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Junque sculpture winners selected

Macon Iron & Paper Stock Co. announced the winners of their 8th Annual Junque Yard Art Sculpture Contest.

In addition to announcing the contest winners, Evan Koplin, president of Macon Iron, recognized the leadership of local businesses in their recycling efforts to divert materials from area landfills.

Koplin also praised the dedication and leadership of the professors and instructors at Georgia Southwestern State University and Mercer University in the quality of work demonstrated by the students participating in the sculpture contest.

The winners of the 8th Annual Junque Yard Art contest are:

Best Use of Materials

“Torch” by Mukund Udvardia from Mercer University

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Plans to gasify solid waste expand

by Brian R. Hook

Plans to build facilities to gasify municipal solid waste are starting to materialize around the country as work proceeds on a plasma gasification facility in Florida.

The St. Lucie County Solid Waste Baling & Recycling Facility in St. Lucie County, Florida, which processes nearly 1,300 tons of waste a day, hopes to start construction on a new plant to turn trash into power in the next 12 months.

St. Lucie County started its due diligence process to find a permanent solution for its waste stream over three years ago, said Ron Roberts, assistant solid waste director. The county researched bioreactors, incineration, standard gasification, plasma arc gasification, pyrolysis, and other thermal conversion technology processes.

“After more than 4,000 pages of research, one technology had the staying power to remain at the top of the list. It was plasma arc gasification,” Roberts said.

An ionized gas is passed over an electrical arc creating plasma, a super heated gas more than 5,000 degrees Celsius. This breaks the molecular bonds and the carbonaceous waste is converted into a synthetic gas of mainly hydrogen and carbon monoxide.

Atlanta-based Geoplasma LLC, a subsidiary of Jacoby Development Inc., is developing the plasma-arc gasification project in St. Lucie County. The facility, which will be owned and operated by Geoplasma, will cost approximately \$200 million.

The State of Florida has allocated \$160 million in non-taxable bonds for the project. The rest is being financed with equity, non-taxable and taxable bonds.

“One of the primary objectives of plasma gasification of municipal solid waste is to recover energy from the waste and we believe no other technology comes as close to maximizing energy recovery,” said Hilburn Hillestad, president of Geoplasma.

Each ton of recovered municipal solid waste contains approximately the same amount of energy as one barrel of oil, Hillestad



PHOTO COURTESY OF WESTINGHOUSE PLASMA CORP.

Westinghouse Plasma is providing gasification technology, which has been used in Mihama-Mikata waste-to-energy facilities in Japan for more than five years.

said. Processing 1,500 tons of solid waste a day at the facility would recover enough energy to power approximately 55,000 homes.

“We are currently negotiating with a utility to build, own, and operate the power generation facility. In this model, we would provide syngas to the utility,” Hillestad said.

“The economics supporting the model are based on processing fees for the municipal solid waste and the sale of syngas. Both primary components are sufficient at St. Lucie for the project to be

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Recycling in America — plenty of room for improvement

by Irwin Rapoport

While the collection of solid waste across the United States is uniform, the collection of recyclables is not and there is room for dramatic improvement, says Pete Grogan, manager, Market Development for Containerboard and Recycling for Weyerhaeuser Company.

Grogan, a long-time advocate of recycling, stresses that states lagging behind in recycling must join those that have aggressive and effective recycling programs to help protect the environment, reduce solid waste management costs and to establish a recycling infrastructure that will create jobs and generate government revenue.

His concerns are based on the survey that is done by Bio-Cycle Magazine every two years that assesses on a state-by-state basis how much material is being recycled, composted, diverted and being disposed of.

“We see states that have good recovery diversion rates like California, Minnesota, Washington and Oregon,” says Grogan, who in his 32-year career in waste management, has been an analyst with R.W. Beck and Associates and played a key role in the creation of the recycling program in Boulder, Colorado, “we also see states with poor recovery diversion rates such as Colorado, New Mexico, Georgia and Alabama.”

The American Forest and Paper Association’s (AF&PA) Community Survey (revised every two years) shows that 55 percent of Americans residing in single-family homes and in some cases, apartments with seven units, have access to residential curbside recycling.

But Grogan notes that having the service does not guarantee that it will be used.

“The aluminum industry reports that only 50 percent of the population that has curbside recycling service, uses it,” he says, “and when you factor in

people that drop off material and so on, I would guesstimate that 30 to 35 percent of Americans participate in some form of residential recycling.”

Expanding recycling, he says, must include large-scale apartments and condominiums and require all residents of a city or county to participate, as well as rural areas.

“I don’t always buy the argument that because it is a rural community, that you cannot provide service,” says Grogan. “They get trash collection service and therefore they could have a recycling service.”

“A lot of apartments and condo buildings do not have recycling and there are a variety of reasons for it, including the fact that one system does not fit all like it does for in a single-family system,” he adds. In the single-family home situation, we have friendly peer pressure – you don’t want to be the only one on the block not participating.

“But in an apartment complex, where you would be dropping material off in a central location, you don’t have that ability to create that peer group pressure,” he adds. “This is why you are seeing the movement in the Vancouver, British Columbia’s and Seattle’s of the world where they have realized that it is time to engage that population and the population at large and they have gone to mandatory recycling.”

Grogan supports mandatory recycling and appreciates Seattle’s legislation that requires mandatory recycling (brought in two years ago) on the part of residents, commerce, institutions and industry.

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Gasification

Continued from Page 1

feasible.” The gasification facility would also sell the by-product, an inert, obsidian-like slag material for aggregate use in the local area.

Madison, Pennsylvania-based Westinghouse Plasma Corp., a subsidiary of Calgary, Alberta-based Alter NRG Corp., is providing the plasma gasification technology, which has been used in Japan to gasify waste for more than five years.

“We have demonstrated in our plants at Utashinai and Mihama/Mikata that these plants can operate reliably for many years and with emissions superior to incineration,” said Thomas Gdaniec, vice president of marketing and sales at Westinghouse Plasma.

The Utashinai facility, developed by Hitachi Metals Ltd. in 2003, has been treating 200 to 280 tons a day of municipal solid waste and auto shredder residue. Hitachi also commissioned the facility located between the towns of Mihama and Mikata to process 20 tons a day of municipal solid waste and four tons a day of sewage sludge.

Both Japanese plasma-arc gasification facilities meet stringent environmental regulatory requirements, produc-



ing extremely low levels of dioxins, Gdaniec said.

In addition to St. Lucie County, other plasma-arc gasification projects have been announced that will use the technology. There are plans to build a facility in New Orleans to convert 2,500 tons a day of solid waste to produce 138 megawatts of power.

Plans to turn 150 tons of municipal solid waste a day in Koochiching County, Minnesota into synthetic gas for use at a neighboring paper mill are underway. Plus, Renewable Fuels of Tallahassee LLC plans to install another facility in Florida.

Two more plasma-arc gasification facilities are already under construction

in India. SMS Infrastructure LTD is building two 68 tons per day waste-to-energy plants to use Westinghouse Plasma gasification technology. A project in Pune, India is scheduled to start operations this summer and another in Nagpur is scheduled to start this fall.

All of these projects will use the plasma arc technology, which was first developed by NASA in the 1960s to test the integrity of heat shield materials. A General Motors Corp. plant in Defiance, Ohio, has been using the technology for 18 years.

“Our plasma technology is proven. We have extensive proven experience demonstrating the reliable operation of our plasma torches,” Gdaniec said.

“The benefits of plasma gasification are the ability to turn a waste fuel into an energy source, reducing our reliance on fossil fuels and improving our environment.”

Facility costs vary with location, size of the facility and planned use, he said.

In addition to municipal solid waste, other feed materials could include industrial waste, bio-mass, coal, petroleum coke and tires. According to Westinghouse Plasma, the technology is also suited for hazardous waste, chemical waste and sediment sludge.

Compared to conventional waste management strategies, plasma gasification is able to recover more energy from residual waste, according to Westinghouse Plasma.

Plasma gasification of typical hazardous waste generates almost eight to ten times as much energy per unit of waste than the energy required to destroy the waste. The plasma torch itself provides approximately 5 to 10 percent of the heat input into the reactor, minimizing the electrical power required in the gasification process.

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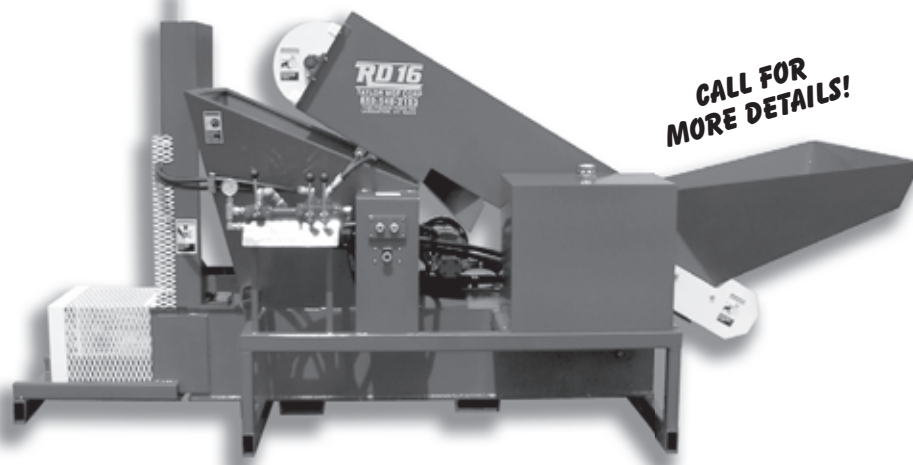
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Junque sculptures

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First place winner in Individual Category: "Lunge" created by Kaylie Damen from Mercer University.

Group Category:

3rd Place

"Sad Puppy" by Anissa Brightwell & Tammy Harris from Georgia Southwestern State University

2nd Place

"Paramount Silver (Batteries Not Included)" by John Lin, Sunni Zemblowski, Skylar Jones, Courtney Bond, Ben Bronson & Felicity Leckman from Georgia Southwestern State University

1st Place

"Fenrir" by Jordan Walker, Zach Highnote, Greg Black, Leigh Ann Colley, Phylcia Corey & Robert Grissett from Georgia Southwestern State University

Individual Category:

3rd Place

"Springer Spaniel" by Zoe Alexandra from Georgia Southwestern State University

2nd Place

"Brutus' Ball" by Rachel Wilson from Mercer University

1st Place

"Lunge" by Kaylie Damen from Mercer University



First place winner in Group Category: "Fenrir" created by Jordan Walker, Zach Highnote, Greg Black, Leigh Ann Colley, Phylcia Corey and Robert Grissett from Georgia Southwestern State University.

Pennsylvania launches campaign to improve fluorescent light recycling

To help spur the use of compact fluorescent light bulbs, or CFLs, and make it easier for the public to recycle the bulbs, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is providing receptacles to municipalities, small businesses and community organizations across the state hoping the experience will lead participants to continue with their own programs.

Compact fluorescent light bulbs sales have increased nationwide, but some consumers are hesitant to purchase the energy efficient bulbs because they are not sure how to dispose of them properly. Pennsylvania encourages consumers to recycle CFLs whenever possible, and in order to make recycling more convenient and accessible, DEP has launched a recycling campaign in partnership with local governments across the state.

The department is partnering with 43 counties, townships, environmental groups and small businesses statewide in setting up CFL collection programs.

More than 110 containers were purchased from Pennsylvania firms AERC Recycling, based in Allentown, and Hellertown, Northampton County-based, Bethlehem Apparatus Company. Both companies shipped the receptacles directly to the participants for use in conjunction with Earth Day and

other hazardous household waste collection events.

The AERC containers will hold 100-150 bulbs, and the Bethlehem Apparatus containers will hold slightly less than 100.

Once the containers are filled, participants will ship the receptacles back to AERC or Bethlehem Apparatus for the physical recycling.

DEP invited counties, municipal governments, environmental groups and other organizations to host CFL recycling containers in publicly accessible buildings. To recycle a bulb, a consumer simply needs to hand it over to a trained employee, who slides it into the container.

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Additional fluorescent bulb recycling programs are necessary.

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"Why not go out on a limb? Isn't that where the fruit is?"
—Frank Scully (1892-1964)

Recycling in America

Continued from Page 3

“You will recycle or there will be consequences,” he says. “The mayor of Seattle tells his taxpayers every year that he saves them millions of dollars because of their progressive and aggressive recycling and composting programs. In time, we are going to see more of that as everybody tunes into the fact that recycling is one of the most climate-friendly activities on earth.”

Many of nation’s large cities, as well as small towns, do not have recycling bins to ensure that residents can recycle “on the go.”

But Grogan says that the lack of recycling bins does not tell the full story, citing the example of New York City.

“Transient audiences are very difficult to engage, whether they be on the street, at festivals or stadiums, due to the lack of friendly group pressure, signage and the need to have containers that are accessible and available,” he says, “but a lot of recycling in New York City takes place behind the scenes. We believe office paper recovery to be in the range of 55 percent or higher and that is higher than the national average. New York City’s Department of Sanitation is dedicated to doing a good job. We need to engage people at home or at work. Once you engage there, then we have a shot at engaging them in other locations.

“Is enough being done in relation to all the cities in America that are currently not providing services?

Absolutely not. When you look at the latest report out of Colorado, it seems to make the case that only 25 percent of the households in the state have recycling services. We are not seeing the government leadership that we are going to need to see on the issue in relation to energy and resource savings.”

In terms of commercial and industrial recycling rates, Grogan notes that there are successes, such as the 75 percent recovery rate for corrugated paper.

“We have an excellent infrastructure in place,” he says, “and thousands of recyclers providing that service and many end-use mill groups like Weyerhaeuser making use of that material to produce new recycled content. There are still some areas where we could acquire more material, typically in small retail outlets and homes.”

In addition to implementing residential recycling programs with RW Beck, Grogan was the co-founder and executive director of the Eco-Cycle program in Boulder, a recycling program that has been serving the residential and commercial sectors since 1976.

“It’s one of the most successful non-profit recycling organizations in North America,” he says.



Pete Grogan

Like others, Grogan says there is a correlation between land values and higher levels of recycling.

“Eco-Cycle is in a unique situation because here we have this gem of a recycling program in Boulder County,” he says, “while the rest of Colorado has not progressed into effective recycling programs because land filling is so cheap.”

Land values in New England and Florida are high, as well as the west coast states of Oregon, Washington and California. Grogan stresses that states such as Oregon, Washington, California and Minnesota also have good rates due to a strong “green” ethic.

While not expecting any legislative support from the federal government, Grogan says that state and municipal government leadership is essential to implementing good recycling programs.

“It’s not a coincidence that Oregon has one of the best recycling rates in the country and maybe the #1 recycling state,” he says. “In 1983 they passed into law the Recycling Opportunity Act that required, among other things, that every city with 4,000 people or more had to provide residential recycling. You could do the exact same thing with Colorado, New Mexico (ranked 43rd in terms of recycling) and Georgia and in a very short period of time, get to the same recovery level.

“The approach that was taken in Oregon was replicated in Pennsylvania and some other place,” he adds. “The fundamental problem here is that many Americans, including public officials, seem to live in a fantasy world where they think resources and energy are limitless.”

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King County, Washington's new recycling and transfer station recognized

The recently renovated Shoreline Recycling and Transfer Station, King County's model for future solid waste handling facilities, has earned accolades in an international competition from the Seattle Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), receiving an Honorable Mention designation.

