



## FOCUS: Metals

### Old and new uses for copper



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## Fight for responsible electronics recycling continues unabated

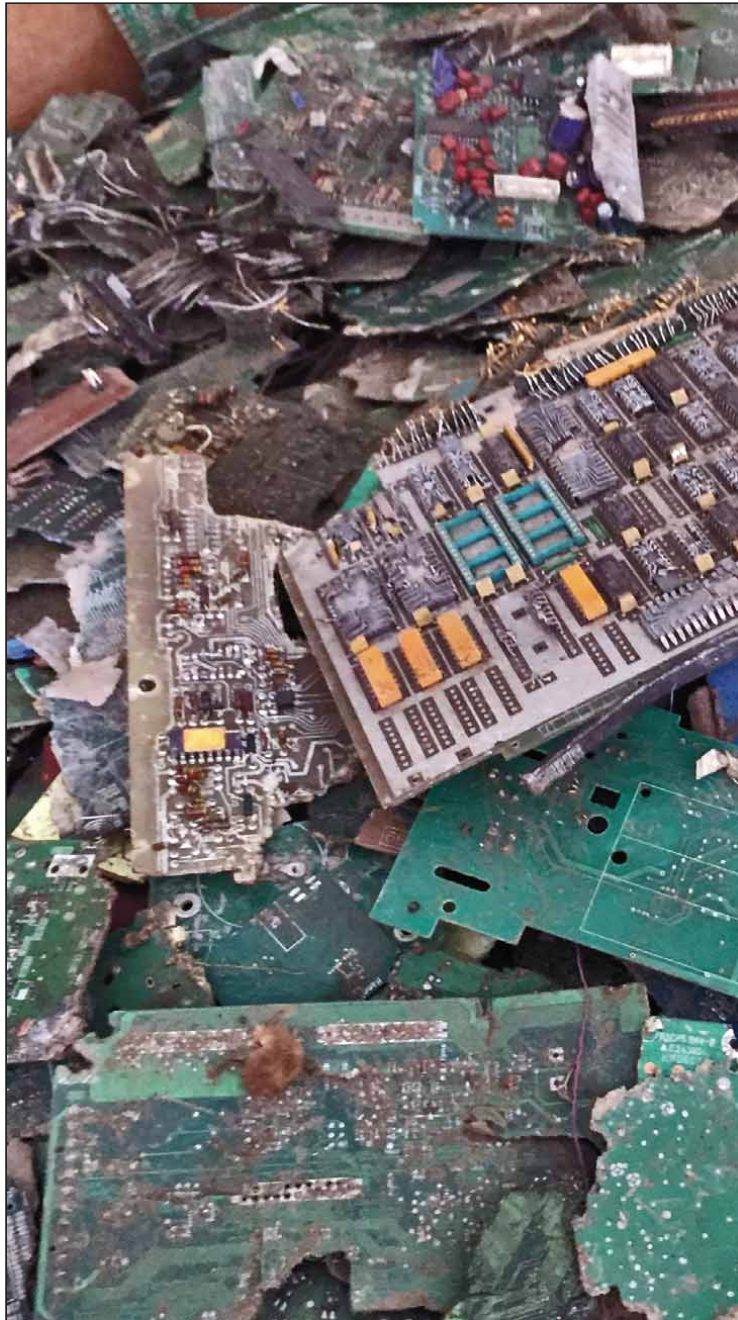
by MIKE BRESLIN

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The battle continues for electronic recyclers and lawmakers wanting to do the right thing – responsibly recycle e-waste. Today, only half the states have e-waste laws to help combat the problem. Other states are considering them. Meanwhile e-cyclers must win the heated economic battle every day to stay in business.

Major forces in the fight are the state laws that govern and enforce the proper disposal of electronics. Working to provide a central source for state data and information on different e-waste recycling initiatives around the country is the National Center for Electronics Recycling (NCER). Formed in 2005 under a federal grant, NCER is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the development and enhancement of a national infrastructure for the recycling of used electronics in the U.S. Its mission: to gather information on the best research and data available on electronics recycling, make it available to all interested parties, and coordinate and participate in programs on the state and regional level...all towards improving best practices.

Jason Linnell, NCER's executive director commented on the state of e-cycling, "We don't see a national nexus coming into place anytime soon so one of the things we do is focus at the state level. For example, we are currently contracted with and working with Oregon and Vermont. We also have a group called the Electronics Recycling Coordination Clearinghouse (ERCC), which is getting all the state program managers together who are implementing electronic recycling laws as well as the industry that is affected by those laws. ERCC is coming up with ways to harmonize and share information and make things easier for everyone trying to implement laws across the country."



Printed circuit boards are a staple of electronic recycling. Metals and precious metals content determine value.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MRP COMPANY

Linnell said that NCER is not trying to make state laws or make them more uniform, but make the implementation of the laws more uniform so there is consistent data such as market share information and a common tool for registering manufacturers in those states that require registration. NCER also works to unify state performance measures such as pounds collected and standards for incoming recyclables. "We are not an advocacy group," Linnell emphasized. "We are not saying that all laws should be changed to be the same, it's more about the implementation aspect of laws in place."

Twenty five states have some form of law governing electronic waste. The District of Columbia has a new ordinance going into effect next year. State laws vary widely, however NCER has compiled a comprehensive, detailed summary of all state laws at [www.electronicrecycling.org](http://www.electronicrecycling.org)

"In 2015 there remain many areas of the country where we know very little about how much is collected, and we know even less about where any collected material might be going," said Linnell. "Perhaps it will take another 10 years to finally have a grasp on some of these basic questions."

Linnell observed that he has seen a lot more activity in electronic recycling over the past 5 to 10 years in both state laws and the expansion of other programs outside the law such as Best Buy taking in products at their stores and Dell partnering with Goodwill across the country. On the positive side, private programs along with state laws have increased collection volume and caused recyclers to get up to speed with environmental requirements and get certified through one of the certification programs. On the negative side, Linnell sees many challenges right now within the e-cycling industry because of lower commodity prices impacting the ability to generate enough revenue to sustain operations.

He also mentioned that there is still a special problem with CRT glass. Now that CRTs are no longer being mass made there are only limited and costly outlets to get rid of the CRT glass which has lead and requires special handling and treatment if sent to a downstream vendor.

"The drop in metal prices for e-waste recyclers since the beginning of 2014 has been pretty dramatic," said Linnell. "There were recyclers that were depending on the revenue they were getting from circuit boards, which smelters paid based on metal and precious metals content. Whenever the metal prices drop it has an enormous effect on e-waste recyclers trying to offset CRT management costs."

Joe Clayton is the vice president of sales for the MRP Company, based in Baltimore. Founded in 1987, MRP is a full service international metal recycling company specializing in precious metal scrap as well as ferrous and nonferrous metals. MRP is also a prominent recycler of printed circuit boards for both electronics recyclers and traditional metals industry. MRP was an early adopter of R2/RIOS, the primary certification for

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## Winners named in national bathroom recycling contest

In celebration of America Recycles Day in November, Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc.'s Care to Recycle® program and Scholastic named the winners of PETE's Bathroom Bin Challenge, a nationwide contest conducted to teach kids the importance of recycling throughout the house, including the bathroom.

The contest required students (grades 1 to 3) to submit a short essay and drawing that shared why recycling personal-care products, such as shampoo and lotion bottles, found in the bathroom is important, and how they will encourage their family to recycle more of these products.

Each of the following 10 student winners will receive a bike, helmet and Family National Park Pass (listed in alphabetical order by last name):

•Daniella-Lyn Bolettieri, Ridge, New York.

•Victoria Drozdowicz, Villa Park, Illinois.

•Malia Dull, San Jose, California.

•Colin Engelbert, Haddon Township, New Jersey.

•Jaden Hansen, Anaheim, California.

•Ella Karwan, Yorba Linda, California.

•Brian Kim, Yorba Linda, California.

•Trinity Kimble, Mt. Ephraim, New Jersey.

•Esteban Rocha, Chicago, Illinois.

Although almost 70 percent of Americans say they consistently recycle, only 20 percent report recycling products from the bathroom. Figures like this present an opportunity to raise awareness of bathroom recycling to help avoid using raw materials to create new products, and to help avoid valuable materials from unnecessarily entering landfills. That's why Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc. created the Care to Recycle program.

## Alabama facility suspends activities

A state-of-the-art material recovery facility (MRF) developed by Infinitus Energy for the Montgomery, Alabama community, will temporarily suspend operations. The facility was touted as the first to combine technologically advanced systems for waste recovery in the country. Construction of the 81,992 sq.ft. facility was completed in 2014.

Infinitus Energy released a statement regarding the closure, saying that "We plan to meet with all project participants in the coming weeks and with Mayor Todd Strange and city officials

later this month to review a detailed plan that would allow us to resume operations."

The chief executive officer of Infinitus Energy, Kyle Mowitz, said that operations were ceased at no fault of the facility or city of Montgomery, but rather due to fluctuations in the recycled materials market.

"One key element of a successful materials recycling program is the ability to sell recovered material at a price that will support the recycling process," Mowitz said.

## Massachusetts awards over a million dollars in recycling grants to municipalities

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) has awarded more than \$1.4 million in Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP) grants to 216 municipalities and regional solid waste districts to help maximize recycling, composting and waste reduction programs.

Out of 216 awardees, 137 communities qualified for the SMRP's Recycling Dividends Program (RDP) and will receive payments ranging from \$1,200 to \$66,000, for a total of \$1.18 million statewide. The RDP recognizes municipalities that have implemented policies and programs proven to maximize materials reuse and recycling, as well as waste reduction. Communities that earn RDP payments must reinvest the funds in their recycling programs for things such as new recycling bins, education campaigns, collection of hard-to-recycle items and the establishment of recycling programs in schools, municipal buildings and other public spaces.

"Every ton of material that is recycled instead of disposed as trash puts resources back into the Massachusetts economy and supports local businesses throughout the collection, processing and manufacturing chain," said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Matthew Beaton.

As part of the SMRP, all 210 municipalities that also applied for "Small-Scale Initiative Grants" were awarded funding. These population-based grants range from \$500 to \$2,000 each and help communities purchase modest, but critical recycling materials and outreach tools needed to sustain their existing recycling program or to facilitate new, low-cost initiatives. Both of these SMRP programs are administered by the MassDEP.

