percent of the projected U.S. electric vehicle production through the end of 2023 and was designed to fit into the forecast production envelopes of each automaker.

Autonomy's order was placed with the fleet departments of the following automakers: BMW, Canoo, Fisker, Ford, General Motors, Hyundai, Kia, Lucid, Mercedes-Benz, Polestar, Rivian, Stellantis, Subaru, Tesla, Toyota, Vin-Fast, Volvo and Volkswagen.

Following are the primary selection criteria for the order:

- •MSRP Range: \$26,595 to \$122,440
  - •Battery Range: 250 miles minimum
  - •Telematics: Fully connected
- •Production Forecasts: Vehicle will be available to purchase before the end of 2023
- •Residual Values: Models with highest projected resale values

Autonomy will leverage its recently announced national partnership with AutoNation, Inc., the largest retailer in the U.S. for the acquisition and intake of the majority of these vehicles. AutoNation will provide vehicle preparation, delivery services, and subscriber activation, as well as maintenance, repair, and reconditioning services for Autonomy's growing subscription fleet of electric vehicles. In preparation for order fulfillment, Autonomy has mapped vehicle deliveries to corresponding AutoNation franchise and AutoNation USA locations closest to the automakers' distribution centers in areas with the largest density of EV registrations.

"Electric vehicles cost far more than gas-powered vehicles and most consumers will simply not make the switch to an EV without highly compelling value propositions," added Painter. "Autonomy subscriptions deliver an easier and more affordable way to get an EV, and this is why we believe that subscriptions will be the predominant contract by which consumers adopt electric vehicles from every automaker."

Autonomy offers the Tesla Model 3 and Tesla Model Y and will soon add the full Tesla lineup. Autonomy's subscription model offers the cheapest, fastest, and easiest way to get an electric vehicle, and it does not require the long-term debt or commitment that comes with buying or leasing. They have the flexibility to subscribe month to month after a three-month minimum hold period. Consumers can subscribe to an electric vehicle entirely in app and customize their monthly payment to meet their budget.

# Toyota expands Corolla line with new cross hybrid

Based on the Corolla sedan, the allnew 2023 Toyota Corolla Cross Hybrid recently made its U.S. debut. The new hybrid, along with the gas model launched in 2021, will be assembled in the U.S. at the new Mazda Toyota Manufacturing plant in Huntsville, Alabama – a brand new facility that will have the capacity to roll out up to 150,000 Corolla Cross vehicles per year.

Available exclusively with all-wheel drive, the Corolla Cross Hybrid maximizes the inherent potential of the high strength TNGA-C platform, enabling the model to achieve high-quality performance, a comfortable ride and outstanding spaciousness.

With the new fifth generation Toyota hybrid system under the hood, coupled with the electronic all-wheel drive system that's new to the Corolla nameplate, the new Corolla Cross Hybrid offers increased power and fuel economy. With 194 hp and an 8 second 0-60

time, the Corolla Cross Hybrid is fun to drive while having an impressive manufacturer-estimated 37 combined miles per gallon for all grades.

In addition to collision protection provided by the TNGA-C platform, all 2023 Corolla Cross models comes standard with Toyota Safety Sense 3.0, Toyota's suite of active safety systems, which includes enhancements made possible by system sensors with improved detection capability. The Pre-Collision System with Pedestrian Detection is also capable of detecting motorcyclists in certain conditions. When making a turn or approaching an intersection, the system is designed to detect forward or laterally approaching oncoming vehicles and provides audio/visual alerts and automatic braking in certain conditions. Improved lane recognition delivers refined performance of lane departure alert with steering assist and lane tracing assist.

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