Featuring a number of green components, including a rain-harvesting roof and recycled content material, the recycling and transfer station is one of 13 projects recently honored by the Seattle chapter of the AIA in its "What Makes it Green?" Regional Top Ten Green Awards.

"The new facility is more efficient for users, quieter for the neighboring community, offers increased recycling opportunities and helps protect the headwaters of a nearby salmon-bearing stream," said King County executive Ron Sims.

The recycling and transfer station was built on the site of an old landfill. It reopened in mid-February, following a nearly two-year closure while the \$24 million rebuilding project was completed.

The Shoreline Recycling and Transfer Station is targeting a gold rating under the

U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design rating system. Its energy-saving and sustainable features include:

A roof-top rainwater harvesting system collects water to wash floors and equipment and to flush toilets. This reduces water needs by 57 percent, saving 254,000 gallons of water annually.

Solar panels generate electricity even during cloudy days and will provide up to 5 percent of the building's energy needs.

The facility uses natural daylight as the primary light source through the translucent wall panels and overhead skylights, reducing energy costs by 50 percent.

A natural ventilation system pushes air through the building, reducing energy needs for ventilation by 80 percent. Low volatile, organic compound paints and adhesives contribute to healthy indoor air.

Green building materials include: recycled content steel, Forest Stewardship Council-certified wood, and fly ash concrete. Landscaped bioswales slow water flow to reduce stream bank erosion along Thornton Creek, a nearby salmon-bearing stream.

Austin receives waste program award

The Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC), a nonprofit, public service organization dedicated to recycling used rechargeable batteries, has recognized Austin's Department of Solid Waste Services, Household Hazardous Waste program with a 2007 "Regional Recycling Leadership Award" for its efforts in rechargeable battery recycling.

A Call2Recycle participant since 2004, Austin's Department of Solid Waste Services has collected more than 13,000

pounds of rechargeable batteries to date. The department has a comprehensive public education program designed to build and maintain awareness of recycling used rechargeable batteries as well as the ability to recycle them at the Household Hazardous Waste recycling center or approximately 30 participating retail locations.

The RBRC Recycling Leadership Awards recognizes outstanding Call2Recycle participants each year for their exceptional efforts.

Hartford, Connecticut receives grant to promote recycling in city

Hartford, Connecticut, with the support of the National Recycling Partnership, a coalition committed to improving recycling rates in the United States, will implement a one-year pilot program called "Go Green Use Blue" to demonstrate the positive impact of making recycling more convenient for residents and offering household incentives to recycle.

The pilot program will involve using "Single Stream Recycling," a simple and environmentally friendly approach to recycling in which all recycled materials go into one large bin.

Beginning in May 2008, approximately 5,000 Hartford households (about one-sixth of city-served households) will be provided with 64-gallon carts by the city in conjunction with its service partner RecycleBank. Partici-

pants can place all recyclables into this cart and, using RecycleBank's incentive system, be able to obtain coupons valued at up to \$400 per year for use at local retail establishments.

Hartford will be the first community in the nation to benefit from the National Recycling Partnership's grant program, which helps cities to demonstrate best managerial, technical and educational practices in residential recycling programs and show how recycling rates can be improved.

The National Recycling Partnership initiated the grant program to address the stagnant recycling rates across the country. With the bulk of recyclables being consumed in homes, underperforming curbside recycling programs explain much of the weakness in recycling rates in recent years.

Composting: The Practical Science program offered in June near Pittsburgh

The Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania (PROP) in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA-DEP) and Penn State Altoona are offering their class on the basics of large-scale composting. The class covers how compost works, from the microbes to the mega-machines. Sessions on site design, equipment selection, environmental protection, and product quality are all included. Several hands-on exercises are part of the course, giving students practice in measuring various aspects of a working compost pile and in the various calculations that go into compost management.

The class is offered in a different part of the Commonwealth each year. This year it returns to the Pittsburgh area, where the compost facility of AgRecycle will be featured. AgRecycle is one of the premier compost facilities in the state, having won the Governors' Award for Waste Minimization in 1995. The site provides the opportunity for a demonstration of the various types of equipment as well as an area

for the students to learn some important techniques.

Two well known composting experts return to teach the class: Bob Rynk, editor of the On-Farm Composting Handbook, and Cary Oshins, long-time compost educator for Rodale Institute and PROP.

Tuition for the course is \$139 for PROP members and \$279 for non-members and takes place on the New Kensington Campus of Penn State. For detailed information, please contact Amy Carlotto Zuckett, Education Director, at azuckett@propcycles.org or call 814-742-7777. The course brochure is available online at www.propcycles.org.

Upon completion of this course, participants will receive a Penn State certificate verifying 1.4 hours of continuing education credits earned towards the Recycling Professional Certification. Also, this course is a required elective for the Composting Specialization and the Composting Operator Course Certificate.

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Vesco Oil wins award for oil filter recycling process

Vesco Oil Corporation, a Southfield, Michigan-based distributor and supplier, received the Environmental Achievement Award for its used oil filter management program from the Environmental Management Association (EMA).

Vesco began collecting used oil filters in 1991 to complement its used oil collection program. At that time, Vesco identified and utilized only processing facilities that legitimately recycled all parts of the filter (paper, rubber, steel and oil). In 2003, Vesco started processing filters at its Detroit plant. Operating "The Kruncher," an existing piece of Canadian equipment that Vesco specially modified and adapted, the company compresses 10-15 filters into a brick, essentially removing all the oil from them and encapsulating the paper and rubber elements.

In early 2005, Vesco invested nearly a half million dollars in a bulk filter collection and handling system. The process is housed in a completely enclosed and contained structure. By taking steps to drain all free-flowing liquids from the filter product after it has been processed, it becomes an attractive raw material for certain steel-making foundries.

Vesco provides customers with special containers, an efficient and clean means of storing filters at their sites, creating greater incentive for customers to manage their filters properly, rather than disposing of them in the trash. The company empties the containers from locations throughout Michigan into trucks that can carry in excess of 25,000 filters per load and safely transports them to the Detroit location for processing.

NRRA sponsors compost bin sale

The Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA), located in Epsom, New Hampshire, sponsored their annual compost bin sale to support nature's way of recycling.

It is estimated that 25% of an average household's waste contains kitchen scraps and yard trimmings, material that can easily be composted instead of disposed of in a landfill.

Utilizing the principal of cooperative purchasing to leverage lower prices, the NRRA was able to offer participating groups high quality Earth Machine backyard compost bins for less than half the retail price. The 80 gallon bins, which are made of 100%, recycled plas-

tic, enable residents to convert leaves, grass and table scraps into a supply of rich garden soil. Over 63 organizations in 4 states participated in the sale.

In total, participants in the sale sold 1,540 compost bins. Each bin diverts approximately 500 pounds of organic matter from household waste per year, diverting it from collection, the landfill or incinerator. This year's sale will help divert a total of over 770,000 pounds of waste; which is the equivalent of 32 garbage trucks full of waste.

If you are interested in purchasing a bin or two this year, visit the Northeast Resource Recovery Association's website at www.nrna.net.

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\$74 million awarded towards brownfields

Communities in 43 states will share more than \$74 million in brownfields grants to help revitalize former industrial and commercial sites, turning them from problem properties to productive community use. The grants, awarded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), also go to two tribes and two United States territories.

In all, 209 applicants were selected to receive 314 assessment, revolving loan fund, and cleanup grants:

- 194 assessment grants totaling \$38.7 million to be used to conduct site assessment and planning for eventual cleanup at one or more brownfields sites or as part of a community-wide effort.

- 108 cleanup grants totaling \$19.6 million to provide funding for grant recipients to carry out cleanup activities at brownfields sites they own.

- 12 revolving loan fund grants totaling \$15.7 million to provide funding for communities to capitalize a revolving loan fund and to provide subgrants to carry out cleanup activities at brownfields sites. Revolving loan funds are generally used to provide low interest loans for brownfields cleanups.

In addition to industrial and commercial redevelopment, brownfields approaches have included the conversion of industrial waterfronts to river-front parks, landfills to golf courses, rail corridors to recreational trails, and gas stations to housing. More information on the grant recipients can be found by visiting www.epa.gov/brownfields.



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A Closer Look

by Donna Currie

Western Disposal Bryce Isaacson • 303-444-2037

While the company name says, "Disposal," Bryce Isaacson, vice president of sales and marketing for Western Disposal noted, "We are as much a recycling company as a trash company. Material that used to be in the trash is now recycled."

Isaacson has been with the company for 20 years. "It's forever changing," he said. "It is a very dynamic business." Western Disposal got its start in the gravel business with just one truck, and it has evolved into one of the largest independent trash haulers in Colorado.

"We're equally involved in residential as in business," Isaacson said. The company services about 37,000 residential customers and 6,000 business customers in Boulder and Broomfield counties. He said that Western Disposal is the only independent trash hauler in the area that uses automated carts for recycling, while the others rely on recycling bins and two-man teams on the trucks.

The City of Boulder, Colorado, one area where Western Disposal operates, recently changed its requirements as far as recycling construction and demolition (C&D) material. "Colorado has one of the lowest average disposal rates in the nation," Isaacson explained, which meant there was no financial incentive for recycling the C&D material. "We've been working with the people who have wanted to do it, but now it's become mandatory. Now we're going to satisfy the market need."

Another change is the planned shift to single-stream recycling "as soon as the plant is ready to take it," Isaacson said. The plan is to begin converting customers' pickups to single-stream beginning in May, and have the process complete by October. "Everything is waiting for the plant." But that's not all. "We'll be rolling out curbside compostables in the City of Boulder," Isaacson said.

Western Disposal composts wood waste and household yard waste, processes commercial cardboard and paper, and accepts residential hazardous waste at its facility. The company is also involved in "spring clean-ups" for residents. Isaacson said that about 5 tons of cardboard a day is sorted from the trash, along with metal and concrete, all destined for recycling.

It's not all about making money, though. Western Disposal leases two acres of land for \$1 per month to a company called Resource Resource, which



Western Disposal services about 37,000 residential customers and 6,000 businesses in Colorado.

resells construction materials like doors, windows, flooring, brick, stone, light fixtures, pavers, doorknobs, wood beams and some appliances. Resource Resource will also plane and cut timbers for customers.

Recently, Western Disposal got involved with Impact on Education, which organizes a program called Crayons to Calculators. That program provides backpacks and school supplies to local underprivileged children. Isaacson explained that the backpacks are different for each grade, filled with supplies based on school needs at that level.

The company donated \$25,000 to Crayons to Calculators, then offered a matching employee grant for another \$5,000. In total, the company and its employees donated \$46,597, which will fill more than 850 backpacks.

For fundraising, Western Disposal employees divided into five teams to compete to see which team would raise the most money. As added incentive, the company offered a \$1,000 prize to the winning team. Even vendors got involved, donating tickets to sporting events, which were raffled off to raise money.

Isaacson said one of the things he's most proud of at Western Disposal is "our name and our reputation. If we screw up, we bend over backward to fix it." Not only does the company respond to customers' calls about problems, it invites feedback by sending out surveys every month "and we follow up on all the negative comments."

He credited the longtime employees and the management team with making the company what it is. "We are forever on the forefront of how to be a better company." And now, a new focus is on "trying to get more recognition for the environmental side of what we do — to get more visibility for what we do that people don't know about."

AUTO

Capitol Hill is briefed on electrification of autos

Ener1, Inc. an alternative energy company, took part in an industry briefing of United States Congressional staff on the latest developments in the electrification of the American automotive industry.

Manufacturers of advanced automotive batteries joined electric vehicle makers, representatives of 'Big Three' hybrid divisions, and electrical utilities for the briefing in late April. The event was titled 'The Electric Drive Answer: Transportation Technologies & Policies to End Oil Dependence'.

"The United States Congress, as well as all three Presidential contenders, are highly sensitive to the revolution about to take place in the auto industry

which will help relieve dependence on oil imports and sustain the environment," commented Ener1 chairman, Charles Gassenheimer. "The collective goal of the electric drive industry is to collaborate effectively with elected officials who are right now establishing our government's funding priorities to support the future of the United States auto industry."

Under the nation's two newest comprehensive energy laws, Congress is currently preparing to allocate up to several hundred million dollars for a range of programs supporting research and development and the creation of domestic manufacturing capacity for key technologies.

Jake's Auto Parts acquired by Alter Trading

Alter Trading Corporation has acquired Jake's Auto Parts, a salvage yard based in Mississippi. The facility will now be known as Alter Metal Recycling. The acquisition will enable Alter to continue its growth in the southern United States.

The facility is located in Gulfport, Mississippi and is situated on 10 acres of concrete.

Cody Waite will serve as facility manager and Kirk Polk will serve as account executive.

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AUTO

New training programs are available for auto recyclers

The Automotive Recyclers Association's Educational Foundation (ARAEF) has added two new training programs to its online university.

The ARA University (ARAU) will now give the auto recycler the ability to plug in to e-training offered by the Coordinating Committee for Automotive Repair (CCAR) and ARA Product Services, LLC. These new additions to the ARAU curriculum will provide the recycler with direct access to industry-recognized hazmat and airbag training. Both programs are designed to help the auto recycler stay in compliance with federal regulations.

ARAU has partnered with CCAR to bring the auto recycler two specialized training courses, S/P2 and HazmatU, that are focused on safety and pollution prevention and hazmat materials.

S/P2 is an e-learning program developed by CCAR to address key safety and pollution prevention subjects. The training is based on U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards, which require that personnel be trained on safety

and environmental issues at the beginning of their employment, and at least annually thereafter.

Also available, the HazmatU was created by CCAR in cooperation with the North American Automotive hazmat Action Committee (NAAHAC), a group of regulatory compliance specialists representing the major automotive manufacturers in North America, and ShipMate, Inc., a hazmat specialty training company with an extensive background of serving automotive companies. DOT regulations require any employee who works in the shipping or receiving of hazardous materials to receive training within 90 days and recurring training at least every three years. Both of these training courses will be offered to the ARAU member at a fraction of the regular participation cost.

ARAU has teamed up with the ARA Product Services, LLC's Airbag Resources and ARA Airbag Protocol training and certification programs. Airbag Resources is new software designed to enable members to train and certify employees, inspect and track Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) non-deployed airbag modules

effectively and efficiently within their operations. The Airbag Resources site and customized software are provided by ARA Product Services, LLC, as value-added tools readily available for members of the ARAU. The ARA Airbag Protocol training program provides in-depth training on

airbag inspection and handling, and hazardous materials regulations as they are related to shipping airbags in commerce.

For additional information, contact the Automotive Recyclers Association or visit www.a-r-a.org.



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METALS

North America is hotbed for mergers and acquisitions in the global metals industry

Deals in the global metals industry in North America soared to record levels in 2007, according to PricewaterhouseCoopers, indicating that the credit crisis in the United States has not hindered industry growth.

The report titled, 'Forging Ahead: Mergers and Acquisitions Activity in the Global Metals Industry', reveals that 115 deals, totaling \$77 billion in value, took place last year in North America. This accounts for 53 percent of total deal value in the global metals industry during 2007 and nearly matches the global metals industry deal value for 2006 (\$86 billion).

The majority of deals took place in the steel industry, with North American companies serving as targets for three of the top six deals in the steel sector. This contrasts deal-making in the rest of the world, which saw dynamic shifts of focus in 2007 - from steel to aluminum and away from Western Europe to North America.

"Industry consolidation and the declining value of the dollar will continue

to make the United States an attractive region for steelmakers from emerging and industrialized markets alike," said Douglas Dean, United States metals leader, PricewaterhouseCoopers. "It does not appear that steel consumption will not taper off anytime soon, and, in North America specifically, consumption is likely to outpace production over the next couple of years."