For a complete list of recipients, view this article on [www.AmericanRecycler.com](http://www.AmericanRecycler.com).

## Burns & McDonnell's Minnesota recycling facility up and running

Burns & McDonnell won a \$4.4 million design-build project at a Minnesota recycling facility. By implementing national recycling trends locally, McLeod County is expecting its recycling quantities to increase at least 25 percent per household.

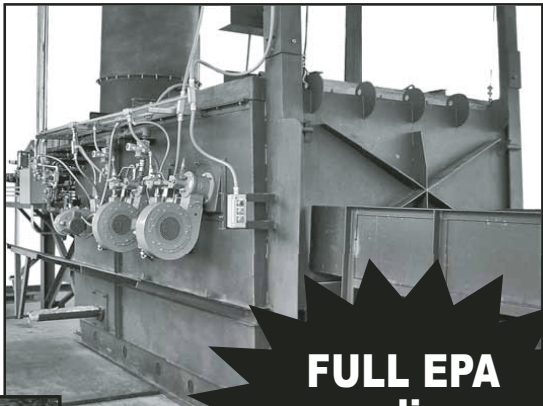
The county's switch from five-sort to single stream recycling at its Hutchinson, Minnesota recycling facility is possible through a retrofit by Burns & McDonnell, an engineering firm with an office in Bloomington, Minnesota.

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## GRAPPLES





# Electronics

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electronics recyclers and has ISO 14001 certification.

Clayton said, "We send board scrap directly to smelters that we collect from various dealers and e-cyclers as well as direct ship our client's boards to smelters under MRP's contract terms." "Some circuit boards don't need to be shredded because they have enough bulk density. Shredding, in many instances, can also dislodge some of the valuable precious metals if you don't have a sophisticated downstream collection system. In many instances we either bale or send in Gaylord containers. Any effort you put on the American side is money that may not justify the labor costs. Material still has to be sampled at the smelter and go through their shredder.

"There's not a single American copper smelter left doing precious metals recovery. There are a lot of people who say they are smelters but we don't have any big copper smelters here. They have them in Europe, Japan, Canada and South Korea. It is important to note that it's illegal to send circuit boards to China for recycling.

"Most of our business is based on smelting and precious metals recovery and we often work on a percentage with the customers, so our percentage remains the same as the material values go down," Clayton continued. So if we have a contract for X percent and there's 30 percent less recovered value, we lose value while retaining margin. So we have to source more material than ever before. But, since the explosion in commodity pricing, many players have entered the market since 2010, diluting the weight each company might have to ship at any given time. So more companies are collecting and shipping smaller quantities which we purchase to make a shippable quantity. Multiple smaller shipments increase transport costs, lessening net value to all," said Clayton.

Clayton pointed out that today's circuit boards have less precious metal than just a few years ago and that the price of gold is down. He said that in 2010 and 2011, when most companies got into the e-scrap business, gold was on the way up to \$1,900 per ounce. Now it's in the \$1,100 per ounce range – down significantly. The older generation boards also had much higher gold

content, three or four times as much, in many cases. So there was a double whammy.

Most successful electronic recyclers have a three-phase approach to operating their businesses, said Clayton. They have fees for collection, sales of scrap and sales of reusable products. "When metal prices were going crazy, some companies were not doing much asset recovery because there was marginal profit compared to years past," he observed. "Maybe a computer was \$20 dollars if you tested and wiped it and maybe scrap was \$12 dollars. These numbers are just to illustrate the small spread. Now as machine values go down, the spread is widening between scrap and resale value. Many companies were saying they'll pick up the stuff for free and won't charge for the CRTs because there's value in the other material. That is no longer the case.

"MRP does not handle CRT glass but many of our customers do, and they do it well," Clayton continued. "I feel the CRT problem is overblown. It's just like garbage. Is there a garbage problem? Everyone has to pay to properly dispose of their trash in approved landfills or alternative methods. There's capacity for CRT recycling if companies are willing to pay a reasonable price for proper handling and recycling of the leaded glass. What I have noticed is that most leading companies are willing to charge a reasonable amount to recycle CRTs for their clients and have no problem handling the glass. Recently, some companies appear to have been trying to widen their spread by sending it to places that are less expensive than what the industry considers as an acceptable level of cost to process CRT glass.

"In fact we stopped shipping all materials to certain companies that were using questionable downstream vendors because they wouldn't allow us on-site to audit their process, which is a violation of certifications. We requested audits in some cases because we felt that their price structure was too low and risk to reward ratio is way too high. I'm willing to pay the proper rate to have properly handled material, but I require my vendors to properly handle it."

Clayton cited a recent, unfortunate news report of illegal dumping of electronic waste. "This is just another instance of bad actors participating in the CRT recycling stream that leaves

their clients out of compliance of the standards," Clayton concluded.

Sean Magann, commercial vice president of Sims Recycling Solutions and Larry King, the company's director of OEM compliance discussed the state of their e-cycling business. Sims Recycling Solutions is part of Sims Metal Management Limited, one of the world's leading publicly listed metal and electronics recyclers with operations across 21 countries. Sims Recycling Solutions provides disposition services for all types of retired electronic equipment to customers in every business sector. Most Sims facilities have attained ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001 standards and all its North American sites are R2:2013 certified to high standards for e-waste recycling.

"With commodity prices falling, business is definitely changing," said Magann. "If you look, you'll see there are a lot of cheaters out there. Every week it seems like another company has been exposed by not playing by the rules and illegally dumping. So the cheaters have put a lot of downward pressure on pricing and along with commodities being low, it's created an interesting marketplace. But the good news is that some of the companies that are not playing by the rules have been exposed which hopefully will bring the pricing to where it should be."

American Recycler asked Larry King if the 25 states that have no e-cycling laws should implement them. "That's up to the individual states. I've been involved with state discussions since 2002 and many of the states that do not have laws right now have looked into it and decided that their existing infrastructure, like private programs, takes care of the issue. So if it's taken care of, why create regulations?"

"We work with the states that have laws in a number of different ways," King continued. "In virtually every state that has passed a law they have stakeholder groups working to implement the laws and we have been involved in that. Many states have rewritten their laws, some more than once and we've been involved with the states in that activity

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## Events Calendar

### December 5th

**WV First Lego League State Championship - 2015 Trash Trek Challenge.** Fairmont State University, Fairmont, West Virginia.  
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### January 6th-9th, 2016

**The Consumer Electronics Association's CES 2016.** Las Vegas, Nevada.  
703-907-7600 • [www.cesweb.org](http://www.cesweb.org)

### January 25th-28th

**COMPOST 16 24th Annual Conference & Tradeshow.** Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront, Jacksonville, Florida.  
301-897-2715 • [www.compostingcouncil.org](http://www.compostingcouncil.org)

### February 1st-3rd

**Association of Plastic Recyclers Meeting.** Hyatt Regency New Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana.  
202-316-3046 • [www.plasticsrecycling.org](http://www.plasticsrecycling.org)

### February 15th-17th

**BBI International - RFA's National Ethanol Workshop and Expo.** Hyatt Regency New Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana.  
701-746-8385 • [www.fuelethanolworkshop.com](http://www.fuelethanolworkshop.com)



## Electronics

■Continued from Page 4

along with other stakeholders to try to improve the laws. With virtually every one of these laws there are unintended consequences that nobody foresaw when the laws were being written. So there have been tweaks done to modify the laws and we've been involved in that."

"When a manufacturer has been assigned an obligation as a result of these state laws, many of them work with us," Magann commented. "They look to us as the experts and they hand it over to us to make sure they are compliant with the law. So we look at what the requirements of the law are, and what the local infrastructure is, and we work closely with local companies and entities within the state to make sure that the manufacturer is compliant and is able to sell in that particular state."

"The problem with CRTs is not so much a problem of what to do with them, rather it's a financial problem. There are solutions out there, some more expensive than others. Unfortunately, many folks don't want to pay for it. That forces the downward pressure, I mentioned, when people start cutting corners."

"We don't export e-waste from the U.S. Our job is to take e-waste in, separate it into very clean commodity forms and those clean commodities go to smelters all over the world."

"One of the biggest challenges we face is that in many ways it's still not a level playing field. It seems that the bigger companies that we compete against are all playing with the same rules, independently doing responsible recycling. But there are a lot of smaller recyclers. The burden of entry into this business is very low so it's easy to set up a small recycling operation. One of the challenges the bigger recyclers have is that we compete with these really small operations that have whole different way of doing things. It creates problems in the marketplace because these places tout themselves as "green recyclers," but in essence they are really just traders that take in stuff and send it down the line. And they undercut the larger, certified e-cyclers in price," Magann concluded.



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## Advanced Disposal hosted American flag retirement ceremony for Veteran's Day

Advanced Disposal, an integrated environmental services company, retired 2,539 American flags that the company collected this summer as part of its flag retirement program, which was a free service to the communities it serves. A handful of the collected flags were properly retired as stipulated by the U.S. Flag Code in a special Veterans Day ceremony at Magnolia Cemetery in Orange Park, Florida.

"We wish to thank all veterans for their service to this great country that we are lucky to call home," said Advanced Disposal chief executive officer Richard Burke. "What better way to show our appreciation than to respectfully retire these stars and stripes that may have seen brighter days? We're proud to be an American company and honored to offer this service to our customers and neighbors. The response was more than we could have imagined, so our thanks to everyone who brought in a flag to be retired."

The flag retirement ceremony was hosted by Advanced Disposal, Black Creek District Boy Scouts, Florida



The largest flag properly retired was about 30' and the smallest was about 1". Approximately 100 flags that marked gravesites at a cemetery were also retired.

Youth Challenge Academy, Veterans of Foreign Wars Middleburg and community leaders. The rest of the flags will be retired with dignity in partnership with American Flag Recycling in Butler, Wisconsin.

All 226 Advanced Disposal locations collected old, worn, torn and faded American flags for proper retirement. The program ran from June 1 through September 11 and the company plans to host the program again next year.

*We'd finally built our dream home, but the contractor had a concern: the placement of an atrium window for our walk-in shower. "I'm afraid your neighbors might have a good view of*

*you au naturel," he said.*

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## Alpine Waste tackles foam

Alpine Waste & Recycling has become the first recycling company in the Denver area to begin accepting polystyrene foam, long the bane of environmentalists everywhere.

For decades, the material commonly known under its trademarked commercial moniker of Styrofoam has confounded recyclers who have wrestled with its lightweight, space-consuming composition. Thanks to a \$45,000 grant from the Food Packaging Institute and to new technology, Alpine Waste now has a machine in place that compresses the foam into bricks, making it more commercially feasible to transport and recycle in bulk.

The installation of the new machinery was part of the recent expansion and upgrade of the company's Altogether Recycling Plant in South Adams County. That expansion, with all new Machinex equipment, increased the plant's flow-through capacity by 150 percent.

The foam eligible for recycling includes packaging materials such as egg cartons, meat trays and take-home containers. Alpine took delivery of its new INTCO machinery in late August and spent recent weeks installing, testing and integrating it into the Altogether Recycling single stream process. Alpine has been connecting with local businesses that have an abundance of foam packaging material that they want to divert from landfills.



"This foam material has caused problems in the waste-processing industry because it takes up so much space in landfills and it takes so long to degrade," said John Griffith, president of Alpine Waste & Recycling. "We're thrilled to lead the way in Colorado's efforts to address this problem."

He said whereas cardboard can degrade in about two months in the soil, a typical foam coffee cup will require centuries to degrade, which is why it's important to try to keep this material out of the landfill.

## Veolia and Covanta team up to help businesses recycle universal waste

Covanta and Veolia have partnered to make Veolia's RecyclePak® program available to assist in the ability to recycle universal wastes such as lamps, ballasts, batteries and other products that contain hazardous substances. Universal waste is designated as hazardous but containing materials that are common.

While the majority of a mercury containing lamp can be recycled, according to the Association of Lighting and Mercury Recyclers, only 24 percent of the approximately 600 million mercury containing lamps that are discarded each year are properly recycled in accordance

with regulations. By separating products into their components and reusing the components and by-products, businesses and consumers are reducing waste, diverting waste from landfills, saving energy and conserving resources.

The RecyclePak program ensures complete compliance while making recycling easy for consumers and businesses. Covanta's customers can simply purchase a container from covanta.veoliaes.com, place their universal waste into it and then ship it to one of Veolia's recycling centers using a prepaid shipping label.

## Grand Valley completes rural recycling prototype

A prototype of a portable rural recycling center that's powered by renewable energy and dramatically reduces operating costs has been completed through a partnership between Hastings Township, Michigan and Grand Valley State University.

The prototype unit is a fully functional recycling center that can be trucked to rural locations where curbside recycling pickup is not cost efficient, as well as places where a central transfer station is too far away for some residents to make the trip.

"What we've put together, in partnership with Hastings Township officials, is a portable recycling center that can be duplicated and placed in rural and remote locations," said Nick Baine, assistant professor of engineering at Grand Valley. "It's efficient because it runs on solar power and recycled batteries, and minimizes operational costs because township staff can use remote cameras to see exactly when the recycling bins need to be emptied."

The prototype currently sits in the parking lot of the Hastings Township Hall, and is essentially a used semi-trailer, with some important modifications. Windows and doors were cut into the sides to allow for recyclable materials to be dropped off, and it has four

solar panels installed on the roof. The panels allow the center to be completely self-sufficient so they can be placed in spaces where there are no power lines.

The solar panels send power through a system to the bank of batteries inside the unit, which allows lights and security systems to continue to work at night or on cloudy days.

The power bank is made of post-vehicle-application lithium-ion batteries, which are commonly found in newer hybrid and electric vehicles, and can power the recycling center for up to three days without sunshine.

Grand Valley's Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center (MAREC) was also part of the project. MAREC program manager Kim Walton worked with the township for three years in the planning stages of the project and worked with a solar installer to design parts of the system. MAREC will collect data on the unit.

The GVSU portion of the project has been funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Research and Innovation Technology Administration University Transportation Centers program, through the Mineta National Transportation Research Consortium with matching funds provided by Grand Valley.

## Quest reports revenue decrease

Quest Resource Holding Corporation disclosed their third quarter 2015 results.

For the third quarter of 2015, revenue was \$43.6 million, a decrease of \$3.4 million, or 7.3 percent, compared with \$47.0 million for the third quarter of 2014.

Net loss per basic and diluted share was \$(0.01) for the third quarter of 2015 compared with a net loss per basic and diluted share of \$(0.05) for the third quarter of 2014.

As of September 30, 2015, Quest had \$5.1 million in cash and cash equivalents compared with \$3.2 million as of December 31, 2014 and \$6.7 million as of September 30, 2014. Working capital was \$2.0 million as of September 30, 2015 compared with \$1.3 million as of December 31, 2014.

Quest added capacity to its line of credit in July 2015 with the increase of the aggregate revolving credit commitment to \$15.0 million.

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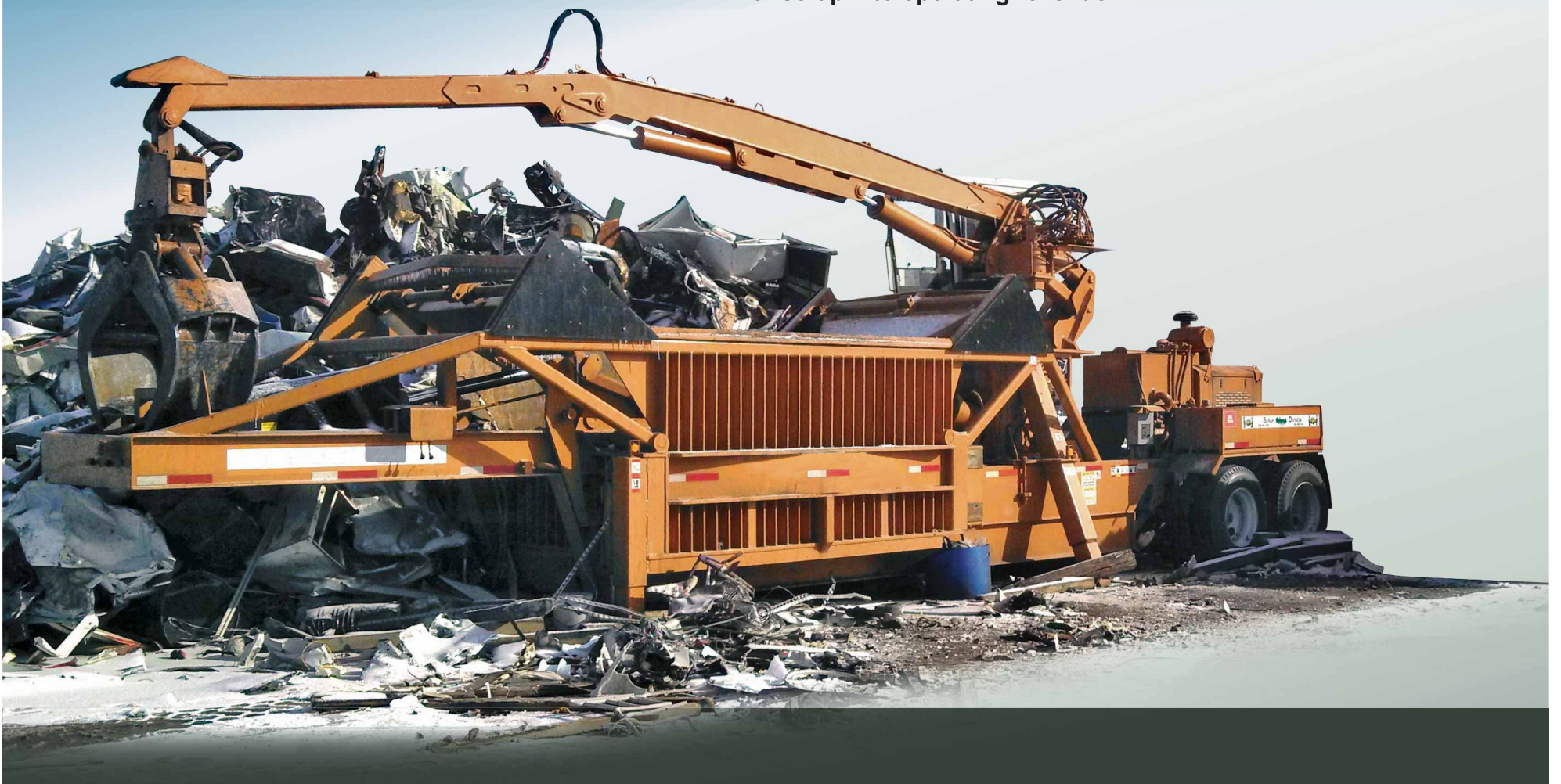
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## WASTE

# Illinois passes law for safe disposal of used needles and syringes

A coalition of Illinois government, business and community leaders came together to raise awareness around a new state law regarding safe disposal of used medical needles and syringes. The new law is designed to prevent the improper disposal of medical syringes, hypodermic needles and other injection medications (sharps) which pose a serious and costly hazard to families, communities, businesses and the individuals that handle the collection of recyclables.

Approximately 1 out of every 12 households includes someone that uses sharps. Unfortunately, well-intentioned residents are accidentally contaminating the recycling stream by placing needles or sharps containers in recycling carts where they can break open at the recycling facilities putting workers in danger. Senators Linda Holmes, Melinda Bush and Martin Sandoval joined Representatives Ann Williams, Rita Mayfield, Laura Fine and Thaddeus Jones to sponsor legislation prohibiting the mixing of household generated sharps with any other material intended for collection as

recyclables earlier this year. Governor Bruce Rauner signed the bill into law this summer. The new law was championed by Waste Management of Illinois, and gained the support from other organizations including the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association, Illinois Environmental Council, Illinois Manufacturers Association, National Waste & Recycling Association and the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County.

First introduced by Senator Linda Holmes in February of this year, the new law, which amends the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, prohibits the mixing of household generated sharps with other items intended for collection as a recyclable material by a residential hauler. "Throughout the state, many people use sharps to treat all kinds of medical conditions in the home; and raising awareness of how to ensure proper disposal is the intent with this law," said Senator Linda Holmes. "Improper disposal poses a danger to everyone."