Several steelmakers based in emerging economies acquired North American producers during 2007, both as a way of moving up the value chain and also to obtain greater access to the United States market. In return, some North American producers bought smaller competitors as a means for reducing overcapacity and expanding their product offerings.

North America's aluminum market was particularly valuable in 2007, with 18 deals totaling \$46.7 billion. In contrast, the steel sector accounted for a great number of deals (71) but accumulated less total deal value than the aluminum sector, at \$30 billion. In addition, 26 deals closed in

the base metals industry, accounting for \$300 million in North American deals last year.

While deal-making in the global metals industry soared to unprecedented levels during 2007, the sector was not completely unaffected by the credit crisis. Historically, financial buyers account for a significant portion of the total deal value of transactions (20 percent in 2006); however, they only accounted for four percent in 2007. According to the report, the fallout from the credit crunch has been particularly evident in the steel sector, where financial buyers only accounted for \$3.9 billion of deal value in 2007 compared to \$14.2 billion in 2006.

"With increased uncertainty in the financial environment, financial buyers are acting more cautiously than ever before proposing deals in the metals industry," said Jim Forbes, global metals leader, PricewaterhouseCoopers. "With continued strong metal prices and demand, corporate buyers will help drive and support the booming global mergers and acquisitions metals market over the next few years."

Seven billion Pepsi cans to feature recycling messages

With at least 40% of the average aluminum can made from recycled material, Pepsi is telling the story of how used cans gain new life through recycling. Pepsi's "Have we met before?" campaign is designed to communicate the benefits of aluminum can recycling and encourage Pepsi consumers to recycle.

The recycling facts and messages, which were provided by the National Recycling Coalition, will be featured on approximately 500 million Pepsi cans and 250 million Diet Pepsi cans nationwide each month. That's a total of seven billion cans by the end of the year. The ad value for the space on those cans is estimated to be worth between \$35 million and \$40 million. Kate Krebs, executive director of the National Recycling Coalition, says the initiative is well worth it.

Research has shown that people are more inclined to recycle when they learn about the benefits of recycling, particularly the energy savings.

Obsolete ship sold for \$1.3 million

The United States Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration has sold a ship from the Beaumont Reserve Fleet for more than \$1million, the first time under the current program that a ship has brought such a price.

International Shipbreaking, Ltd., in Texas, will pay \$1,151,727 for the ship Adonis, now moored at the Beaumont Reserve Fleet site in Texas. Three other government-owned, obsolete ships are also being sold to the company for an additional \$173,297, the Cape Catawba, the Cape Canaveral and the Buyer.

These sales stand in contrast to most ship disposal contracts in recent years, which have involved the federal government paying to have its obsolete ships recycled. High worldwide prices for scrap steel have recently made such ships more valuable to recyclers who sell the steel and materials recovered from the ships.

Two of the ships being sold, the Cape Catawba and the Cape Canaveral, are breakbulk freighters and when they depart the James River site for recycling, they will be the 70th and 71st vessel to do so since January of 2001.

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ON TOPIC

Q & A

by Irwin Rapoport

National biomass research conducted on all scales

Alternative energy sources are expected to play a crucial role in helping the United States reduce its reliance on imported petroleum and natural gas and in general, reduce the burning of fossil fuels to generate electricity and provide fuel for vehicles.

The U.S. Department of Energy, along with many partners, is helping to develop alternative fuel sources through funding for research and developing legislation that will help to create viable and commercial alternative energy sources.

Tom Welch, a DOE spokesman, believes that power generated from biomass is a proven commercial electricity generation option that the United States must pursue.

The primary focus of the Biomass Program is to dramatically increase usage by developing advanced technologies using cellulosic biomass instead of grains, for more efficient power production or for catalytic conversion to valuable products.

Through the program, we foresee biorefineries converting biomass into a variety of fuels, chemicals, materials and power, much as petrochemical refineries do with oil and gas.

Question: To what extent is electricity generated by biomass contributing to the nation's energy supply?

Answer: With about 9,733 megawatts (MW) of installed capacity in 2002, biomass is the single largest source of non-hydro renewable electricity in the United States. This includes about 5,886 MW of forest product and agricultural residues, 3,308 MW of generating capacity from municipal solid waste, and 539 MW of other capacity such as landfill gas.

Our studies show that the majority of electricity production from biomass is used as base load power in the existing electrical distribution system.

Question: In addition to pulp and paper facilities using wood products and food processing plants that use waste material to generate electricity, to what extent are other industries and companies turning to biomass as an energy source?

Answer: More than 200 companies outside the wood products and food industries generate biomass power in the United States. Where power producers have access to very low cost biomass supplies, using biomass in the fuel mix enhances their competitiveness. This is particularly true in the near term for power companies choosing to co-fire biomass with coal to save fuel costs and earn emissions credits.

It is evident that an increasing number of power marketers are starting to offer environmentally-friendly electricity, including biomass power, in response to consumer demand and regulatory requirements. This will only bolster and enhance that demand.

Many states, particularly California, are setting benchmarks for biomass and other alternative fuel sources to generate a percentage of their annual energy needs. We encourage these efforts - be they state or municipally directed initiatives.

Question: What are the limits to biomass energy production and what can be done to improve output?

Answer: There are four primary classes of biomass power systems: direct-fired, co-fired, gasification, and modular systems. Most of today's biomass power plants are direct-fired systems that are

similar to most fossil fuel-fired power plants.

While steam generation technology is very dependable and proven, its efficiency is limited. Biomass power boilers are typically in the 20-50 MW range, compared to coal-fired plants in the 100-1,500 MW range. The small capacity plants tend to be lower in efficiency because of economic trade-offs. We find that efficiency-enhancing equipment cannot pay for itself in small plants.

Although techniques exist to push biomass steam generation efficiency over the 40 percent level, actual plant efficiencies are in the low 20 percent range. Co-firing involves substituting biomass for a portion of coal in an existing power plant furnace. This is the most economic near-term option for introducing new biomass power generation. Because much of the existing power plant equipment can be used without major modifications, co-firing is far less expensive than building a new biomass power plant.

Question: To what extent is biomass power helping to reduce green house gases and other pollutants?

Answer: Compared to the coal it replaces, biomass reduces sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), and other air emissions. After reconfiguring the boiler for peak performance, there is little or no loss in efficiency from adding biomass. This allows the energy in biomass to be converted to electricity with the high efficiency (in the 33-37 percent range) of a modern coal-fired power plant.

Biomass gasifiers operate by heating biomass in an environment where the solid biomass breaks down to form a flammable gas. This offers advantages over directly burning the biomass. The biogas can be cleaned and filtered to remove problem chemical compounds.

The gas can be used in more efficient power generation systems - combined-cycles, which combine gas turbines and steam turbines to produce electricity. The efficiency of these systems can reach 60 percent. We anticipate that gasification systems will be coupled with fuel cell systems for future applications.



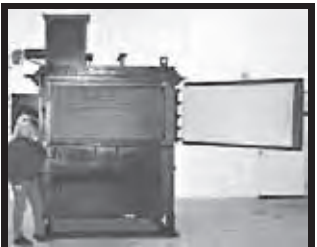

Moreover, as the costs of fuel cells and biomass gasifiers come down, we expect these systems will proliferate.

Modular systems employ some of the same technology used in the other systems, but on a smaller scale more applicable to villages, farms and small industry. These systems would be most useful in remote areas.

Question: What is the Department of Energy doing to promote research in alternative fuels?

Answer: We are a major provider of funding for basic and applied research for converting biomass to biofuels. Via our e-center, companies can register to submit proposals and seek funding for their projects. We also conduct joint solicitations with the U.S. Department of Agriculture as part of the Biomass Research and Development Initiative.

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METALS

Applications for steel import permits down from February

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 March totaled 2,413,000 net tons (NT).

This was a 2 percent decrease from the 2,454,000 permit tons recorded in February 2008, and also a 2 percent decrease from the February preliminary imports total of 2,458,000 NT. Import

permit tonnage for finished steel in March was 1,960,000 NT, an increase of 3 percent from the preliminary imports of 1,905,000 NT in February.

For the first three months of 2008 (including March SIMA and February preliminary), total steel imports were 7,537,000 NT, down 13 percent from the 8,655,000 NT imported in the first quarter (1Q) of last year.

For March 2008, the largest finished steel import permit applications for off-

shore countries were for China (233,000 NT), Korea (189,000 NT), Japan (133,000 NT), India (117,000 NT) and Germany (80,000 NT). Finished steel import permit applications for China declined 1 percent in March compared to February preliminary imports.

Product categories that increased in March vs. February preliminary include: Cut Length Plates (up 110 percent),

Standard Pipe (up 60 percent), Oil Country Goods (up 43 percent) and Hot Dipped Galvanized Sheet & Strip (up 35 percent).

Products that showed an increase in 1Q 2008 vs. 1Q 2007 include: Oil Country Goods (up 44 percent), Standard Pipe (up 13 percent), and Structural Shapes Heavy (up 6 percent).

ASARCO agrees to remedy contaminated yards in Arizona

ASARCO agreed to continue contamination investigations and remove arsenic, lead and copper contaminated soil in Hayden and Winkelman, Arizona.

ASARCO has agreed to spend up to \$13.5 million on yard cleanups. In addition, ASARCO is required to complete a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study to determine the full extent of soil contamination and identify cleanup techniques.

"This agreement outlines the process which will be used to clean up the legacy of waste left in Hayden and Winkelman," said Keith Takata, director of the Superfund division for the EPA's Pacific Southwest region.

The EPA and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality will oversee all of ASARCO's operations to ensure compliance with the agreement. The agreement further requires ASARCO to conduct additional cleanups, as necessary, ensure full and final completion of the work and

to fully reimburse the EPA and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality for expenses related to the oversight.

The agreement will become effective upon approval by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, because ASARCO had filed for bankruptcy, and following a 20-day public comment period after publication of notice in the Federal Register.

The ASARCO Hayden Plant site is an active copper ore processing, concentrating and smelter facility. The ASARCO plant includes a crusher, concentrator, smelter and tailings impoundment areas. The EPA collected samples in Hayden and Winkelman after the EPA and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality discovered elevated levels of arsenic, lead and copper in previous sampling. In addition, ASARCO operates an overland conveyor that directs ore from the crusher to the mill building for processing while passing over some of Hayden's residential streets.



Scrap Metals

MarketWatch



Commodity		Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5
#1 Bushelings	per gross ton	\$329.00	\$310.00	\$432.00	\$370.00	\$480.00
#1 Bundles	per gross ton	327.00	310.00	428.00	364.00	455.00
Plate and Structural	per gross ton	315.00	305.00	393.00	315.00	482.00
#1 & 2 Mixed Steel	per gross ton	385.00	295.00	373.00	425.00	458.00
Shredder Bundles (tin)	per gross ton	295.00	295.00	341.00	358.00	294.00
Crushed Auto Bodies	per gross ton	290.00	300.00	289.00	350.00	311.00
Steel Turnings	per pound	—	200.00	187.00	224.00	315.00
#1 Copper	per pound	3.40	3.00	3.62	3.54	3.71
#2 Copper	per pound	3.36	2.88	3.42	3.31	3.54
Aluminum Cans	per pound	1.00	.89	.93	.95	.88
Auto Radiators	per pound	2.05	2.10	1.88	2.25	2.21
Aluminum Core Radiators	per pound	.91	.79	.70	.76	.77
Heater Cores	per pound	1.40	1.41	1.90	2.03	1.98
Stainless Steel	per pound	1.20	1.21	1.25	1.31	1.27

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

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



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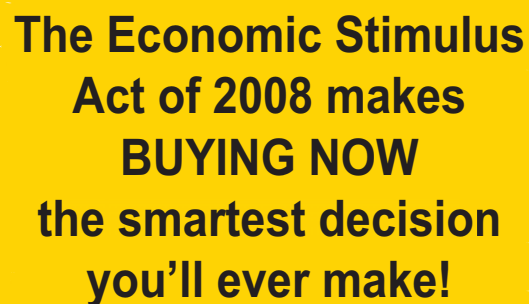


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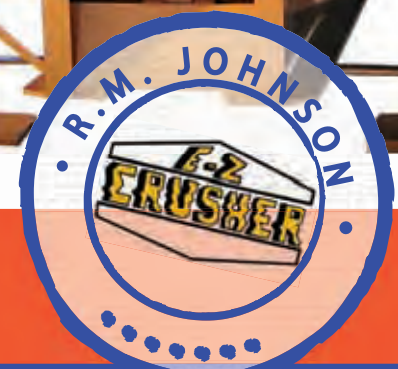
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EQUIPMENT FINANCING DONE RIGHT

METALS

FeMET initiative accepting proposals for 2008–2009 design and curriculum development grants

The American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) and the Association for Iron & Steel Technology Foundation's "Ferrous Metallurgy Education Today," or FeMET Initiative, which is aimed at attracting top scholastic talent to the North American steel industry, are now accepting design and curriculum development grant proposals for the 2008–2009 school year.

The FeMET Design Grant Program seeks innovative designs and solutions to industry-related issues. Student-Professor teams are asked to address an important industry concern or "challenge" by working collaboratively. Proposals must include the team's approach/methodology, including a budget and schedule. Proposals will be judged on: technical approach and relation to the theme, probability of success and its potential benefits, and team

qualifications. The program may award a grant of up to \$50,000.

The 2008 theme is "Technologies for Welding of New Generation Steels." Teams must quantify the benefits of the proposed technique and study. Data will be provided, where available, from AISI to the teams. Other data will be determined by the investigation during the study. Teams may propose to perform one or more comparative studies, as long as they remain within the outlined budget parameters.

Completed proposals must be submitted electronically, via PDF, to manufacturing@steel.org by June 30, 2008. Awardees will be announced July 31, 2008.

FeMET Curriculum Development Grant proposals are being solicited from

professors of ferrous metallurgy or materials science at North American universities for funding of a curriculum development assistant to enhance or update industry curriculum in ferrous metallurgy programs. The program objective is to utilize students to assist in the editing and updating of textbooks and/or other course materials for use in ferrous metallurgy education, with an underlying objective to increase industry awareness.

The proposals must indicate how the professor will approach the task, including budget and schedule requirements. Up to five university professors will be awarded \$5,000 each to fund initiatives designed to enhance or update industry curriculum in ferrous metallurgy programs.

The maximum allowable time for a curriculum development grant is five

years, beginning the fall of 2008. The number of awards granted depends on fund availability; each grant will be \$5,000 maximum per year for five years.

Proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria: direct benefits to the iron and steel industry and the ferrous metallurgy/materials science programs in North America, the plan's potential to increase the number of students studying metallurgy and materials science in North America, and the expertise and capabilities of the professor to fulfill the program objective.

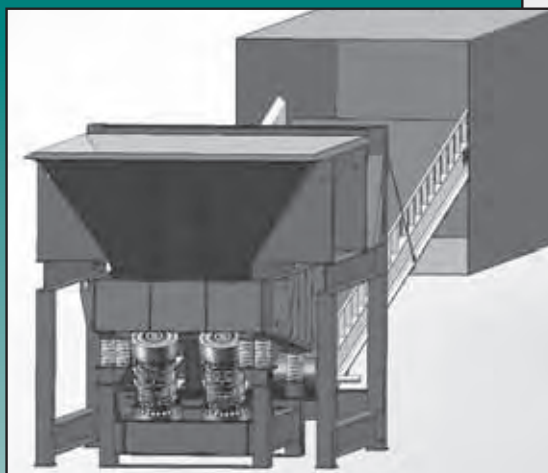
Completed proposals must be submitted electronically in PDF format, to lwharrey@aist.org by June 31, 2008. Awardees will be announced July 31, 2008.