Senator Melinda Bush, whose legislative district is home to Waste Man-



A coalition of government, business and community leaders came together to raise awareness around a new state law regarding safe disposal of used medical needles and syringes. Pictured left to right: Scott Combis, plant manager, Waste Management's Lake County recycling facility; Sen. Melinda Bush; Walter Willis, Solid Waste Agency of Lake County, Illinois; Tim Sashko, Illinois Fire Chiefs Association; and Jerry Peck, Illinois Manufacturer's Association.

agement of Illinois's Grayslake recycling facility employing over forty-five workers, regularly see sharps come across the recycling line also signed on as a sponsor. "This new law protects workers like those at the Waste Management facility in Grayslake, but it also protects public health in Illinois," commented Senator Melinda Bush. "Medical

waste is something that affects us all. Ensuring proper disposal of sharps means less risk of infection or contamination for everyone."

For a direct link to additional information, view this article on [www.AmericanRecycler.com](http://www.AmericanRecycler.com).

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## PAPER

# AF&PA releases paper reports for September 2015

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

## Containerboard

Containerboard production was 0.4 percent lower compared to September 2014. The month-over-month average daily production compared to August 2015 was 3 percent lower. The containerboard operating rate for September decreased slightly at 96.1 percent.

## Kraft Paper

Total Kraft paper shipments were 136.6 thousand short tons, 1.5 percent lower compared to September 2014. Bleached Kraft paper shipments decreased slightly from 8.7 thousand short tons in August 2015 to 8.6, while unbleached Kraft paper decreased from 134.9 to 128.0 thousand short tons. Overall, year-to-date shipments up to September 2015 were 1.5 percent higher compared to the same period in 2014. Total month-end inventories decreased to 72.6 thousand short tons.

## Printing/Writing Paper Report

According to the report, total printing/writing paper shipments decreased 4 percent in September compared to September 2014. Total inventory levels decreased 4 percent from August.

•Uncoated free sheet (UFS) paper shipments were slightly ahead (less than 1 percent) of comparable shipments in September 2014, the second increase in the past four months. Imports of UFS

decreased 25 percent year-over-year in August.

•September coated free sheet (CFS) paper shipments decreased 1 percent compared to September 2014. Imports of CFS papers increased 15 percent in August, the fifth year-over-year increase in the past six months.

•Uncoated mechanical (UM) paper shipments decreased 7 percent when compared with September 2014. Imports of UM papers were down 15 percent in August, the fourteenth consecutive monthly decline.

•Coated mechanical (CM) shipments in September decreased 18 percent relative to September 2014. Imports of CM increased in August, up 18 percent, the fourth year-over-year increase in the past six months.

## Boxboard Report

Total boxboard production decreased 1.1 percent when compared to September 2014 and decreased 4.9 percent from August.

Unbleached Kraft Boxboard production decreased over the same month as last year and decreased compared to August.

Total Solid Bleached Boxboard and Liner production decreased when compared to September 2014 and decreased compared to August. The production of Recycled Boxboard was flat compared to September 2014 and decreased when compared to August.

# Single stream paper recycling more efficient than mixed waste

An economic and policy study commissioned by the American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) and developed by engineering firm Burns & McDonnell shows that high performing single stream recycling systems recover more paper and other recyclable materials than mixed waste facilities that combine wet and organic waste with dry recyclables.

Mixed waste processing recovers much less mill quality paper, but more metal and plastic, and requires 2.5 times the facility capital cost.

AF&PA conducted the study to help communities better understand whether mixed waste processing could assist them with meeting their recycling goals. As the composition of the waste stream continues to change and communities' interest in diversion evolves, seeking options to increase recycling rates is a challenge.

Recognizing that multiple technical, economic and environmental questions exist concerning the feasibility of mixed

waste processing, the study focused on recovering recyclable materials from residential sources and assessed several scenarios comparing mixed waste processing to single stream recycling in a representative large U.S. city.

The U.S. paper and paperboard manufacturing industry relies on a continuing, expanding supply of mill quality recovered paper fiber from recycling systems for feedstock to manufacture new products. In a mixed waste system, clean, dry recyclable paper is mixed with wet and organic waste, which increases the potential for contamination of the fiber and, thus, limits its availability and viability for reuse in manufacturing new paper and paperboard products.

The industry has set a goal to exceed 70 percent paper recovery by 2020 as part of its Better Practices, Better Planet 2020 sustainability initiative. Paper recovery for recycling helps extend the useful life of paper and paper based packaging products, making it an integral part of the industry's sustainability story.

*Fred and Luke were fishing on the side of the road. They made a sign that said, "The End is Near! Turn yourself around now before it's too late!" and showed it to each passing car.*

*One driver that passed didn't appreci-*

*ate the sign and shouted, "Leave us alone you religious nuts!" All of a sudden they heard a big splash.*

*Fred grinned at Luke. "Do you think we should just put up a sign that says 'Bridge Out' instead?"*

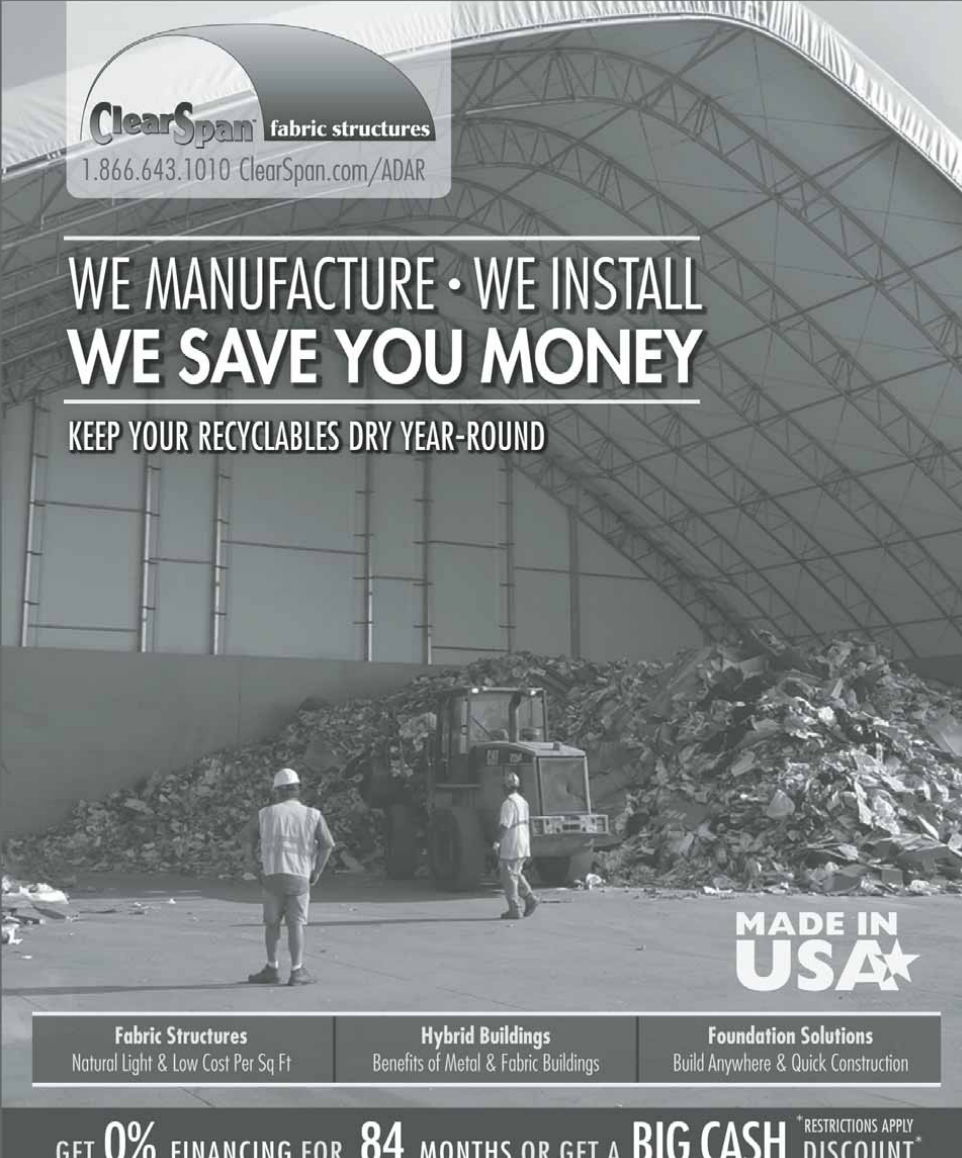
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## INDUSTRY PROFILE

## A Closer Look

by Donna Currie

## Hoosier Hauler

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The tagline for Hoosier Hauler is “We love talking trash,” and owner Kyle Wang said that he does indeed enjoy talking to his customers, particularly, “when I have a satisfied customer and they become a repeat customer.”

Wang founded the company about 15 years ago with a partner, but he said that they didn’t really get serious about it until 2002. He bought his partner out in 2007 when their visions of the business became incompatible.

Wang sees the business as a long-term venture that he wants to grow for the next 20 to 25 years, and he wants to put earnings back into the business to help it grow. Wang’s partner wanted to start taking money out of the business as income, so Wang bought him out.

At first, Hoosier Hauler picked up waste that was stored in enclosures, and drivers had to pick up the material and load it into dump trailers by hand. It wasn’t long before Wang realized that wasn’t very efficient, so he invested in roll-off dumpsters and later he upgraded to roll-off trailers. Now he has two trucks to service all of his customers.

Besides Wang, the company has three employees – two truck drivers, who also do all the necessary maintenance, and one person who handles all of the office tasks.

While Wang is the owner, he also has a full-time job in the pharmaceutical industry in Indianapolis, which supports his family while he continues reinvesting the Hoosier Hauler’s profits back into the company.

The company picks up from both residential and commercial locations, and also works with local contractors. All of the waste is delivered to the local dump, where mixed loads are sorted to remove any recyclable materials.

Wang said that he expects that in the future, recycling will become a much larger part of waste hauling and disposal business in his area. He said that right now some trash loads are not sorted when they are dumped, but he thinks there will come a time when it will be mandated that all loads are sorted prior to final disposal, so that more recyclables will be recovered from the waste stream.

Wang is working on growing his customer list using local advertising as well as online sites like Angie’s List. He also belongs to several associations where he meets people, and he offers discounts to veterans, to Angie’s List customers, and to some contractors.

Customers appreciate that Hoosier Hauler’s prices are inexpensive even without the discounts, that the person who handles the phones is efficient and personable, and that the drivers are courteous.

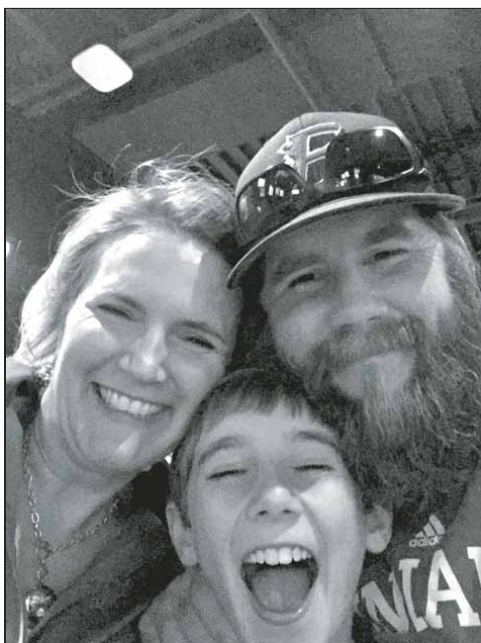
Wang said that since he has been the sole owner and since he took over the day-to-day operations about a year ago, he made the business even more customer-friendly than it was before. For example, he implemented new policies, like requiring that the drivers put down boards on customer’s property so the roll-off containers don’t scratch or damage the asphalt or concrete.

“The customer is always right,” Wang said, even when the customer might not be entirely right. He does everything he can to make sure customers are happy, because it’s easier to keep a customer than to get one back if they go elsewhere.

Wang particularly enjoys it when a competitor’s customer gives Hoosier Hauler a try for one load and decides to become a regular customer. He said that while many of his competitors focus on commercial customers, Hoosier Hauler pays just as much attention to the residential customers.

The biggest challenge, Wang said, is the competition. “It seems like every year there’s a new dumpster company.” On the other hand, in the 15 years he’s been in the business, he’s seen a lot of competitors come and go.

Prior to founding Hoosier Hauler Wang served in the Marine Corps., and many of his customers appreciate that the company is 100 percent veteran-owned. But Wang doesn’t just promote his military past as a selling feature - he donates part of the company profits to veterans, “helping our heros one dumpster at a time.” That’s one of the things he’s most proud of – that after 15 years in business, he’s able to give back, and he looks forward to doing even more as the business grows.



—Melissa, Jackson and Kyle Wang

## PLASTICS

## Plastic bottle recycling in U.S. tops three billion pounds

Plastic bottle recycling grew by 97 million pounds in 2014, increasing 3.3 percent, to top 3 billion pounds for the year, according to figures released jointly by the Association of Plastic Recyclers (APR) and the American Chemistry Council (ACC). The recycling rate for plastic bottles climbed 1.0 percent to 31.8 percent for the year.

The annual National Post-Consumer Plastics Bottle Recycling Report marks the 25th consecutive year that Americans have increased the pounds of plastic bottles collected for recycling since the survey began in 1990.

Trends in plastics recycling highlighted in the report include:

- Single-stream collection of household recyclables continues to grow, resulting in higher participation rates.

- Use of plastic bottles in packaging applications is expanding but offset by continued lightweighting and increased use of concentrates with smaller, lighter bottles.

- Lack of access to away-from-home recycling continues to be a barrier to increased collection.

During 2014, the collection of high-density polyethylene (HDPE, #2) bottles – a category that includes milk jugs and bottles for household cleaners and detergents – rose to nearly 1.1 billion pounds, a gain of over 62 million pounds from 2013. The recycling rate for HDPE bottles rose to 33.6 percent.

A higher percentage of all post-consumer plastic bottle material was processed by domestic reclaimers in 2014. Exports of all post-consumer plastic bottles rose slightly (in pounds) but fell to the lowest percentage of exports in six years (21.9 percent) as the amount of bottles collected increased faster than did exports, according to the report. The drop in

exports may reflect the strength of the U.S. dollar and growth in domestic reclamation capacity.

U.S. reclamation capacity for HDPE increased to its highest level ever in 2014. Exports of HDPE bottles rose from 15.6 to 19.7 percent (218 million pounds) of domestically collected material, and domestic reclaimers processed approximately 951 million pounds of HDPE bottles in 2014.

“The message to American consumers is that plastic bottles are valuable resources even after they’ve been used,” said Steve Alexander, executive director of APR. “Americans generated an estimated \$730 million in recycled plastic bottles in 2014. The simple act of recycling helps generate local revenue, supports recycling jobs, and enables us to continue to benefit from these useful resources.”

This year’s survey also found that the collection of polypropylene (PP, #5) bottles jumped 28.3 percent for the year to reach 79.5 million pounds, as the collection rate sprang to 44.9 percent. Domestic processing of postconsumer PP bottles grew to 65.3 million pounds. PP bottles deliberately recycled as PP (instead of blended with HDPE) rose from 44.2 million pounds in 2013 to 45.6 million pounds in 2014.

Together, polyethylene terephthalate (PET, #1) and HDPE bottles continue to make up nearly 97 percent of the U.S. market for plastic bottles with PP comprising 1.9 percent, LDPE 0.8 percent and PVC 0.4 percent.

The 25th annual National Post-Consumer Plastics Bottle Recycling Report is based on a survey of reclaimers conducted by Moore Recycling Associates, Inc.

**Q:** Our baby was born last week. When will my wife begin to feel and act normal again?

**A:** Shortly after the kid leaves for college.

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## PLASTICS

### Nation's toughest ban on plastic microbeads passes in CA

California Governor Jerry Brown signed the nation's toughest ban on personal care products containing plastic microbeads, such as toothpastes, soaps, and shower gels, that are designed to be rinsed down the drain. Assemblymember Richard Bloom (D-Santa Monica) authored AB 888 after trillions of the tiny fragments of plastic ended up in rivers, lakes and oceans, where they are mistaken for food by fish and other wildlife.

AB 888 is sponsored by the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA), Californians Against Waste, The Story of Stuff Project, The 5 Gyres Institute and Clean Water Action. According to CASA, after plastic microbeads are rinsed down the drain, their small size allows them to often bypass wastewater treatment filters. They then end up in local waterways and eventually the ocean where they attract chemicals such as PCBs and flame retardants to their surfaces. This can pose a threat to human health when fish and other organisms mistake them for food and the toxins make their way up the food chain.

Unlike plastic microbead bans passed in other states, AB 888 does not allow for companies to use microbeads that are made of new formulations of plastic that their producers claim are safe or "biodegradable" because such claims have not been scientifically proven.

A recent study by the San Francisco Estuary Institute found the San Francisco Bay has some of the highest concentrations of plastic pollution of any U.S. body of water, and a recent UC Davis study found a quarter of fish at markets have ingested plastic or other man-made debris. The 5 Gyres Institute, a research organization focusing on plastic pollution in the world's oceans, discovered microbeads on a research expedition in the Great Lakes, where they found as many as 466,000 microplastics per square kilometer.

Plastic microbeads generally measure less than 1 millimeter in diameter and are added to facial scrubs, toothpastes and other personal care products as colorants or exfoliants. A single product can contain 350,000 microbeads. Many natural alternatives, such as apricot shells and cocoa beans, are already used instead of plastic microbeads in many products. AB 888 takes effect on January 1, 2020, and will keep an estimated 38 tons of plastic pollution out of California's freshwater and marine environments every year.

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## ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

### WELTEC Group acquires two biomethane refineries



The WELTEC Group has acquired two biomethane refineries in Hesse and Saxony-Anhalt, Germany. One of the plants is located in Ebsdorfergrund, Hesse, and has been acquired within the framework of an asset deal. Nordmethan Produktion Ebsdorfergrund GmbH, an affiliate of the WELTEC Group, is now responsible for the operation as the new owner, but all staffing remains the same.

The new operator is familiar with all technical details of the plant – among other things, WELTEC Biopower was the plant engineering company that set up the entire process technology including gas upgrading technology and

ensured a smooth go live in late 2012. The plant produces 1,000 standard m<sup>3</sup>/h of raw biogas and efficiently conditions it to 550 standard m<sup>3</sup>/h of natural gas equivalent biomethane.

The WELTEC Group had purchased the biomethane refinery in March 2015 from the insolvency assets of AC Biogas GmbH. As in Ebsdorfergrund, all employees remained in Könnern as well. The annual production of this plant, which had been planned and set up by WELTEC, amounts to about 15 million standard m<sup>3</sup> of biomethane, enough to supply 10,000 homes with heat and power.

### PowerOptions contracts with Solect as solar provider

PowerOptions, an energy buying consortium, has selected solar provider Solect Energy, a commercial scale solar developer in Massachusetts, to lead its Small Systems Solar program, providing savings for entities with smaller projects.

The program builds on the success of PowerOptions' existing large scale solar program, streamlining the process with pre-negotiated, competitively priced solar power structured to capture the benefits of tax incentives for nonprofits and government entities. The program fills a clear, unmet need in the marketplace, making small to mid-scale solar projects much more accessible to nonprofits of all sizes, said PowerOptions chief executive officer Cynthia Arcate.

In keeping with its mission to serve nonprofits, PowerOptions has committed that its members will face no up-front costs or maintenance requirements.

The new solar program provides competitively priced and pre-negotiated contract terms for solar systems less than 300 kilowatts and reflects the benefits of leveraging the potential for multiple projects across the consortium.

PowerOptions chose local, Hopkinton-based Solect Energy from a strong pool of candidates, noting their experience working with nonprofits and the public sector on solar contracts, competitive pricing, and flexibility to meet PowerOptions members' needs.

### Site of first commercial CTS plant in Georgia chosen by RRDA

Alliance BioEnergy Plus, Inc., disclosed that its licensee RRDA has secured the site for what will be the inaugural commercial CTS plant located in Vidalia, Georgia. With the support of the surrounding farmers, community and local government this plant will process up to 1,000 metric tons a day of mixed feedstock, create more than 100 local jobs and inject millions of dollars into the local economy.

RRDA is working with local farmers to process sweet onion and pine tree agricultural waste as well as paper mill process waste into fermentable sugars,

usable to manufacture fine chemical products, to be sold through an off-take agreement already in place.