Aleris to close coil coating facility

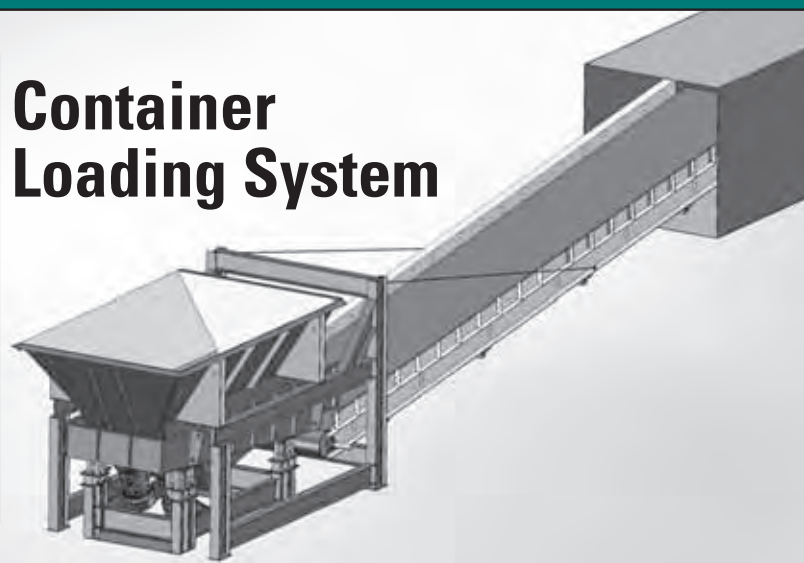
Aleris International, Inc. will permanently close its Bedford, Ohio coil coating facility. Production will be phased-out and the site is expected to be permanently closed by the end of the second quarter of 2008.

The facility employs 40 people and supplies coated aluminum coil for building and construction, transportation, distribution and consumer durables applications. The closing results in restructuring charges of approximately \$4.8 million related to severance, shutdown costs and asset impairment. Production will be transferred to other Aleris facilities.

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METALS

Nucor reports record results for first quarter of 2008

Nucor Corporation announced record first quarter net earnings for their fifth consecutive year.

Consolidated net earnings for the first quarter of 2008 were \$409.8 million, an increase of 8% compared to the first quarter of 2007 net earnings of \$381.0 million and an increase of 12% from the fourth quarter of 2007 net earnings of \$364.8 million. Diluted earnings per share increased 12% to \$1.41 from \$1.26 in the first quarter of 2007 and in the fourth quarter of 2007. The increase in earnings per share from the first quarter of 2007 is partially due to the reduced number of shares outstanding as a result of stock repurchases made in 2007.

Nucor's consolidated net sales increased 32% to a record \$4.97 billion compared with \$3.77 billion in the first quarter of 2007 due to a 15% increase in average steel sales price per ton, an 11% increase in average steel products sales price per ton, and a significant increase in steel products shipments attributable to acquisitions made in 2007.

Severstal reaches agreement to acquire Sparrows Point

OA Severstal has reached an agreement to purchase ArcelorMittal's Sparrows Point steel mill in Baltimore, Maryland.

Sparrows Point, currently owned by ArcelorMittal, is being sold by Joseph G. Krauss, Divestiture Trustee, as required by the Final Judgment entered on May 23, 2007 in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia in the matter known as United States v. Mittal Steel Company N.V., to settle a complaint filed by the United States Department of Justice following the merger agreement between Mittal Steel and Arcelor SA in 2006.

The increase in sales is also due to the February 29, 2008 acquisition of the stock of SHV North America Corporation, which owns 100% of The David J. Joseph Company (DJJ) and its affiliates, for a cash purchase price of approximately \$1.4 billion. DJJ, which now operates as a wholly owned subsidiary of Nucor Corporation, has been the broker of ferrous scrap to Nucor since 1969.

The average scrap and scrap substitute cost per ton used increased 29% from \$259 in the first quarter of 2007 to \$333 in the first quarter of 2008 and increased 17% from \$285 in the fourth quarter of 2007.

Starting with the May 9, 2008 dividend payment, Nucor is increasing the base quarterly cash dividend rate from \$0.30 to \$0.32 per share. In addition to the \$0.32 per share base dividend amount, the board of directors approved the payment of a supplemental dividend of \$0.20 per share, for a total dividend of \$0.52 per share.

Severstal has agreed to acquire Sparrows Point LLC for an all cash purchase price of \$810 million.

The transaction is expected to be accretive in year one based on current projections of costs and prices and offers value creation potential.

Severstal and the United Steel Workers have agreed to enter into a collective bargaining agreement, reinforcing the Company's strong relationship with organized labor.

The acquisition is expected to close in the second quarter, 2008.

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SALVAGING Millions

by Ron Sturgeon
Autosalvageconsultant.com

The secret to beating your competitors - the odds are in your favor!

I've just returned from speaking at the Saskatchewan Recycler Conference, where it was cold! It was four degrees below zero. (Ok, it was Centigrade!) They were gracious hosts, and most of the Canadian recyclers who attended the conference are doing very well.

After my remarks, usually one or more attendees will come up and want to talk with me about how to cope with the brutal downward spiral in selling prices for used parts and the increased expenses of running a recycling operation.

When asked about some of the fundamentals that I've just spoken about—offering extended warranties, taking steps to reduce dismantling costs, or putting salespersons on commission—none has been done.

My response is generally the same: You just need to be a little better to beat your competition.

Even more encouraging: Once you make the decision to focus on beating the competition, the odds of achieving a measurable difference are way in your favor.

Let me share with you why I feel that way.

Imagine that your business has 100 competitors. Consider where most of them are in relation to these four key thresholds that lead to competitive advantage:

1. Recognize that there is an issue. Most owners and managers know that they are facing pressure on earnings. Something isn't quite right, but they don't want to devote the energy to defining the issue precisely. I would estimate that only about one in four has the willingness to face issues directly. So, out of 100 competitors, simply recognizing the issue puts you in better shape than 75 of them.

2. Zero in on the issue and create a workable solution. Now, how many of the 25 competitors left will act upon the insight? How many will invest the time to design a workable solution? Let's be generous and say that half of the remaining competitors recognize the issue and can remain focused long enough to design a solution. Now, of your hypothetical 100 competitors, only 12 remain.

3. Quantify the solution with goals, metrics, and milestones. As business owners, we know that implementing a major initiative (such as shifting sales people and delivery drivers to pay for performance) doesn't happen overnight. It takes careful planning and good leadership. It requires sound management and agreed upon measures of progress. How many of your competitors will do this step effectively? Let's be kind and say half of the remaining twelve get this far.

4. Execute the plan. Among the six of your competitors that have a plan with measurable milestones to deal with the issue(s) that have been identified, only half, or three, will have the gumption to carry it out. It takes a lot of energy and involves changing key processes. Before you become discouraged about competition, consider that only three of your hypothetical 100 competitors might be doing the right things to make meaningful improvements to their businesses.

The very good news - If you can carry out these four steps, you only have to be a little better than these final three to win.

You must delegate effectively to make sure that you cross all four of the key thresholds to lasting competitive advantage. If you find you're stuck, get help. It's available, and the cost is small relative to the IMMINENT decline in earnings you will see if you don't constantly innovate, cannibalize your old paradigms in favor of new ones, and change.

My friend used to say I threw 100 changes against the wall every year, and only a few really stuck, but they were real humdingers.

Visit our website and review the articles from earlier this year about strategic planning. Most recyclers simply don't do it. Consider joining one of our non-competitive groups of six recyclers for a one-day strategic planning session designed to assess and prioritize your proposed initiatives. You'll head home with new energy and a strategic plan that will put you miles ahead of the vast majority of your competition.

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.

METALS

February steel imports down by 8% from January

Based on preliminary Census Bureau data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that the United States imported a total of 2,458,000 net tons (NT) of steel in February 2008, including 1,905,000 NT of finished steel (down 8 and 14 percent, respectively, vs. January final data).

Total and finished steel imports on an annualized basis are down 8 and 7 percent, respectively, vs. 2007. On an annualized basis, total imports of steel in 2008 would be 30.7 million NT.

For the first two months of 2008, products showing increases were Line Pipe (up 59%), Heavy Structural Shapes (up 19%), Hot Rolled Sheet (up 9%) and Oil Country Goods (up 6%).

For February, the largest volume of finished steel imports from offshore was from China (at 235,000 NT, down 14% from January). Other notable offshore suppliers were South Korea (151,000 NT, down 35%), Japan (88,000 NT, down 29%), Germany (88,000 NT, up 2%) and India (83,000 NT, down 19%).

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

	Prelim Feb 2008	Jan 2008	Feb 2007	Jan 2008 vs. Feb 2007 % Change	2008 Total vs. 2007 Total % Change
China	235	272	330	-13.6%	-33.8%
South Korea	151	232	174	-35.1%	14.6%
Japan	88	124	124	-28.6%	-14.2%
Germany	88	86	65	2.0%	-3.8%
India	83	102	79	-18.6%	41.6%
Turkey	72	69	58	4.3%	49.7%
Australia	61	63	25	-2.9%	44.8%
Taiwan	56	66	128	-14.5%	-33.5%
All Others	1,070	1,190	1,168	-10.1%	-6.2%
Total	1,905	2,204	2,149	-13.6%	-7.3%

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

January steel shipments up 7.3 percent

The American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that for the month of January 2008, United States steel mills shipped 9,246,000 net tons, a 7.3 percent increase from the 8,614,000 net tons shipped in January 2007 and an 8.8 percent increase from the 8,495,000 net tons shipped in the previous month, December 2007.

A year-to-year comparison of year-to-date shipments shows the following changes within major market classifications: service centers and distributors, up 9.3 percent; automotive, up 1.3 percent; construction and contractors' products, up 8.5 percent; and oil and gas, up 3.2 percent.

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Sony Canada recycling program expands to 25 sites

Sony of Canada Ltd. expanded its recycling efforts to collect all end-of-life Sony products in April.

"Sony Canada's goal is to divert all Sony products from landfill" said Doug Wilson, president & COO, Sony of Canada Ltd."

All Sony products will be accepted for recycling at no charge, at any of the 25 non-retail collection sites to be opened across Canada. These sites will accept all Sony products, including larger items like televisions and stereos.

Handheld Sony electronics will be accepted for recycling, at no charge, at all 79 Sony Style retail stores across Canada. Handheld electronics include camcorders, cameras, Walkman personal stereos, PDAs, and cordless phones. Sony Style retail stores currently accept portable rechargeable batteries and cellular phones for recycling, and offer a notebook trade-in program.

All Sony products can be mailed in for recycling. Shipping costs are not covered by the program.

Sony is partnering with Global Electric Electronic Processing, Inc. (GEEP) to expand its recycling program.

"All of the collected Sony products will be safely processed at our facilities through closed-loop procedures," said Alfred Hamsch, president and CEO of GEEP. "The processes we use will ensure the products are recycled in an environmentally responsible manner, resulting in maximum resource recovery with a zero landfill objective."

Computer reuse key to saving energy

Redemtech revealed that raising reuse rates of desktop and laptop business computers in the United States to the level of the rest of the world would:

- Save enough energy to power every home in Phoenix, Arizona, America's fifth largest city, for a year (653,000 households).

- Reduce carbon emissions by the equivalent of that produced by 462,000 passenger cars in a year.

- Reduce solid waste equal to the weight of 2,490,000 bricks.

"One of our clients achieved more than \$9 million in savings and reduced their carbon footprint equivalent to removing nearly 25,000 cars from the road for a year," said Robert Houghton, founder and president of Redemtech. "That got us thinking about what would happen if more businesses took action to extend the lifecycle of technology systems."

Organizations seeking to reduce the environmental impact of their IT systems need to think reuse first. Extending lifecycles reduces the need for new computers, avoiding resource-intensive man-

ufacturing processes, saves 20 times the energy required for recycling and can put useful technology in the hands of organizations that would not otherwise have access to it.

Microsoft recently launched the Microsoft Authorized Refurbisher (MAR) program, which lowers the cost of adding the Windows operating system to computers entering the secondary market. In addition, schools and non-profits are in desperate need of technology and can often benefit from previously used computers. TechSoup (www.techsoup.org), which partners with Redemtech, provides a channel for getting these computers to deserving non-profits.

"Too much of the electronics coming out of businesses today is entering the waste stream prematurely and too much of that is not being handled properly," Houghton said.

Earth Day represents the largest day for electronics collection, but it's estimated that as much as 80 percent of electronics targeted for recycling are actually shipped overseas where they are

contributing to environmental problems. Redemtech has strict zero-landfill, zero-incineration, zero-export, and zero-prison-labor policies. An increasing number of Redemtech clients are implementing employee collection programs to ensure that the personal computers of their employees are handled using the same processes and policies as the corporate assets.

The Redemtech analysis is based on analyst estimates that 40 million replacement PCs entered the secondary market from United States businesses in 2007. Of these, 39 percent were reused, compared to 48 percent worldwide. Reuse includes internal redeployment, resale, or charitable donation. The remainder is placed in storage or disposed, despite that fact that approximately 75 percent of these are four years old or less. Environmental equivalencies were determined using the Electronics Environmental Benefits Calculator (EEBC), developed under cooperative agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency.

E-waste disposal in California now easier

There are now 70 GREENspot e-waste drop-off locations in California where people can take their outmoded electronics.

After unveiling 49 GREENspot e-waste drop-off locations at the end of January, more than 1,387 tons of e-waste has been diverted from landfills.



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Innovative Equipment Solutions
174 Cornerstone Blvd.
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Allianz Madvac Inc.
1690 Eiffel
Boucherville, Quebec
Canada
450-616-8100
www.madvac.com



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Moline, IL 61265
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www.johndeere.com



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Induction Innovations, Inc.
120 Center Drive
Gilberts, IL 60136
877-688-9633
www.theInductor.com



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www.spectroline.com



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2070 Industrial Place
Canton, OH 44707
330-456-7288
www.hendrickson-intl.com

Events Calendar

June 2nd-5th
WasteTech 2009. International Exhibition Center Crocus Expo, Moscow, Russia.
 +7 495 225 5986 • www.waste-tech.ru

June 3rd-6th
Electronics & Battery Recycling '08 International Conference, Exhibition & Plant Tours. The Westin Harbour Castle, Toronto, Canada.
 +41 62 785 10 00 • www.icm.ch

June 18th-19th
5th Renewable Energy Finance Forum - Wall Street. The Waldorf Astoria, New York City, New York. +44 (0)20 7779 8945
 www.euromoneyenergy.com

June 24th-27th
The Air & Waste Management Association's 101st Annual Conference & Exhibition (ACE). Oregon Convention Center, Portland, Oregon.
 412-232-3444 • www.amwa.org

August 3rd-7th
5th SETAC World Congress. Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Australia.
 +61 2 9265 0700 • www.setac2008.com

September 7th-10th
2008 Global Waste Management Symposium. Copper Mountain Conference Center, Copper Mountain, Colorado. 203-358-4314 • www.wastesymposium.com

September 21st-24th
National Recycling Coalition's 27th Annual Expo. David Lawrence Convention Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
 202-789-1430 • www.nrc-recycle.org

October 20th-21st
75th Annual Meeting of the Aluminum Association. The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia.
 703-358-2975 • www.aluminum.org

October 21st-25th
ARA 65th Annual Convention & Exposition. Hyatt Regency Crown Center, Kansas City, Missouri.
 888-385-1005 • www.a-r-a.org

PLASTICS

Oakland, California required to examine adverse impact of banning plastic bags

The Progressive Bag Affiliates of the American Chemistry Council applauded the decision by Alameda County Superior Court Judge Frank Roesch invalidating the recently passed Oakland plastic bag ban.