The site, ideally located on a rail line and near agricultural processing facilities, will be included in the Company's FEL 3 engineering efforts, beginning in early November. With all of the key elements in place (land, feedstock, and off take agreements) RRDA will begin closing on its licensing and construction funding and anticipates breaking ground in Q1 2016 with a grand opening of this first plant slated for mid summer 2016.

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METALS

Steel imports decrease 9 percent in September

U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN (Thousands of Net Tons)					
	SEP 2015	AUG 2015	2014 Annual	2015 Annual Est.	% Change 2015 Annual vs. 2014
SOUTH KOREA	279	303	5,449	5,265	-3.4%
TURKEY	151	171	2,199	2,919	32.8%
CHINA	139	157	3,189	2,800	-12.2%
JAPAN	181	215	2,106	2,408	14.3%
GERMANY	148	85	1,278	1,601	25.2%
BRAZIL	110	211	1,188	1,466	80.9
TAIWAN	67	113	17,531	1,287	8.3%
All Others	1,094	1,222	810	15,749	-10.2%
TOTAL	2,168	2,478	33,751	33,495	-0.8%

Based on preliminary Census Bureau data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported that the U.S. imported a total of 2,773,000 net tons (NT) of steel in September 2015, including 2,168,000 NT of finished steel (down 9.4 percent and 12.5 percent, respectively, vs. August final data). Year-to-date (YTD) thru 9 months of 2015 total and finished steel imports are 30,841,000 and 25,122,000 NT, respectively, down 5 percent and up 3 percent respectively, vs. the same period in 2014.

Key finished steel products with a significant import increase in September compared to August are cut lengths plates (up 36 percent) and tin plate (up 39 percent). Major products with significant YTD import increases vs. the same period last year include reinforcing bar

(up 48 percent), line pipe (up 34 percent), standard pipe (up 23 percent), tin plate (up 20 percent), sheets and strip hot dipped galvanized (up 12 percent) and wire drawn (up 11 percent).

In September, the largest volumes of finished steel imports from offshore were from South Korea (279,000 NT, down 8 percent vs. August final), Japan (181,000 NT, down 16 percent), Turkey (151,000 NT, down 12 percent), Germany (148,000 NT, up 74 percent) and China (139,000 NT, down 11 percent). For nine months of 2015, the largest offshore suppliers were South Korea (3,949,000 NT, down 2 percent), Turkey (2,189,000 NT, up 48 percent), China (2,100,000 NT, down 10 percent), Japan (1,806,000 NT, up 18 percent) and Germany (1,201,000 NT, up 33 percent).

Import market share at 28 percent in September

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 October total 3,386,000 net tons (NT). This was a 15 percent increase from the 2,936,000 permit tons recorded in September and a 22 percent increase from the September preliminary imports total of 2,773,000 NT. Import permit tonnage for finished steel in October was 2,357,000, up 9 percent from the preliminary imports total of 2,168,000 in September. For the first 10 months of 2015 (including October SIMA and September preliminary), total and finished steel imports were 34,227,000 NT and 27,478,000 NT, respectively, down 8 percent and 1 percent from the same period in 2014. The estimated finished steel import market share in October was 28 percent and is 30 percent year-to-date (YTD).

Finished steel imports with large increases in October permits vs. the September preliminary included reinforcing

bars (up 131 percent), heavy structural shapes (up 45 percent), wire rods (up 40 percent), sheets and strip all other metallic coated (up 40 percent), hot rolled sheets (up 27 percent) and standard pipe (up 22 percent). Products with significant year-to-date (YTD) increases vs. the same period in 2014 include reinforcing bar (up 50 percent), line pipe (up 26 percent), standard pipe (up 20 percent), tin plate (up 12 percent) and wire drawn (up 10 percent).

In October, the largest finished steel import permit applications for offshore countries were for South Korea (364,000 NT, up 31 percent from September preliminary, Turkey (313,000 NT up 107 percent), Brazil (189,000 NT, up 72 percent), Japan (141,000, down 22 percent) and Taiwan (135,000 NT, up 103 percent). Through the first ten months of 2015, the largest offshore suppliers were South Korea (4,313,000 NT, down 6 percent from the same period in 2014), Turkey (2,503,000 NT, up 37 percent) and China (2,167,000, down 20 percent).

Novelis appoints Steve Pohl interim chief financial officer

Novelis Inc. has been named Steve Pohl, vice president, financial planning and analysis, interim chief financial officer, effective immediately. Pohl assumes the chief financial officer (CFO) duties from Steve Fisher who was promoted to chief executive officer in August.

In this role, Pohl will lead all financial activities for Novelis until such time as a permanent CFO is appointed. He will continue to be based at the company's world headquarters in Atlanta.

Pohl joined Novelis in 2009 as vice president of finance for North America.

From 2011 to 2012, he served as vice president, Global Business Services, and was then named vice president, Financial Planning and Analysis, in July 2012.

Prior to Novelis, Pohl spent 28 years with PPG Industries, where he held various finance and operational positions in PPG's glass and coatings businesses, including running the company's automotive coatings business in Latin America. While with PPG, Pohl had three international assignments, having been appointed to leadership positions in Mexico, Paris and Switzerland.

More METALS NEWS in the Focus Section on page B1

AR

Scrap Metals

MarketWatch

Commodity		Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5
#1 Bushelings	per gross ton	\$149.00	\$145.00	\$150.00	\$185.00	\$185.00
#1 Bundles	per gross ton	147.00	145.00	150.00	171.00	170.00
Plate and Structural	per gross ton	155.00	159.00	172.00	185.00	190.00
#1 & 2 Mixed Steel	per gross ton	160.00	160.00	145.00	169.00	170.00
Shredder Bundles (tin)	per gross ton	97.00	99.00	98.00	130.00	140.00
Crushed Auto Bodies	per gross ton	105.00	105.00	95.00	130.00	140.00
Steel Turnings	per gross ton	79.00	79.00	74.00	80.00	110.00
#1 Copper	per pound	2.05	1.80	1.92	2.02	2.01
#2 Copper	per pound	1.90	1.69	1.80	1.90	1.89
Aluminum Cans	per pound	.44	.44	.54	.50	.51
Auto Radiators	per pound	1.30	1.40	1.39	1.42	1.50
Aluminum Core Radiators	per pound	.41	.41	.50	.48	.42
Heater Cores	per pound	1.07	1.07	1.00	1.00	1.20
Stainless Steel	per pound	.41	.44	.45	.47	.48

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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## AUTOMOTIVE

# Finalists named for Green Car Of The Year

Green Car Journal has announced its five finalists for the magazine's prestigious 2016 Green Car of the Year award. The 2016 models include the Audi A3 e-tron, Chevrolet Volt, Honda Civic, Hyundai Sonata, and Toyota Prius.

An increasing number of vehicle models are considered for the Green Car of the Year program each year, a reflection of the auto industry's expanding efforts in offering new vehicles with higher efficiency and improved environmental impact. Green Car Journal has been honoring the most important green vehicles every year at the LA Auto Show, since its inaugural award announced at the show in 2005.

### The Finalists:

•AUDI A3 E-TRON – The A3 Sportback e-tron is Audi's entry in the hot plug

in hybrid vehicle market. This five door hatchback uses lithium-ion batteries and a 102 hp electric motor to deliver up to 19 miles of all electric driving, after which its 150 hp, 1.4 liter gasoline TFSI engine provides power for extended driving in efficient hybrid mode.

•CHEVROLET VOLT – Chevrolet's second generation Volt features sportier styling, better performance and a lighter and more powerful two motor drive system. The five passenger, extended range electric vehicle now drives up to 53 miles on batteries alone, with its 1.5 liter gasoline powered generator creating on board electricity to deliver an overall 420 mile range.

•HONDA CIVIC – Now in its tenth generation, the all new Honda Civic delivers exemplary fuel efficiency in an afford-

able, conventionally powered model. The Civic blends hybrid like fuel economy and appealing style, with an array of desired amenities and advanced electronics that meets the needs of many drivers.

•HYUNDAI SONATA – Hyundai's 2016 Sonata offers it all with efficient gasoline, hybrid and plug in hybrid choices within the Sonata lineup. New this year, the hybrid delivers up to 43 highway mpg. The Sonata Plug-In Hybrid drives up to 24 miles on batteries with additional range on conventional hybrid power.

•TOYOTA PRIUS – The Toyota Prius emerges in 2016 as a completely redesigned model, delivering the attributes expected of an industry leading hybrid with important design, technology and efficiency updates. It features a familiar yet bolder exterior and incorporates suspension and other improvements to deliver improved driving dynamics.

The Green Car of the Year is selected through a majority vote by a jury that includes celebrity auto enthusiast Jay Leno, plus leaders of noted environmental and efficiency organizations including Jean-Michel Cousteau, president of Ocean Futures Society; Matt Petersen, board member of Global Green USA; Dr. Alan Lloyd, president Emeritus of the International Council on Clean Transportation; Mindy Lubber, president of CERES; and Kateri Callahan, president of the Alliance to Save Energy.

During the award's vetting process, Green Car Journal editors consider all vehicles, fuels, and technologies as an expansive field of potential candidates is narrowed down to a final five. Finalists are selected for their achievements in raising the bar in environmental performance. Many factors are considered including efficiency, EPA and CARB emissions certification, performance characteristics, newness and affordability. Availability to the mass market is important to ensure honored models have the potential to make a real difference in environmental impact, and finalists must be available for sale by January 1st of the award year.

## Honda to add 120 EV chargers to campus

In an effort to increase the use of alternative fuel vehicles and to prepare for a new generation of plug-in vehicles set to arrive by 2018, Honda is adding 120 new electric vehicle (EV) chargers on the Torrance, California headquarter campus of American Honda Motor Co., Inc. The new chargers will be installed in two phases, the first of which has already begun. Ultimately, Honda estimates that the chargers will enable hundreds of associates to use an EV for their daily commute.

To support the local community in conjunction with the project, Honda is installing a publicly accessible DC "fast" charger on Harpers Way, adjacent to its campus, which will enable Torrance residents to rapidly refuel EVs equipped with DC charging capabilities. The fee based DC Fast charger will open in early 2016 and will support both the CHAdeMO and SAE Combo standards.

## Car-Part.com adds part images in search results

Online customers can now view recyclers' parts images while shopping in the Car-Part Pro marketplace. Part images are also available in search results on Car-Part.com, Trading Partners and recycler websites, as well the new MyPartsApp, which provides customized apps for recyclers.