The Alameda County Court held in a ruling that the ban violates the California Environmental Quality Act because the City of Oakland failed to review the law's adverse environmental impacts. The Court's decision will become final on April 27, 2008 and will require the City to rescind the plastic bag ban.

After finding that Oakland failed to consider evidence in the record of the plastic bag ban's potentially significant adverse effects, the Court held that, "It is because of that evidence in the record and the unanimity of the uncertainty whether paper bags are less (or more) environmentally friendly than plastic bags that the City cannot assert that there is 'no possibility' of any significant environmental effect caused by the ban."

"Like many who have been waiting for this decision, we are pleased with the judge's ruling," said Keith Christman, senior director of ACC's Plastics Division. "Banning plastic bags would dramatically increase energy use, double greenhouse gas emissions and increase

waste. Recycling plastic bags is the right approach and makes plastic bags the environmentally responsible choice."

The suit presented strong evidence that the City's ban would actually result in adverse environmental impacts and would impede plastic bag recycling.

After the decision becomes final, Oakland can decide to address plastic bags through the State's recently enacted recycling program, or it can decide to conduct a thorough analysis of the environmental impacts of the ban.

"We certainly encourage the City to help City residents improve the recycling of plastic bags consistent with AB 2449, California's state-wide recycling program," said Christman. "Plastics are a valuable resource — too valuable to waste and we believe effective implementation of the State's recycling program is the best and fastest way to steward environmental resources and reduce litter by recycling these bags."

ECO2 Plastics files with FDA, reports 2007 financial results

During the first quarter of 2008, ECO2 Plastics, Inc. completed the necessary FDA testing for the use of their product in the manufacture of food contact applications. The Company's product now meets FDA standards for up to 100 percent inclusion in 12 categories of focus by the FDA.

ECO2 Plastics reported its 2007 year-end financial results with revenues of \$4.3 million versus \$61,000 during 2006. Operating losses were \$16 million versus \$14.9 million during the prior year, with net losses of \$32.6 million in 2007 versus \$20.8 million for the prior year. Cash losses from operating activity were \$7.2 million in 2007 versus \$4.1 million for 2006.

In January 2008, the Company announced a mechanical problem that impacted the quality of material being produced. Production lines were reconfigured, which resolved the quality issues and shipments of prime quality flake began again in late February.

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—Walt Disney (1901-1966)

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EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

Roll-off Hoists

by Mark Henricks

Roll-off hoists make stationary recycling containers mobile by pulling them onto trucks and trailers. From there, it's easy to move recyclable materials to sorting centers, balers and other stops on the way to becoming useful products. But first, roll-off hoists have to battle tough conditions and heavy loads. With that in mind, while hoists come in several different designs intended for trailers and trucks and containers of varying lengths as well as those with inside and outside rails, the main differentiating feature is how much they can lift.

At American Roll-Off in Trenton, New Jersey, the company's product line consists of a wide array of single-, tandem-, and tri-axle roll-off hoists with capacities of 20,000 lbs. to 75,000 lbs. for 10 ft. through 26 ft. long containers. Sales manager Fred Fisher says the use of heavy-duty hydraulic pumps and other components makes their products even sturdier than their ratings indicate. "Our hoists are popular with people who are hauling heavy or hauling lots of loads," he says. "We're popular with people hauling scrap, demolition debris, concrete, dirt - anything in a tough environment."



American Roll-off

Fisher says their XT series is one of their most widely-used hoists. The product appeals to buyers interested in a longer product life cycle. "The reason is it's easier for the customer to maintain," Fisher says. "You can disassemble the whole roll-off with wrenches so it's easier to change pins and everything else."

Rather than the usual welded-on pins that require a welder to remove when one

wears out, American Roll-Off's XT models feature bolted-on pins. "To remove or replace a roller or cylinder pin, you take off one bolt, remove and replace the pin," Fisher says. Extra-durable chrome cylinder rods, long-lasting LED lights and prewired factory-sealed harnesses also help extend the XT series' useful life.



Galfab, Inc.

G & H Manufacturing, Inc. located in Arlington, Texas, offers truck-mounted and trailer-mounted roll-off hoists with capacities from 30,000 lbs. to 80,000 lbs. Ray Campbell, general manager, says each product is created with its specific use in mind. "Our hoists are designed from the chassis up," he says. "It's not a standard product. We try to fit it to the chassis."

Depending on the container to be hoisted, G&H makes hoists in 26 ft., 24 ft., inside-rail, outside-rail and other configurations. "We do extendible tails and we do dead lift style," Campbell adds. "It's all based around the basic hoist, either by capacity or some slight style variations. For instance, you can take the tail and instead of having it fixed, extend it out with a separate hydraulic system."

Rising fuel cost is the biggest factor affecting G&H's customers and product designs. One result of higher fuel costs is increasing demand for roll-off hoist trailers that allow buyers to increase efficiency by hauling two containers at a time, including one truck-mounted and one trailer-mounted. "People are trying to maximize loads these days, more so than

ever, largely because of fuel," Campbell says.

The bulk of G & H's customers are North American. "We are doing a little bit in European markets," Campbell says. "But the thing with European markets is they have a different truck configuration than the United States. Our stuff is big and brutish and theirs is more compact. But we do well in Mexico, Canada and Puerto Rico."

Stellar Industries in Garner, Iowa, manufactures its K-Pac Iron Man series of truck-mounted roll-off hoists in outside rail, inside rail, extendable tail, and dead-lift styles, with capacities from 50,000 lbs. to 75,000 lbs. Glenn Rasmus, demountables sales and product manager, says their most popular model is the KP60-174OR. This model features a hoist prop accessible from both sides, heavy duty rear bumper with recessed lights, outside control system and automatic container lock.



Stellar Industries

Rasmus sums up the product's appeal, "Stellar Industries cable hoists are standard with a 1/4" x 2" x 4" safety prop instead of a SCh 40 pipe at fenders and sub frame which is integral to the main frame of the cable hoist. Stellar's sub frame is 1/4" x 2" x 4" instead of competitive models using 3/16" x 2" x 3". There is no need to bungee cord to the chassis frame. Rear hinge lugs are 1.5" instead of 1.25". There is a 3" rear hinge pin instead of 1 15/16". The drop shaft is standard, not an option with an up-charge."

Continued on Page 27

Manufacturer List

American Roll-Off
Fred Fisher
800-851-8938
www.americanrolloff.com

Benlee, Inc.
Steve Doughty
800-521-4620
www.benlee.com

Clement Industries, Inc.
Bill Garrison
800-562-5948
www.clementind.com

Converto Manufacturing
Clarence France
800-828-8241
www.convertomfg.com

G & H Manufacturing, Inc.
Delia Galindo
800-654-5291
www.ghmfg.com

Galfab, Inc.
Perry Frakes
574-946-7767
www.galfab.com

Rudco Products, Inc.
Michael Avis
800-828-2234
www.rudco.com

Stellar Industries
Glenn Rasmus
800-321-3741
www.k-pac.com

Universal Handling Equipment Company Limited
Pierre St. Amand
877-843-1122
www.universalhandling.com

Wastequip, Inc.
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Equipment Spotlight

Continued from Page 26

Stellar's main customers for roll-off hoists are refuse companies, municipalities, construction companies and recyclers, Rasmus says. The future "looks very good at this time," he adds.



Benlee, Inc.

Greg Brown, owner of Benlee, Inc. in Romulus, Michigan, says his company's prospects have been radically improved by the reception of a roll-off hoist mounted on a smaller trailer. "Four years ago, we sold 48 trailers in a year," Brown says. "This week alone we sold eight." The Super Mini Trailer, measuring just under 26 ft., can carry up to 40,000 lbs. in 24 ft. boxes pulled by a tractor-trailer, and is more efficient and cost effective than two or three-axle roll-off trucks, Brown says.

Super Minis are going to municipalities, general recycling and scrap recyclers who appreciate the unit's relatively low costs, improved maneuverability and the ability to use it with tractor-trailers.

AR EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

To be included in the spotlight, you must manufacture the equipment featured.

We require a company name, contact person, telephone number and, if applicable, a website address.

To be listed in the appropriate spotlight, please call 877-777-0737.

UPCOMING TOPICS

06/08	Paper Shredders
07/08	Concrete Crushers
08/08	Conveyors (electronics)
09/08	Sorting Systems for Single Stream
10/08	Wheel Loaders
11/08	Wire Removal Systems (tires)
12/08	Can Flatteners/Blowers

American Recycler is not responsible for non-inclusion of manufacturers and their equipment. Manufacturers are to contact American Recycler to ensure their company is listed in the Equipment Spotlight.

PLASTICS

San Francisco's curbside recycling program now accepts rigid plastics

Styrofoam, film plastic or plastic bags continue to be excluded

Effective in April, the curbside recycling program in San Francisco, California, will expand to include all "rigid" (stiff) plastics.

Residents and businesses will be encouraged to recycle all plastic tubs and lids, yogurt and clamshell containers (clean, without food or liquids), cups, buckets, plant containers, and other non-film plastics.

As long as an item is made only of rigid plastic – not a plastic bag or other film plastic – it can go into in the blue recycling cart.

Plastic toys will be accepted as long as they have no metal parts, batteries, circuit boards or wiring.

Plastic film of any kind, such as plastic bags and plastic wrap, will not be accepted. Styrofoam will not be accepted.

Sunset Scavenger Co. and Golden Gate Disposal & Recycling Co. collect bottles, cans, paper, and now rigid plastics, that residents and businesses place together in blue recycling carts and delivers the co-mingled materials to Recycle

Central, the modern sorting plant operated by SF Recycling, Inc.

Upgrading the blue cart program to accept more plastics is part of ongoing efforts by the city's recycling companies to help San Francisco divert 75 percent of resources away from landfill disposal by 2010 and to help achieve what the City calls "zero waste" by 2020.

By placing more rigid plastics in the blue cart, residents and businesses will help provide additional opportunities for recycling workers to recover plastic items that can be recycled and made into new products.

In this way, the efforts of residents, businesses, and recycling sorters combine to reduce landfill disposal.



Rigid plastic toys can now be included for curbside recycling.

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INTERNATIONAL

Amcor to build recycled paper mill in Australia

Amcor announced that it will build a new 345,000 tons per annum recycled paper mill at its plant in Botany, New South Wales. The mill will have a gross cost of more than \$400 million.

"The new mill will significantly improve environmental impact. Recycled and bore water will be used in the production process with minimal use of town water for backup purposes," said Mr Greg Beatty, managing director of Amcor Australia.

The new mill is expected to reduce water usage by 26%, energy use by 34% and waste to landfill by 75%.

The new facility will be built on a vacant section of Amcor's Botany site, next to two of its existing paper mills. These two existing mills, plus Amcor's paper mill at Fairfield, will be closed once the new facility becomes operational in 2010-2011.

There are currently 90 employees at the Fairfield site and 116 at Botany – about 3% of Amcor's total workforce in Australia. Approximately 60 employees will be offered ongoing employment at Botany beyond 2010-11. Opportunities for deployment of some employees to other Amcor sites may also be available.

Amcor will ultimately sell the 16 hectare Fairfield site and approximately half of the 20 hectare Botany site. Both sites will be fully remediated by Amcor. The net cost of the new facility, after the receipt of proceeds from land sales will be \$230 million.

London announces waste and recycling program

The Mayor of London and the London Development Agency (LDA) have announced a GBP 24 million waste and recycling program to support the development of infrastructure to manage London's commercial and industrial waste over the next four years.

The program seeks to tackle climate change by reducing the amount of waste being sent to landfills or burnt in incinerators. To move forward with this program, the Mayor said he would appoint a panel of waste, energy and financial experts to deliver innovative, efficient waste and recycling facilities appropriate for London including those which use waste to create renewable energy and increase the capital's recycling reprocessing capacity, while reducing reliance

on landfill, which would boost the local economy and reduce the transport impacts of waste.

The Mayor of London, Ken Livingstone, said, "There are real opportunities in London to develop technologies that treat waste as a resource, rather than relying on outdated waste disposal methods which contribute to climate change. London's businesses and boroughs are currently choosing to bury and burn the capital's waste - dumping it in the home counties - while recycling rates lag behind the rest of the UK. This funding package of £24 million from the London Development Agency will accelerate the use of cleaner, greener recycling and treatment methods that are already being effectively used in Europe."

Pennon acquires Scotland's Shore Recycling

Pennon Group Plc announced that its Viridor Waste Management Limited subsidiary has acquired Shore Recycling Ltd (Shore), a UK waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) recycling company, for £23m (US\$46 million).

The acquisition is in line with the Group's strategy of expanding its waste management activities. Shore is headquartered in Perth, Scotland, and has recycling facilities in Perth, Manchester and St. Helens, along with an associated collection fleet.

With the UK's recent implementation of the European Union's WEEE Directive, WEEE recycling is expected to grow fast.

Commenting on the acquisition, Colin Drummond, chief executive of Viridor said, "The UK's waste strategy demands ever increasing levels of recycling, particularly now in the area of waste electrical and electronic equipment. Shore has an excellent track record in leading the way in this market in the North of the UK and is well placed to capitalize on this opportunity. The acquisition has an excellent geographic and business fit with Viridor's existing operations and is expected to be earnings enhancing before amortization of intangibles in its first full year."

ArcelorMittal closes Lachine wire mill

ArcelorMittal Long Carbon North America - Wire Group announced the closure of production activities at its Lachine facility to employees at the Lachine and Saint-Patrick plants in Montreal. The Lachine wire mill accounts for 153 positions and will close on June 30. Different measures will be put into place to eliminate the need to lay off employees impacted by this decision. There will be a net loss of 100 positions within ArcelorMittal in the Montreal area.

Alain Robitaille, general manager, Wire Group said "We cannot continue operating two wire mills in a context where it is more advisable to operate only one plant and thereby bring our costs down to more competitive levels to ensure long term profitability." Mr. Robitaille added that U.S. markets for automotive construction and steel wire consumption have been on the decline in the past five or six years, while the value of the Canadian dollar continued to rise against the United States dollar.

ArcelorMittal will work with the United Steelworkers (USW) union to facilitate the phasing out process through regulatory and labor contract mechanisms. The Saint-Patrick wire mill workforce will increase from 105 to 158 employees. As well, employees impacted by the closure will be offered positions in other ArcelorMittal locations in the Montreal area. In addition, ArcelorMittal will offer incentives to those eligible for retirement. All these measures should eliminate the need to lay off employees impacted by this decision.

Energos wins Norwegian waste-to-energy contract

Norwegian company Energos AS, a subsidiary of UK-based Ener-G Holdings, has been awarded a contract to supply an 80,000 ton per annum energy from waste plant to Hafslund Heat & Infrastructure AS.

The contract with Trondheim-based Energos AS forms the substantive element of Hafslund H&I's investment of £45m as part of its long term contract to supply energy to Borregaard Industries' chemical plant at Sarpsborg, Norway. The plant will use the proven, low emission, Energos gasification technology to recover the energy from residual commercial and household waste into 32MW of steam, which will be used to displace fossil fuel.



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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Metzger hired as new communications director

■ Environmental Industry Associations (EIA) president and CEO, Bruce Parker, announced the appointment of Thom Metzger as its director of communications and public affairs.

Metzger will be responsible for developing a strategic communications and public affairs strategy to enhance the voice of the National Solid Wastes Management Association (NSWMA) in the local and federal legislative and regulatory arenas, in which its members have significant financial and reputational interests. NSWMA is a part of EIA.

Metzger, who brings more than 17 years of public affairs, media relations and marketing experience, also will develop plans for issue communications and media relations, and build effective relationships with media, opinion leaders and EIA's members.

Most recently, Metzger served as director of marketing and public relations for the American Chemistry Council (ACC), where he helped oversee a \$20 million public education campaign to increase awareness of the chemistry industry's contributions to modern life.

Biofuels association appoints board members

■ The Florida Biofuels Association, Inc. has seated its first board of directors. The Florida BioFuels Association is an association of private and public sector professionals dedicated to increasing the demand, distribution infrastructure, and capacity for locally produced and distributed ethanol, biodiesel and other agriculturally and waste derived fuels.

New board members and officers include:

- Dana Weber, executive director
- Ron Silver, chair
- R.B. "Buzz" Hoover, vice chair
- Eugene B. Jones, treasurer
- Ray Moreau, secretary
- Representative Doug Holder represents District 70 along the Gulf Coast.
- Senator Mike Bennett represents District 21 along the Gulf Coast.
- Ted Hill directs the Biomass and Alternate Fuel Group of CQ, Inc.
- Charles Fletcher is a partner with the law firm of Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP.
- Honey Rand, Ph.D., APR is President of the Environment PR Group in Tampa.

Advanced Disposal buys assets of waste company

■ Advanced Disposal Services, Inc. announced that its wholly-owned subsidiary, Advanced Disposal Services North Georgia, LLC, has purchased the assets of Appalachian Waste Services, LLC and of its affiliate Mountain Convenience Center Properties, LLC. The acquisition furthers Advanced Disposal's footprint in northern Georgia with collection and transfer station operations in four new counties, as well as Clay and Cherokee Counties, North Carolina and Polk County, Tennessee.

The Appalachian Waste assets will secure additional volumes for the landfill and ensure long-term, quality collection, transfer, and disposal services for the North Georgia communities.

Elizabeth was nervous when she took the wheel for her first driving lesson.

As she was pulling out of the parking lot, the instructor said, "Turn left here, and don't forget to let the people behind you know what you're doing."

Elizabeth turned to the students sitting in the back seat and announced, "I'm going left."

Kinsley named director of materials for East Trailers

■ East Manufacturing promoted David Kinsley to director of materials, announced Mark Holtz, vice president of sales and marketing.

Kinsley previously was a partner in Ohana Ventures in Cleveland, Ohio, and executive vice president of international sales and marketing for Toy Biz in New York City. For 20 years prior, Kinsley worked for Kay Bee Toys in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, ultimately serving as vice president of divisional merchandise.

Michael Ott appointed to BioGold Fuels' board

■ BioGold Fuels Corporation announced the appointment of Michael Ott to their board of directors.

Ott has worked for over five years in development and funding for renewable fuels and bio-mass companies. He is currently the executive director of BIOWA, a trade organization and consulting group. He is also a governor of the American Biofuels Council and an advisory board member of the Clean Tech Law and Business Journal.



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BUSINESS BRIEFS

John Garner joins SmartDrive as VP of sales

■ SmartDrive Systems, Inc. announced that John Garner has joined the company as vice president of sales. With extensive expertise in sales and business development, Garner will broaden SmartDrive's current customer base in order to expand market share and increase overall sales.

Garner joined SmartDrive with nearly 15 years experience in the sales and marketing of high-tech products and has extensive experience in selling. Most recently, Garner held the role of vice president of client development at Tellme Networks, a subsidiary of Microsoft, helping to grow the company to over \$100M in annual revenue.

Aleris announces new Aleris Europe executive

■ Aleris International, Inc. announced that Roeland Baan will join Aleris as executive vice president and president, Aleris Europe, reporting to Steven J. Demetriou, chairman and CEO. In this role, Baan will be responsible for all activities in Aleris's European region as well as its European headquarters.

In 2004, Baan worked for Mittal where he most recently served as executive vice president and chief executive officer, Mittal Steel Europe and served on Arcelor Mittal's Management Committee. Prior to joining Mittal, Baan served as the senior vice president of SHV Gas BV, a member of SHV NV, a privately held international conglomerate with activities in retail, energy and venture capital activities.

Gerdau Ameristeel acquires Century Steel

■ Gerdau Ameristeel Corporation announced that Pacific Coast Steel (PCS), a majority owned Gerdau Ameristeel joint venture, has acquired all the assets of Century Steel, Inc. (CSI), a reinforcing and structural steel contractor specializing in the fabrication and installation of structural steel and reinforcing steel products, for approximately \$152 million.

CSI, headquartered in Las Vegas, Nevada, operates reinforcing and structural steel contracting businesses in Nevada, California, Utah and New Mexico. With fabrication facilities that have an annual capacity in excess of 250,000 tons per year, CSI participates in virtually all segments of the marketplace in the western United States.

Gerdau Ameristeel also announced that, concurrently with the acquisition of Century, Gerdau Ameristeel will pay approximately \$68.0 million to increase its equity participation in the PCS joint venture to approximately 84%.

Aladwani accepts position with Sharps Compliance

■ Sharps Compliance Corp. announced the appointment of Al Aladwani to the position of senior vice president of operations. Aladwani joined Sharps from Generic Medical Devices (GMD) where he served as vice president of operations.

Prior to GMD, Aladwani served in various operational roles with Cyberonics, Inc., Creos Medical and Ohmeda Medical.

China Solar appoints Yihai Yang as new CEO

■ China Solar & Clean Energy Solutions, Inc. headquartered in the People's Republic of China (PRC), announced the appointment of Yihai Yang to the position of the acting chief financial officer.

Yang replaces Gary Lam, who resigned the position of chief financial officer to pursue other interests.

Yang has accountant, controller and CFO experience gained over the past seven years working for several PRC-based companies. From September 2006 until the present, Yang served as financial controller of China Diagnostics Medical Corporation. From April 2005 to August 2006, Yang served as the chief financial officer of Beijing Tanglewood Tour Development, Ltd.

ChromaScape, Inc. names new president

■ ChromaScape, Inc., headquartered in Twinsburg, Ohio named Joseph Majewski as its new president effective March 1, 2008. Majewski succeeds George Chase, who will remain as chief executive officer and chairman.

Majewski has been vice president of operations for ChromaScape, Inc. for the past three years and previously worked as operations manager, plant manager, regional director and sales manager for several specialty chemical companies, including Technor Apex, M.A. Hanna Company and Allied Color Industries.

*There are two rules for success:
1.) Don't tell all you know.*

Allied Waste elects Abney to board of directors

■ Allied Waste Industries, Inc. announced the election of David P. Abney to the Company's board of directors, effective April 7, 2008. In conjunction with joining the Board, Abney has been appointed to serve on the Governance Committee.

Abney is currently chief operating officer for UPS. Prior to his current position, Abney served as senior vice president and president, UPS International from 2003 to 2007, and as UPS/Fritz Companies integration manager from 2001 to 2002. Abney served in various positions of increasing responsibility since the start of his career with UPS in 1974. Abney also serves as a trustee of the UPS Foundation.

Covanta names Nooy as Asia Pacific president

■ Covanta Holding Corporation announced the appointment of Allard M. Nooy to the position of President Covanta Asia Pacific for its principal subsidiary, Covanta Energy Corporation. Nooy's appointment is effective immediately.

Nooy has extensive experience working with municipal governments to develop infrastructure projects throughout Asia. He was previously regional director of Infrastructure Development for Leighton Asia Limited. Prior to his appointment with Leighton, Nooy was Thames Water International's regional director of Greater China. Before joining Thames Water, Nooy was the general manager of the international EPC group Vermeer - Ballast Nedam's Southeast Asian operations, based in Vietnam. Nooy will be based in Shanghai.

Metal Recycling Services acquisition finalized

■ Nucor Corporation has completed the acquisition of substantially all the assets of Metal Recycling Services, Inc. (MRS) based in Monroe, North Carolina. MRS, founded in 1999, operates a full-service processing facility (including an automobile shredder) and two North Carolina feeder yards. MRS will operate under the Metal Recycling Services, LLC name.

MRS will become part of Nucor's wholly owned subsidiary, The David J. Joseph Company (DJJ). Nucor and DJJ welcome the Metals Recycling Services management team and employees to the Nucor family.

This acquisition represents a step in Nucor's utilization of DJJ as a platform for continued growth in the industry.

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1993 Kobelco SK220	.LaBounty MSD50	... \$148,450	2003 Link Belt 330LX	.Genesis XS600R	... \$329,900
2004 Link Belt 290LX	.LaBounty MSD50	... \$213,750	1998 Komatsu PC400LC-6	.LaBounty MSD70R	... \$257,000
2005 Komatsu PC300LC-7L	.LaBounty MSD50	... \$262,750	2004 Komatsu PC400LC-7	.LaBounty MSD100R	... \$399,000
2005 Hitachi 330LC	.LaBounty MSD50	... \$286,365	2006 Hitachi ZX450LC	.Genesis 1000	... \$379,100
1991 Komatsu PC300 LC-5	.LaBounty MSD70	... \$95,000	2002 Komatsu PC300LC-7L	.Genesis 500R	... \$269,900
1999 Komatsu PC300LC-6	.LaBounty MSD70	... \$156,000	2005 Fuchs MHL340	.5 Tine Grapple & Genset	... \$207,000
2004 Komatsu PC300LC-7	.LaBounty MSD70	... \$270,750	1995 Komatsu PC650	.LaBounty MSD 140	... \$203,700

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Environmental Power opens new headquarters

■ Environmental Power Corporation has completed its move to its new corporate headquarters in Tarrytown, New York. The company's relocation from its previous headquarters in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, positions Environmental Power to execute on a deep pipeline of renewable energy facilities through greater access to the region's financial community.

The company will initially employ approximately 20 people at the headquarters but expects to grow to 30 full-time employees over the next year.

Smurfit-Stone names VP and division controller

■ Smurfit-Stone Container Corporation has named Ken Kushibab vice president and division controller for the company's recycling division.

Kushibab is returning to Smurfit-Stone after serving with Altiivity Packaging since 2006. Prior to the formation of Altiivity, Kushibab served 26 years with Smurfit-Stone and its predecessor companies in a variety of financial roles.

Universal Stainless names David Kornblatt to board

■ Universal Stainless & Alloy Products, Inc. announced that M. David Kornblatt has joined the Company's board of directors, increasing the number of Company directors to five. As an independent director, Kornblatt will serve on each of the established committees of the board.

Kornblatt brings diverse industry and in-depth financial experience to his position as a director. He currently serves as senior vice president and chief financial officer of Triumph Group, Inc.

Prior to joining Triumph, Kornblatt held the post of senior vice president and chief financial officer of Carpenter Technology Corporation. From 2002 until its acquisition by Johnson Controls, Inc. in December 2005, Kornblatt was with York International Corporation serving as vice president finance for York Americas and then as vice president and chief financial officer of the corporation.

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A close-up photograph of several cylindrical titanium rods stacked together, showing their metallic texture and uniform shape.

titanium

A photograph of a complex steel structure, possibly a bridge or industrial framework, with blue-tinted lighting highlighting the geometric patterns of the beams and joints.

steel

A photograph of several large, tightly wound coils of aluminum wire or sheet metal, showing the characteristic spiral pattern and metallic sheen.

aluminum

A photograph of a pile of copper scrap material, including various shapes of sheets, strips, and coils, with a bright, reflective surface.


copper

A photograph of several coils of rubber material, showing the characteristic spiral pattern and the dark, textured surface of the rubber.

rubber

A photograph of several coils of Inconel material, showing the characteristic spiral pattern and the bright, metallic surface of the alloy.

inconel

A photograph of several strips of rubber material, showing the characteristic wavy pattern and the dark, textured surface of the rubber.

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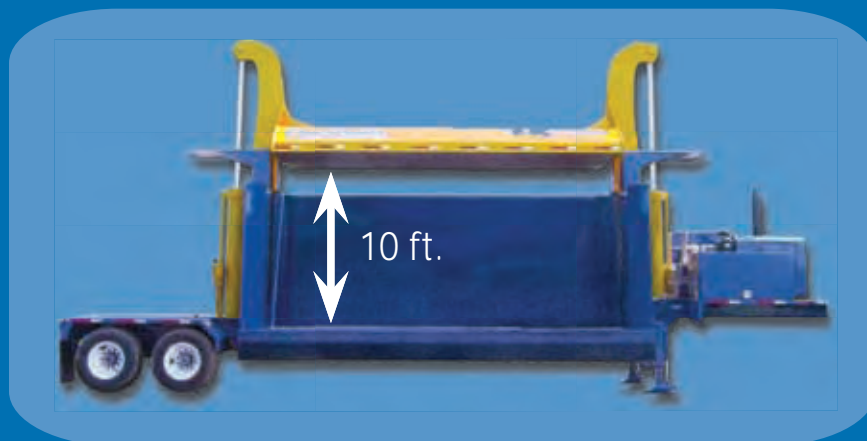
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Allco Energy to build \$45 million solar energy farm

Development hinges on passage of energy policies

Allco Renewable Energy of New York signed a letter of intent to build an eight-megawatt solar panel farm on the 100-acre site of the former Picillo pig farm on Perry Hill Road in Coventry, Rhode Island. Allco will have a 50-year lease on the land, paying Coventry \$200,000 annually, or 4 percent of gross receipts, whichever is greater.

The proposed farm will cost about \$45 million and will generate enough power to supply a small town.

The plan will involve erecting hundreds of 3-foot by 5-foot solar panels that would rotate from east to west to maximize their sun exposure throughout the day. Ninety percent of the site would be used for the panels.

The environmentally-friendly proposal will be a turnaround for the property, which include an 8-acre parcel that was declared a Superfund site after a 1977 discovery of more than 10,000 drums of hazardous waste improperly dumped there.

The development of the project is contingent upon the passage of new legislation (2008-H 7616 and 2008-S 2607) submitted by Representative Sullivan and Senator Joshua Miller to guarantee that the project will be allowed to feed the energy it produces into the electric grid and receive compensation for it. Commonly referred to as a "feed-in tariff" law, the legislation would require National Grid to purchase electricity generated from eligible renewable-energy producers at rates set by the Public Utilities Commission.

LA County investigates advanced solid waste conversion technology

by Irwin Rapoport

Los Angeles County (LAC) has a solid waste problem. The county generates 80,000 tons of solid waste daily, and even though 50 percent of the material is diverted through reduction, recycling and other programs, much of the remainder (residual waste) is sent to landfills, which results in transport costs and tipping fees.

"We end up with a tremendous volume of residual," says Michael Theroux, president of Sacramento-based Theroux Environmental. "It makes so little sense for us to throw our resources into a hole when we can actually better our recovery and do so economically and super cleanly."

With the Puente Hills Landfill, the main landfill in Los Angeles County, closing in 2013, a solution has to be found to manage the waste.