The Part Images feature is a natural complement to the part grading and detailed part descriptions that recyclers already provide in Car-Part.com marketplaces. When a customer searches for a part, available part images are automatically included in the part description, right where they're needed. Part descriptions include thumbnails of the primary Part Image, and clicking a thumbnail opens a gallery of all available photos for that part. Part Images provide customers additional verification of quality and accuracy.

## SALVAGING Millions

by Ron Sturgeon  
Autosalvageconsultant.com

### Tools for success – an ongoing series

#### Be your own advocate – Learn to think strategically

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

This article is about thinking strategically. I know it sounds easy, and we presume that we always do this, but that's not the case. There are books on the subject, and training courses. Many folks just don't think like this.

I call one of my tools the upside downside test. It sounds easy, but it takes discipline to pause for a moment to consider the upsides and downsides of a position or plan. Sometimes you can do the tests in your brain in seconds, but sometimes you are forced to pause as you don't have all the information to make an informed decision. When you see boards in action, or serve on one, you see a lot of this.

Another tool I use is to pause and think what the ultimate goal of my action or plan is. Again, this can take a lot of discipline, and may require information from others. It can be as simple as defining in advance how you will define success, vs just doing something and then trying to justify why it was successful. Once you understand the ultimate goal is, you can think about the steps and likely bumps along the way. Understanding the "bumps" can help you plan.

For instance if your ultimate goal is to get rid of Johnny Smith, your delivery driver, think about how to get there. How will he respond to a written warning? Will he quit? (likely a good thing) or will he find a way to worm out of the issue, if that's how you think he will react, then it can affect how you word the first warning, so that he can't get away from a second warning.

Defining success in advance is a must for many items. For instance if you are going to exhibit at a trade show, what will you get out of that effort that will make it a success, and justify the cost and effort. How many prospects do you want to gather contact info from? How many actual sales (if any) do you want? What will your prospect acquisition cost be? And your customer acquisition cost? Or are you just going to do it and hope for the best, and then justify why it was a good deal. Involving employees in this planning gets them focused on how to make the event is a success, and if it's a failure, next year everyone won't be asking you to do it again.

You simply must build a discipline to stop and think before virtually every decision or action, how will this decision affect the next thing? And then what will happen? Then what will happen? ...then what will the result be? Is that the result I want? If not how can I influence it now with strategic planning instead of having to deal with it later?

### Remember, only you can make BUSINESS GREAT!

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

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## GLASS

# Safelite reaches milestone in windshield recycling program

Safelite AutoGlass, a provider of windshield replacements, has diverted its 4 millionth windshield from entering a landfill through its recycling partnership with Shark Glass Recycling North America.

Safelite senior corporate buyer Deb Tschofen who oversees the program explained the challenge in recycling windshields, "Windshields are made from laminated glass, which is created using two sheets of glass with a clear resin interlay called Polyvinyl Butyral (PVB) between. The PVB keeps the glass together when damaged but also makes it difficult to separate from the glass to re-purpose."

Safelite approached Shark Solutions, a post-consumer PVB from windshield recycler, to develop a solution to bring their technology to the U.S.

As a result, Shark Glass Recycling North America began operations in its first U.S. windshield recycling plant strategically located close to Safelite's east coast distribution, so as not to increase transportation emissions. The logistics of collecting the old windshields and shipping to the recycling plant were designed to be carbon neutral, using existing freight lanes within the supply chain.

Shark Glass Recycling North America processes glass from Safelite's cus-



PHOTO BY HEIKO KÜVERLING | DREAMSTIME

tomers using patented technology that separates the glass from PVB. Approximately 90 percent becomes glass cullet, which can then be recycled into a number of new products while approximately 7 percent becomes PVB scrap, which is recycled into useable materials for a number of new products such as carpet backing and paint. In fact, Safelite uses rugs made with recycled windshields with the company logo in many of its locations.

During the second week of October 2015, reports show Safelite reached an important milestone of sending 4 million damaged windshields to be recycled since the program launched in 2012.

Educating employees to package and return damaged windshields has been a key to the success of the recycling program. The markets returning the most tonnage are Taunton and Boston, followed by Pittsburgh, Baltimore and Atlanta.

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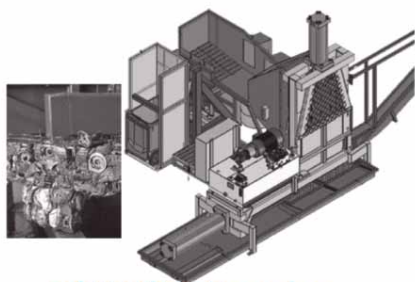
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## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Alpine Waste VP named to national recycling board

■ Brent Hildebrand, vice president of Recycling at Alpine Waste & Recycling, has been elected to the board of directors of the National Recycling Coalition.

Hildebrand runs the Altogether Recycling Plant in South Adams County that recently celebrated its retooling and expansion of capacity. The plant originally opened in 2007, and the recent \$5 million investment into all new Machinex equipment and other improvements increased the material capacity by 100 percent.

In 2012, Hildebrand was named the president of the Colorado Association for Recycling. In 2009 he received the Sustainability Champion award from the Colorado Environmental Partnership and the Colorado Public Health and Environment for innovating Alpine's diverse efforts to promote recycling in Colorado.

### Redhead Equipment joins Sennebogen sales

■ One of the largest heavy equipment dealers in Saskatchewan, Redhead Equipment, now offers sales, parts, service, and financing on Sennebogen material handling equipment.

By adding Sennebogen to its product lineup, Redhead can now offer its existing customers a purpose-built choice for their material handling applications. The change will help Redhead staff build on their existing customer relationships in a variety of industries. Redhead also identified applications for Sennebogen equipment within the scrap, steel and forestry industries.

### Waste Connections completes acquisition

■ Waste Connections, Inc. has completed the acquisition of Rock River Environmental Services, Inc., a provider of solid waste collection, recycling, transfer and disposal services, with total annual revenue of approximately \$75 million.

The acquired operations service 19 counties in central and northern Illinois and include 5 collection operations, 2 landfills, 1 compost facility, 1 transfer station and 1 recycling facility.

### 4B Components hires new national sales manager

■ 4B Components Ltd., a manufacturer of material handling and electronic components for bucket elevators and conveyors, has recently hired Randy Longbrake as national sales manager for the material handling division.

Longbrake comes with a wealth of experience from within the industry, having spent the last five years at a local design/build millwright company where he was instrumental in acquiring new customers and previously with a major OEM where he focused on customer service.

### Morales made director of Masaba Latin America

■ Masaba Inc., manufacturer and supplier of material handling equipment, has appointed Carlos Morales, director Latin America. Morales has over 20 years business experience in both private and public sector roles.

### BioHiTech forms subsidiary BioHiTech Europe

■ BioHiTech Global, Inc. formed BioHitech Europe LTD to further the global expansion of the company's commercial food waste disposal solution.

BioHitech America, LLC, the company's first subsidiary, has been providing food waste disposal solutions for nearly 8 years. Headquartered in London, BioHitech Europe LTD hopes to offer expanded sales and services in Europe.

According to the European Commission, nearly 100 million tons of food are wasted annually in Europe. The BioHitech Solution not only diverts food from landfills but it also gives consumers the data they need to start making decisions that will lead to the prevention of food waste from the start. BioHitech's on-site Eco-Safe Digester converts food waste into grey-water and transports it through standard sewer lines. During the digestion process, the digester weighs each increment of waste and allows users to quantify its type and origin, simultaneously transmitting this data to the BioHitech Cloud on a real time basis.

### Timken declares quarterly 374<sup>th</sup> consecutive dividend

■ The board of directors of The Timken Company declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$.26 per share. The dividend is payable on December 4, 2015, to shareholders of record as of November 23, 2015.

This marks the 374th consecutive quarterly dividend paid on the common shares of the company.

### Novolex acquires Wisconsin Film & Bag

■ Novolex, a Wind Point Partners portfolio company, has acquired Wisconsin Film & Bag (WF&B), a manufacturer of custom polyethylene bags and films based in Shawano, Wisconsin. The company operates a converting plant and a plastics recycling plant near Shawano and has approximately 175 employees.

Wisconsin Film & Bag was founded in 1972 in Oconto, Wisconsin as a manufacturer of can liners. The company expanded and moved to the Shawano site in the early 1980s. It has experienced continuous growth over the last 40 years and invested in state of the art manufacturing systems. The Company has won several awards in recent years for innovation and has unique expertise in the recovery and recycling of postindustrial and postconsumer plastics packaging.

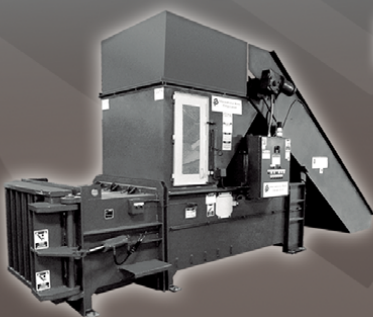
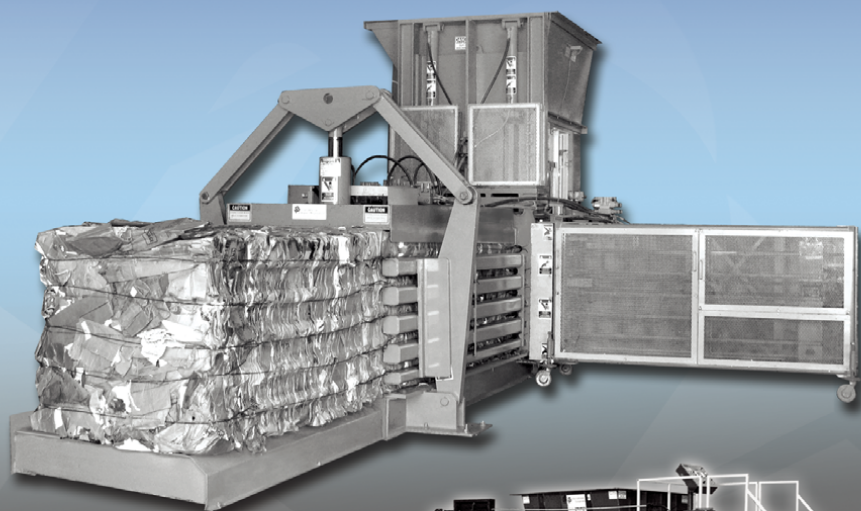
WF&B is Novolex's fourth acquisition since Wind Point Partners acquired Novolex (formerly Hilex Poly) in 2012, in partnership with Chairman and chief executive officer Stan Bikulege.