Realizing the problem must be dealt with and in a way that supports the existing recycling infrastructure, LAC is bringing forward select conversion technology demonstration projects, in a program that is being developed by the County's Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee (ATAS), which falls within the jurisdiction

of the Integrated Waste Management Task Force and consists of technical experts who have been working in the field of solid waste and recycling for many years. In recent years, the ATAS has evaluated hundreds of technologies, and is now moving to promote the development of conversion technologies in all of Southern California.

Created in 2004, ATAS's first task was to assess technologies that could maximize conversion of residual solid waste to divert this material from landfill disposal, while recovering benefits from this material, such as the generation of electricity, the production of liquid fuel and gases, and various chemical compounds that can be used by industry.

The ATAS investigated over 400 technologies being developed in the United States and abroad, and produced an exhaustive study in its Phase 1 report (2005).

"We wanted to make sure that these technologies were capable of managing solid waste," says Coby Skye, an associate civil engineer with the County Department of Public Works, who is the lead staff for the ATAS. "We identified those technologies that were most promising, had reached at least a pilot scale for processing solid waste, and were interested in developing in Southern California."

The Phase 2 report (October, 2007) identified four technologies that were recommended for demonstration projects (Phase 3)



At the facility in Carthage, Missouri, the thermal depolymerization system developed by Changing World Technologies transforms ordinary poultry guts into diesel fuel.



The soil amendment product produced via the ArrowBio anaerobic digestion process is currently being used in farms in Israel near ArrowBio's operational facility.

that will potentially be built at up to four local material recovery facilities. The report evaluated the technical, economic and environmental feasibility of these technologies, which are the key elements required for the creation of an eventual infrastructure for managing solid waste in a whole new way.

"The four recommended technologies are able to handle whatever comes to them on an ongoing basis," says Theroux. "Post-recycling residual materials have highly variable constituents in the feedstock. The four technologies all cleanly convert the residual to energy but each do so differently with both strengths and weaknesses."

Continued on Page 5

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Oregon awards grant for C&D materials salvage program

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has awarded a \$46,328 solid waste grant to Deschutes County to bolster a program that reuses construction and demolition material from home building through a building surplus resale program.

The grant is among 13 awarded this year by DEQ to help communities promote solid waste prevention/reduction and conduct household hazardous waste programs. DEQ is awarding \$370,402 in grants this year.

The Deschutes County grant will be directed to the Bend Area Habitat for Humanity's "ReStore Construction and Demolition Materials Salvage Program." Deschutes County and Habitat for Humanity are providing a match totaling \$73,821.

The grant will allow ReStore, a building surplus store, to broaden the amount of recycled construction and home building materials it collects through material dona-

tions from area home builders. ReStore collects the discarded construction and demolition materials and sells them at a discount to the public. It contributes profits to the construction of affordable housing through the Bend Area Habitat for Humanity.

Expansion of the program is expected to forge new partnerships with five of the area's top builders, with a goal of diverting 60,000 linear feet of lumber from the Deschutes County Landfill each month.

The program is not only expected to benefit local residents looking for affordable materials, but will also help local home builders attain more sustainable practices by not discarding their unused or waste building material. Builders will also benefit from avoiding disposal fees used to pay the landfill for disposal of the lumber and other materials that will be picked up free of charge by ReStore staff.

Waste Industries moves a step closer to privatization

Waste Industries USA, Inc. announced that it has notified Nasdaq of its intent to delist its common stock from the Nasdaq Global Market.

Waste Industries currently anticipates that it will file with the Securities and Exchange Commission and Nasdaq a Form 25 relating to the delisting of its common stock on or about April 29, 2008, with the delisting of its common stock becoming effective ten days thereafter.

Waste Industries anticipates that the last day of trading of its common stock on the Nasdaq Global Market will be on or about May 9, 2008. The delisting will follow the closing of the previously proposed going private transaction.

The proposed going private transaction would be pursuant to a definitive merger agreement with an investor group led by Lonnie C. Poole, Jr., the Company's founder and chairman, and Jim W. Perry, the Company's president and chief executive officer, and financial partners Macquarie Infrastructure Partners and Goldman Sachs, pursuant to which the investor group will acquire all outstanding shares of Waste Industries that the investor group does not already own for \$38 per share in cash. The total equity value of the transaction, including the investment to be made by the investor group, is valued at approximately \$544 million.

Grants offered for diesel emission reduction projects

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4, as part of the Southeast Diesel Collaborative, announced the availability of approximately \$3.6 million in grants to fund projects within the Southeast to demonstrate effective emission control technologies and strategies, methods or approaches to reducing diesel emissions.

EPA expects to fund between 5 and 10 grants ranging from \$250,000 and \$750,000. However, EPA reserves the option to fund a project at an amount lower than \$250,000 if the proposed project involves retrofitting or upgrading an applicant's entire fleet.

EPA is accepting proposals for funding from regional, state, local or tribal agencies or port authorities with jurisdiction over transportation or air quality. Proposals will also be accepted from nonprofit organizations or institutions that represent or provide pollution reduction or educational services to persons or organizations that own or operate diesel fleets or that have, as their principal purpose, the promotion of transportation or air quality.

School districts, municipalities, metropolitan planning organizations, cities and counties are all eligible provided they fall within the definition above.

For additional information, visit www.epa.gov/region4/air/mobile/.

Renegy to acquire biomass power generation facility

Renegy Holdings, Inc. (Renegy), a renewable energy company focused on acquiring, developing and operating a growing portfolio of biomass to electricity power generation facilities, announced that it has signed a non-binding Letter of Intent (LOI) for the acquisition of a 20 megawatt (MW) biomass power plant from Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI) for \$13.0 million.

The plant operates in Loyalton, California and currently sells 10 MW of its electrical power output to Sierra Pacific Power.

Under the terms of the LOI, the sale will also include approximately 50 acres of land at the Loyalton plant site along with existing fuel contracts and all operating and environmental permits for the plant. Renegy expects the transaction to

close by June 30, 2008, subject to its completion of final due diligence, entering into a definitive purchase agreement for the plant, and other closing conditions.

Fuel for the Loyalton plant is comprised primarily of wood waste provided through long-term contracts with local suppliers. Fifty percent of the fuel is currently derived from sawmills and other forest residue from the surrounding area, and the other fifty percent is derived from municipal wood waste accumulating in nearby landfills. To further supplement its fuel supply, Renegy's fuel aggregation team is currently in negotiations with a large waste management company in the area, and plans to actively explore opportunities to procure forest-derived fuel from U.S. Forest Service lands.



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New sites added to Superfund list, others proposed

The United States Environmental Protection Agency is adding 12 new hazardous waste sites which pose risks to human health and the environment to the National Priorities List of Superfund sites.

EPA is proposing to add six other sites to the list. Superfund is the federal program that investigates and cleans up the most complex uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites in the country.

Contaminants found at these proposed sites include arsenic, barium, carbon tetrachloride, chromium, copper, dichloroethene, dioxins, lead, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polychlorinated dibenzofurans, tetrachloroethene (PCE), trichloroethane, trichloroethene (TCE), vinyl chloride and zinc.

With all Superfund sites, EPA tries to identify and locate the parties potentially responsible for the contamination. As a result, it may be several years before significant cleanup funding is required for these sites.

The following 12 sites have been added to the National Priorities List:

- Lusher Street Ground Water Contamination, Elkhart, Indiana.
- Plating Inc., Great Bend, Kansas.
- Washington County Lead District – Old Mines, Old Mines, Missouri.
- Washington County Lead District, Potosi, Missouri.
- Washington County Lead District, Richwoods, Missouri.
- Sherwin-Williams/Hilliards Creek, Gibbsboro, New Jersey.
- Chem-Fab, Doylestown, Pennsylvania.
- San German Ground Water Contamination, San German, Puerto Rico.
- Donna Reservoir and Canal System, Donna, Texas.
- Midessa Ground Water Plume, Odessa, Texas.
- San Jacinto River Waste Pits, Harris County, Texas.
- Hidden Lane Landfill, Sterling, Virginia.

The following six sites have been proposed to the National Priorities List:

- Iron King Mine – Humboldt Smelter Dewey-Humboldt, Arizona.
- Nelson Tunnel/Commodore Waste Rock, Creede, Colorado.
- Flash Cleaners, Pompano Beach, Florida.
- Aberdeen Contaminated Ground Water, Aberdeen, North Carolina.
- Attebury Grain Storage Facility, Happy, Texas.
- Old Esco Manufacturing Greenville, Texas.

Utility turns paint waste into energy

by Brian R. Hook

What was once seen as waste at an automobile manufacturing facility is being used to generate enough electricity for 70 homes, replacing 570 tons of coal a year.

Two assembly plants operated by Chrysler LLC near St. Louis, in Fenton, Missouri, are sending paint waste to a nearby electric utility instead of a landfill.

The 855 megawatt Meramec Plant, run by St. Louis-based Ameren Corp., blends the paint waste with coal and burns it in the plant's boilers to generate electricity.

The idea to turn paint waste into energy originated when an Ameren account executive was talking with a Chrysler executive. The executive mentioned that the automobile manufacturer had paint overspray it was paying to dump in a landfill.

That discussion led to Ameren testing the process in a pilot program that turned approximately 650 tons of paint into energy from September 2006 to September 2007.

"Chrysler avoids dumping this material in a landfill. Ameren converts paint to power," said Tim Fox, a supervisor in the communications department at Ameren, which serves 2.4 million electric customers and nearly one million natural gas customers.

The paint waste-to-energy process is out of the pilot stage and Chrysler sends its paint waste to Ameren on a regular basis. The paint waste has to have a certain heat content to be blended with coal and burned at the plant. The paint waste is first dried on the Chrysler property. Once it reaches the proper specifications it is hauled to the utility.

"For this project, we developed a more efficient process for preparing the paint solids – with some modest cost savings – and we no longer have to pay to send the material to landfill," said David Lyons, in charge of energy planning at Chrysler.

The Fenton assembly plants manufacture the Dodge Ram light and heavy-duty pickup trucks and the Chrysler Town & Country and Dodge Grand Caravan minivans.

The Auburn Hills, Michigan-based Chrysler is now working to expand the program.

"We are currently investigating the possibility of extending this process to partnership with other electric utilities near our other plants," Lyons said.

Researchers at Washington University in St. Louis did the initial research and development work to study the feasibility of turning the paint waste into

energy. The researchers wanted to determine not only the feasibility of recycling the energy content, but also the impact on combustion characteristics to avoid any adverse emissions.

While the Fenton plant does not generate that much paint waste itself, a lot of manufacturers across the country send this type of waste to landfills, said Pratim Biswas, chair of the Department of Energy, Environmental and Chemical Engineering.

For every car that is painted about 2 ½ kilograms of paint solvent is recovered, Biswas said. "Now you can take it [paint] and mix it with coal and extract the energy content."

There are 22 million vehicles manufactured each year in North America, which would mean 35,000 tons of recovered paint that is going to landfills, he estimated.

"It is a very small amount, but extremely valuable in terms of not disposing of waste and keeping it as something valuable," Biswas said. "We hope it catches on."

Biswas noted that since St. Louis is not at the center of auto manufacturing it is important for the Detroit automakers to expand the paint waste-to-energy process to other plants throughout North America. He said that there are also numerous other kinds of paint operations and other manufacturers that could benefit from the process.

Researchers also wanted to determine if the process of turning paint waste into energy could be used to reduce other emissions from coal combustion. The researchers tested the use of titanium dioxide to cut mercury emission from coal-fired electric generating plants. Mercury is released in trace quantities when coal is burned.

The paint solid residues contain titanium dioxide, which has the potential

to remove mercury from coal power plant emissions without impacting other processes in the plant. Mercury is chemically bonded with titanium oxide in a process known as chemisorption and is potentially easier to trap in the plant's emissions scrubber systems.

Biswas said the process to use titanium dioxide to cut mercury emissions from coal-fired electric generation plants worked on a laboratory scale. But he said that before the process is used on a larger scale, more research and development needs to be done.

"We still have to go back and reengineer the paint. Now you've got to go back to the paint manufacturer if you really want to take this to the next level," he said.

Much of the electric power industry is studying the use of various chemicals to remove mercury from power plant emissions after government regulators implemented requirements to cut mercury emissions from coal-fired electric power plants.

Ameren supplied Washington University researchers with some equipment to test the mercury removal capabilities of carbon-based substances as part of the pilot program.

"As a utility that gets 86 percent of its generation from burning coal, we are very interested in their results. Ameren has been a leader in improving the environmental impact of our power plants and this is just an extension of those efforts," Fox said.

"For example, for years we have burned used tires at our other plants, and we have decreased air emissions of compounds like sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide. The paint project takes those efforts a step further by helping another industry, and an important Ameren customer, improve its own environmental performance."



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Georgia Power strikes long-term landfill waste deal

Georgia Power has now signed another long-term contract with an independent renewable generator that will produce electricity from landfill waste.

Georgia Power and Georgia Waste To Energy Cedar Grove LLC, in partnership with America's Waste To Energy, penned a 10 year deal for electricity that will be generated from everyday household trash. The power will come from the Cedar Grove gasification facility in Barnesville, Georgia. The material used to make electricity will come from household garbage delivered to the Lamar County Regional Solid Waste Landfill.

The Cedar Grove facility initially will produce six megawatts of renewable energy annually and plans to expand its generation capacity to 18 megawatts within the year. Under the contract, Georgia Power will purchase 100 percent of the plant's capacity.

This marks the first contract Georgia Power has signed for electricity generated through a gasification process. This process will not only produce renewable generation, it will also clean the existing landfill.

"By tapping into the power of biomass gasification to make electricity, Georgia Power is not only doing what's good for the environment but is also continuing to diversify its expanding renewable portfolio throughout the state," said Jeff Bursleson, director of Resource Policy and Planning.

Georgia Power also currently purchases approximately 22,500 annual megawatt-hours from a landfill methane gas plant in DeKalb County that produces electricity from household waste, nearly 90 percent of which has become part of the company's Green Energy program.

With the addition of this contract, Georgia Power's energy portfolio includes contracts with seven qualified biomass and renewable facilities throughout the state that will generate 136 megawatts of capacity, or enough renewable energy to power more than 34,000 homes. These contracts include electricity generated from wood waste, landfill methane gas and hydro. Georgia Power also buys energy from eight other renewable sources when available.

Newpark agrees to sell environmental services business

Newpark Resources, Inc. has reached a new agreement to sell its U.S. Environmental Services business to a subsidiary of CCS Inc., a provider of waste and environmental services headquartered in Calgary, Alberta Canada.

Under the terms of the new agreement, Newpark will receive \$85 million in cash, subject to adjustment as provided in the agreement. This compares to a sales price of \$81.5 million plus a five-year earn out provision under the previous agreement with Trinity TLM Acquisitions, LLC (Trinity). Prior to the execution of the agreement with CCS, Newpark executed an agreement that terminated Newpark's previous agreement with Trinity. This termination agreement contains an incentive for Trinity to support the transaction with CCS by providing for a transaction fee in the amount of \$2.5 million payable to Trinity from Newpark in certain circumstances.

The sale is expected to close in July 2008 and is subject to customary conditions, regulatory approvals and the satisfactory completion of due diligence by CCS.

Waste Management opens facility at Hampton's landfill

Waste Management, Inc. opened its latest waste-based renewable energy facility at the company's Bethel Landfill. The "green" energy produced from the landfill gas will provide power for the service area of the landfill and beyond through the electrical transmission grid.

The landfill gas-to-energy (LFGTE) facility at the Bethel Landfill will produce 4.8 megawatts of green electricity, which will produce enough energy to power more than 4,700 homes. The plant is the first such facility in Virginia for Waste Management as a solo venture. In the Commonwealth, the company has plans to construct two more landfill gas-to-energy (LFGTE) plants - at their landfill in King George County and the Middle Peninsula Landfill in Gloucester County - together they will generate an additional 19.2 megawatts of green electricity, enough to power more than 20,000 homes.

The landfill will produce gas for the power plant for the next several decades and continue even after the landfill no longer accepts waste.



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EPA halts illegal chemical waste handling in Missouri

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 is stopping the illegal handling of hazardous wastes at a St. Joseph, Missouri chemical warehouse and storage facility, citing serious, long-term neglect of the environment.

The EPA's administrative order issued against Lake Road Warehouse Co., 1400 Lower Lake Road, requires the business to immediately cease all solid and hazardous waste handling activity at its location, and complete an inventory of all chemical materials stored there. The business must develop a longer-term comprehensive plan

to clean up any releases of hazardous wastes on its property and investigate whether those wastes have migrated beyond its facility boundary.

Lake Road Warehouse has served as a clearing house and commodity storage facility for bulk chemicals, including wastewater treatment chemicals, industrial cleaners and laboratory chemicals purchased in large amounts and then re-sold in smaller quantities to its customers. The business opened in the 1940s.

During a recent inspection, EPA Region 7 personnel found 69 different

waste chemicals in corroded, torn or leaking containers, many with unreadable labels or no labeling at all. Inspectors also discovered multiple instances of chemicals or wastes being improperly stored together, such as strong acids near strong bases, or strong oxidizers next to combustibles. Mixtures of these so-called "incompatible wastes" can result in fire, explosion or the generation of toxic gases.

Besides putting an immediate halt to further illegal waste handling at the location, the order also requires Lake Road Warehouse or its contractor to:

- Refrain from removing any materials from the facility without EPA approval.

- Post warning signs on its property and restrict access to areas where releases of hazardous material have occurred.

- Segregate all incompatible wastes and materials, and safely contain all hazardous materials.

- Clean up its buildings and any releases of hazardous materials that have occurred on the site.

- Remove all hazardous wastes and ship them to an appropriate waste disposal facility.

LA County

Continued from Page 1

The four technologies are: International Environmental Solutions (IES), which has developed a single-chamber endothermic pyrolysis unit that has been tested for conversion of post-MRF residual at their Romoland facility in Riverside County, California (8 to 125 tons per day processing capacity modules); Ntech Environmental of Australia, which has a more complicated thermal system (pyrolysis to gasification) and can also handle between 10 and 100 tons per day, per module; Interstate Waste Technology's licensed Thermo-Select process, a Swiss design for a pyrolysis to gasification system that is larger and can handle up to 1,000 tons per day (currently operating in Japan); and Arrow Ecology, an Israeli firm that uses water to create a biomass-laden "soup" via mechanical separators to remove the solid objects in the residual. The soup is then put through anaerobic digestion to create methane.

The MRFs that may potentially partner with these technologies are a facility in Ventura County (negotiations still ongoing), Robert A. Nelson in Riverside County, CR&R, also in Riverside County, and Rainbow Disposal MRF of Huntington Beach, in Orange County. The technology suppliers and MRF operators will come together and determine who will be partnered with whom. The actual development of the demonstration projects (Phase 3) is expected to begin this fall.

Once the demonstration projects are completed, the County hopes to replicate the success of these systems where conversion technologies can handle as much residual solid waste as possible.

"Ideally we want to manage all of the waste locally and we are doing that with a combination of several things," says Skye. "Currently, about 5 percent is going to 2 waste-to-energy facilities in Los Angeles County, about 20 percent is exported to out-of-county landfills and the rest goes to landfills within the county. Because many of our landfills are facing closure very quickly, we want to accelerate these new technologies.



Coby Skye

"The purpose of the demonstration projects is to send a signal to the marketplace that we want to see more of these technologies developed on a commercial scale," says Skye. "The clock is ticking and it is imperative for us to spur the market and bridge the gap between pilot-scale facilities and facilities operating overseas, and the commercial-scale technologies that we hope to see developed in California."

"We want to do a three-fold approach to maximize in-county capacity for solid waste management; First, we need to maintain and expand an efficient in-county solid waste management infrastructure network that brings together transfer stations, MRFs and landfills, in order to make sure we can protect public health and safety. Our second priority is reducing the amount of waste that is left over for disposal. Right now we have met our 50 percent state mandate and we want to keep increasing that recycling rate.

Third, we want to maximize the development of conversion technologies to manage the residual solid waste that remains after reducing, reusing and recycling, especially the fraction of the waste stream currently being shipped to remote out-of-county landfill sites."

The pilot projects are expected to handle about 300-500 tons per day.

"It's still a minor amount, but we are starting," says Theroux. "Our demonstration projects will focus on the residual waste left after recycling, but convert almost all of that to energy. The IES process, for example, only ends up with 2 or 3 percent left at the back end of it – a non-hazardous char."

While LAC is encouraging the development of these technologies, it is counting on the private sector to join the effort.

"We have to let business take care of itself," says Theroux. "There were no conversion facilities in use in the United States when we started, so this is groundbreaking. California is in the lead on this. There is nothing simple about it and the county is deeply dedicated to doing this in spite of all the challenges."

Theroux is confident that private sector investment will occur.

"The attention from the financial community on 'going green' these days has just been a J-curve," he says. "I'm seeing major sources of funding moving in. Municipalities

will find ways to support this, but our premise is that these technologies must be economically feasible."

Knowing that the demonstration projects will require clean material for processing, Theroux has noted that additional pre-processing at the co-located MRFs will increase the number of cans, bottles, glass and cardboard that are removed from the waste stream beyond what currently is removed.

The process for the county's conversion technology program is public and online, complete with data, templates, technological assessments, financial implications, potential sites and how to integrate conversion with the existing recycling industry.



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Dell headquarters is now completely green-powered

Dell is powering 100 percent of its 2.1 million square foot global headquarters campus, home to more than 10,000 employees, with 100 percent green power, the latest step in meeting the company's 2008 carbon neutral commitment.

"It's time for our industry to take a lead role in creating a clean energy future," said Paul Bell, president, Dell Americas.

Dell is using all of the power generated from Waste Management's Austin Community Landfill gas-to-energy plant, meeting 40 percent of Dell headquarters' campus power needs. The remaining 60 percent comes from existing wind farms and is provided by TXU Energy.

Dell is also increasing green power use for its Austin Parmer Campus from 8 to 17 percent. The company is a participant in Austin Energy's GreenChoice® power program. Dell is powering its Twin Falls, Idaho, facility with 100 percent green power, 97 percent of which is wind power and three percent solar.

Increased efficiency and reduced electricity use already implemented on Dell's central Texas campuses are expected to save the company nearly \$2 million annually. The purchase of green power gives Dell price certainty on its operational costs for power, and the company expects cost benefits in the future.

Titan Trailers incorporates efficiency in newly-built production facility

Titan Trailers' R&D operations, Quality Control and Final Finish has moved into a new 37,000 square foot facility that will also accommodate all scheduling, accounting and training facilities.

Using his personal philosophy of "The only way to change the future is to invent it", Mike Kloepfer, Titan Trailers' president and founder, has done just that with the company's new facility. "First of all, we have created a state-of-the-art green facility that incorporates the latest technology and an ideal working environment for our employees. Additionally, by combining our R&D facility with

Final Finish, our engineering teams will be able to keep an eye on product development from the inception to the delivery stage."

The new training facility will be used to keep everyone up-to-date on everything including the latest equipment, software and safety initiatives.

The new building features see-through energy-efficient overhead doors to let in the most light possible. There are light sensors strategically positioned to monitor the overall brightness inside. The sensors activate and deactivate the low energy lights to maintain a consistent level of brightness indoors. As the sun rises, the lights shut down and continue to shut more down throughout the day until late afternoon when they begin turning back on. The south facing transparent doors also assist the heating process by delivering extra radiant heat to the building. On sunny winter days, the floor heating system will not need to turn on because the radiant heat from the doors will warm the shop by about 2°.

Another unique feature of this building, according to Kloepfer, is the in-floor heating system. This method was chosen for employee comfort and efficiency. Titan's original facility will continue to house its head office, primary manufacturing and production engineering departments.

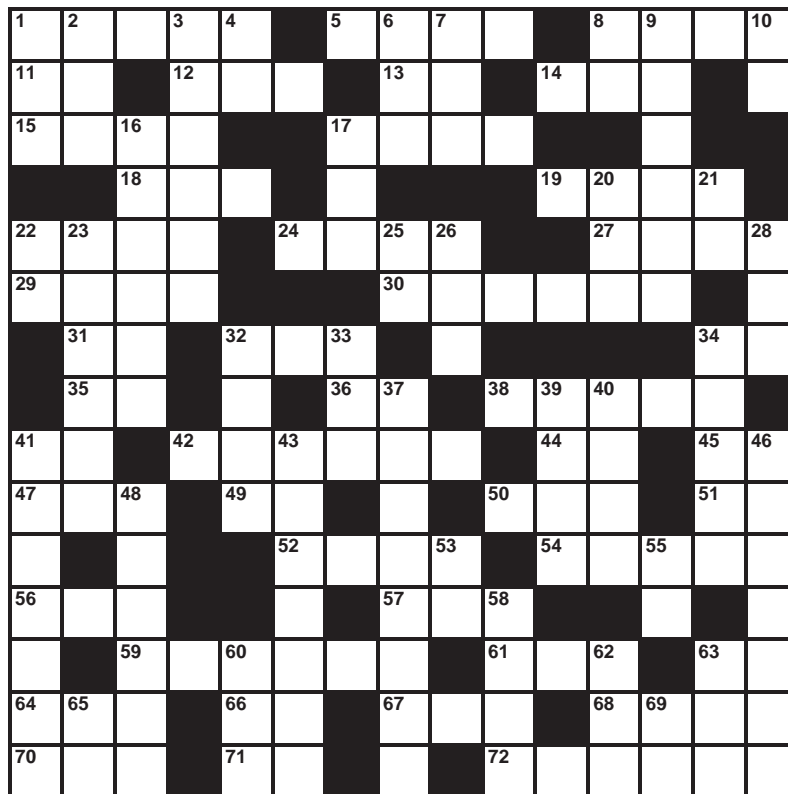
MONTHLY CROSSWORD

BY Myles Mellor

SOLUTION IS FOUND ON PAGE B7

ACROSS

1. These types of cargo containers are now being used for framing systems
5. Port authority letters
8. Texas program to help reduce air polluting vehicles
11. United Airlines, abbr.
12. Air polluting gases
13. Catalina, for one, abbr.
14. Wild animal now showing up more and more in residential environments
15. Face feature
17. Emission reduction grants
18. Recycler of the Year organization
19. ___2Recycle, RBRC's recycling program
22. All stirred up
24. ___ Catoche, ship that will be recycled at the Esco Marine facility
27. Dallas ___ Field, airport working with the EPA
29. Negotiation tactic
30. Good grade of steel
31. Famous wizard
32. Residential trash, abbr.
34. St. Louis locale
35. Exist
36. That is, for short
38. Pleasant odor
41. Laughter sound
42. Pancreas and pineal
44. Oil company
45. ___ Smith, Brad Pitt role
47. Ancient
49. Dieter's measurement
50. Will the 21st century be the ___ of environmental improvement?
51. North eastern state
52. Healing plant
54. ___ School Bus USA, bus emission reduction project
56. Relaxation center
57. Hair holder
59. ___ Inc., processor and marketer of salvage vehicles
61. Savings account
63. Exercise class
64. Lennon lady
66. All right
67. Lyric poem
68. It gets you out of jail
70. ___ ferrous, metals which contain no iron
71. 2nd in the family
72. Fuel that is a form of vegetable oil



3. LEED part
4. Behold's partner
6. Clean ____, one strategy to help the ports become more green
7. Pressure measure
8. In the direction of
9. ___-EPURON Solar Center, Pennsylvania's renewable energy project
10. All grades of paper
16. Nap
17. Environmental agency
20. Beer
21. Nevada city, abbr.
22. Wire service
23. GEEP part
25. Computer option
26. Very long time
28. ___Boost, Ford's green engine option
32. ___ broke, waste paper produced during the paper making process
33. Succeed

34. Baby's first word?
37. One of Canada's largest electric waste recycling facilities locale
39. Rechargeable battery organization
40. October birthstone
41. Cherry Crushed Concrete's new plant locale
43. Corporation that purchased Aerodyne Development
46. Edward G. ____, Pennsylvania's Governor
48. Church official
53. Poet Cummings
55. Electric vehicle, abbr.
58. Done, to a shoelace
60. Hawaiian food
62. 16th President
63. Apple or pecan
65. Let's say ___ to destruction of our planet
69. Oakland baseball team

DOWN

1. ___ Technics, Conergy Systems USA former name
2. Chinese philosophy

Waste Management Recycle America announces appointments

Waste Management Recycle America (WM Recycle America) announced the appointment of Matthew Coz as vice president of growth and commodity sales. Coz, who previously served as vice president of business development, will lead the company's business development, eCycling, commodity sales, brokerage, and international recycling development initiatives.

WM Recycle America also announced the appointment of Don Majka as vice president of the commodity sales and brokerage group. Majka, who most recently led the company's fiber marketing for the East and Southeast regions, will head up WM Recycle America's commodity sales and brokerage activities, and will report to Coz.

Coz has over 20 years experience in the industry, working the last nine at WM Recycle America.

Majka has been with WM Recycle America for more than fifteen years.

\$50 million made available to clean up diesel engines

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the availability of almost \$50 million in grant funding to establish clean diesel projects aimed at reducing emissions from the nation's existing fleet of diesel engines.

The unprecedented sum, which was authorized by the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and funded for the first time this fiscal year, will be administered by EPA's National Clean Diesel Campaign (NCDC) and its network of seven collaboratives, made up of EPA regional offices and public and private sector partners.

Diesels are the economic workhorses of the nation, and over the past decade, EPA has set stringent new particulate and nitrogen oxide standards for most types of new engines. The funding is aimed at reducing emissions from the existing fleet of 11 million diesel engines that pre-date these standards. Addressing the existing fleet is important because diesels remain in use for decades.

State, local, regional and tribal governments can apply for the grants, as well as non-profits and institutions with trans-

portation, educational services and air quality responsibilities.

The grants are targeting school or transit buses, medium and heavy-duty trucks, marine engines, locomotives and nonroad engines. Grant recipients can use a variety of cost-effective emission reduction strategies, such as EPA-verified retrofit and idle-reduction technologies, EPA-certified engine upgrades, vehicle or equipment replacements, cleaner fuels and creation of innovative clean diesel financing programs.

Some EPA regional offices have already started issuing requests for grant applications, called Requests for Proposals (RFPs), and, along with EPA headquarters, will continue to roll them out throughout the spring.

NCDC uses a proactive, incentive-based approach to achieve environmental results. More than 400,000 existing diesel engines have already been retrofitted during the campaign's first few years, cutting harmful emissions by nearly 300,000 tons.

More information is available at www.epa.gov/cleandiesel.

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- Koehring 6644-7 with LaBounty MSD70 shear, \$125,000.

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Solution for crossword on page B6.

T	E	S	E	I	D	N	I	I	N	O	N	
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V	A	R	O	A	R	E	I	I	B	E		
O	M			N	W	S	M	Z	O			
C	N	E	R	T	O	C	Y	O	T	P		
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