### Michael Golden interim chief executive officer

■ Subsequent to the end of their third quarter, Quest Resource Holding Corp. appointed Michael Golden as interim chief executive officer.

Quest also disclosed that Tim Semones has been promoted to chief operating officer from senior vice president of operations.

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## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### EnergySolutions signs agreement for acquisition

■ EnergySolutions, Inc. has signed a definitive agreement to acquire Waste Control Specialists LLC (WCS), a wholly owned subsidiary of Valhi, Inc. and operator of a waste disposal facility located in Andrews County, Texas.

At closing, EnergySolutions will pay \$270 million in cash, \$20 million face amount in Series A Preferred Stock and will assume approximately \$77 million of WCS debt. Additionally, EnergySolutions will assume all financial assurance obligations related to the WCS business. Completion of the sale is subject to certain customary closing conditions outlined in the transaction agreement.

EnergySolutions and WCS will continue to operate as independent companies until completion of the sale.

### Republic expands CNG-powered fleet in Phoenix

■ Republic Services added four compressed natural gas (CNG) solid waste collection trucks to its fleet serving customers throughout the greater Phoenix area.

The CNG trucks replace older diesel-powered trucks, and bring the total number of natural gas vehicles operated by Republic Services throughout Arizona to 34.

### Morbark honored with Pillar of the Industry Award

■ The Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM) honored Morbark, Inc., with its "Pillar of the Industry Award," reflecting Morbark's work to improve the business environment for the equipment manufacturing industry.

Morbark was recognized for its efforts in 2015 to advocate for pro-manufacturing solutions to elected leaders and for their participation in AEM's "I Make America" grassroots program.

To be eligible for AEM's Pillar of the Industry award, a member company must meet qualifications to become involved in state and national issues. Notable activities in which employees of Morbark participated include a legislative fly-in to lobby Michigan representatives for their support of legislation to reauthorize the funding of the EX-IM Bank and the passage of a long-term Highway Bill, as well as an "I Make America" supporter sign-up at the company's summer family picnic.

### Munsey joins Otto Environmental Systems

■ Otto Environmental Systems North America, Inc. has hired Chuck Munsey as its new Gulf Coast area manager. In his new role, Munsey will be responsible for new business development and sales of waste containers and carts, as well as container management services, for Arkansas, Tennessee, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. He will report directly to Scott Smith, director – eastern region.

### Atlas Copco appoints new vice president, construction

■ Atlas Copco named Jamie Roush as its new vice president/business line manager, Construction Service Division to continue the growth of Atlas Copco's consumables, parts and service business.

Roush brings more than 17 years of industry experience to his role and held several positions with Atlas Copco over the last seven years.

Roush has an undergraduate degree in physics from Muskingum University and attended Cleveland State University for graduate studies in mechanical engineering.

### Advantek names Hayes as new board member

■ Advantek Waste Management Services LLC, a waste management company and innovator of managing wastes produced by the oil and gas industry, disclosed that David J. Hayes has joined its board of directors. Hayes is a Distinguished Visiting Lecturer in Law at the Stanford Law School and a Visiting Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress.

Prior to teaching at Stanford, Hayes served as the deputy secretary and chief operating officer of the Department of the Interior for Presidents Clinton and Obama from 1999-2001 and 2009-2013, respectively, including serving as the Department's point person in managing the Interior's response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill crisis in the Gulf of Mexico.

### Aqua Metals secures financing for new facility

■ Aqua Metals has secured a \$10 million loan to build a facility to recycle lead batteries near Reno, Nevada.

The Alameda, California based Aqua Metals received the loan from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development and Green Bank to build its first AquaRefinery at the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center.

Rather than traditional smelting as a lead battery recycling method, AquaMetals will employ its continuous electrochemical system, called AquaRefining, which it claims is safe and environmentally friendly.

The process packages the lead into a brick that can be reused.

The company will produce lead at 80 metric tons per day and then 160 metric tons per day by 2018. The cost of the new facility is estimated at \$29.6 million.

Aqua Metals plans to apply the proceeds to expand its lead recycling capacity. Aqua Metals called the traditional smelting process one of the top three most polluting industrial processes in the world, for the planet's most common type of battery.

Lead-acid batteries have the highest recycling rate of any product sold in the United States with 39 states requiring the retailer take back the used battery when a new battery is purchased.

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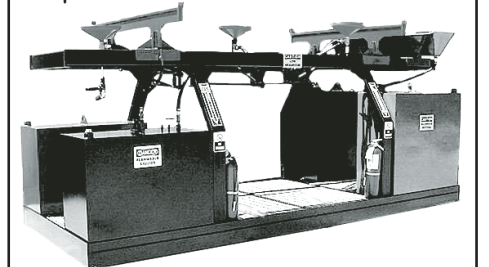
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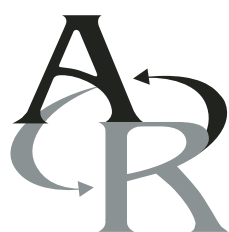
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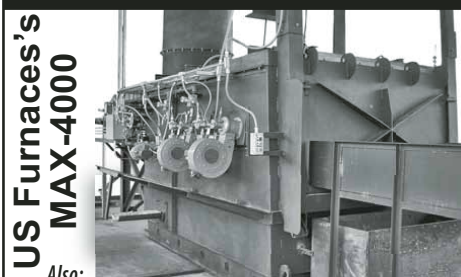


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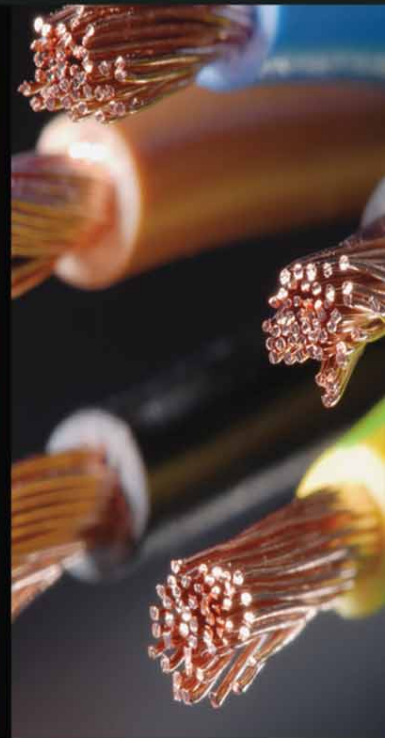
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on page B2!



## Old and new uses for copper

by MIKE BRESLIN

mbreslin@americanrecycler.com

Over the past few years it seems that most every televised sporting event is interrupted by commercials proclaiming the benefits of copper infused clothing. These TV spots are an apparent retirement fund for retired athletes who claim pain relief and improved physical performance from compression garments laced with copper fibers.

Since copper recovery is near and dear to the hearts and pocketbooks of many scrappers and recyclers, American Recycler News looked into the subject. Are these garments actually beneficial and what are the recycling implications? Here's what we learned.

There seems to be a long tradition in alternative medicine saying that copper bracelets relieve arthritis. Some also believe that copper is absorbed through the skin or somehow creates a magnetic field, thereby treating tissue. Medical science has found that wearing copper has no known benefit for any medical condition, except for its proven antimicrobial properties for skin and surfaces in medical facilities such as hospitals. Being antimicrobial, copper destroys or inhibits the growth of microorganisms, especially pathogenic microorganisms.

The other claims often made for these copper laden garments are the added benefit of compression to provide pain relief and additional support, or bracing to body joints. It is true that compression clothing is an accepted medical treatment for some ailments such as high blood pressure where therapeutic compression stockings help prevent swelling in feet and legs. The claims that copper infused compression garments have therapeutic effects has yet to be proven. The addition of copper may have no benefit beyond a placebo effect.

Tommie Copper, Inc. one of the leading marketers of copper infused compression garments was contacted to learn about the technical details of their products which include compression sleeves, tops, bottoms, underwear and socks. They declined with the reply, "At this time, we cannot provide information or comments for your article."

Shortly thereafter we learned that Tommie Copper is the subject of a class action lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court for Southern District of New York against Tommie Copper Inc., alleging violations of New York's Deceptive Trade Practices Law and Iowa's Private Right of Action for

Consumer Frauds Act, as well as breach of express warranty, negligent misrepresentation and unjust enrichment. Plaintiff claims that the defendant made false and misleading claims concerning the alleged skin and health benefits of its copper-infused athletic apparel, including the ability to provide relief from aches and pains and a faster recovery period. (Potsner, et al. v. Tommie Copper Inc., No. 15-cv-03183 (S.D.N.Y. complaint filed Apr. 22, 2015)).

The suit alleges that the company violated consumer protection laws by overstating the health benefits of its copper infused apparel. The class in this lawsuit includes any person who paid for any Tommie Copper garment that was advertised as containing copper in its fabric, prior to November 2014. The complaint alleges that Tommie Copper made the claims that its products rejuvenate and revive the body; relieve aches and pains; increase

oxygen transportation; improve muscle mobility and recovery; and that copper is absorbed by the body promoting better skin health and recovery time. The complaint alleges that none of these claims are true. It is true that humans can have a copper deficiency in their diet, but it's rare, because copper is present in many common foods. And there's also no scientific evidence that copper can be absorbed through the skin. To get background on copper in compression fabrics we called on Scott R. Baker, PhD, and director of the health, environment and sustainable development program for the



International Copper Association, the global association of the copper industry.

"How copper compression clothing uses copper comes from several years of applications of metals to fabrics with the marketing claim that these metals have antimicrobial properties and keep clothing from smelling and staining," said Baker. "It began, I believe, with the silver industry several years ago claiming that there were beneficial properties in silver and stainless steel."

Baker said that about 10 years ago the copper industry discovered the very strong antimicrobial properties of copper. And, when they did the studies, it became very apparent that copper was a much more effective killer of microbes than any other product of any kind. In recent years, the copper industry launched a campaign



Several manufacturers of copper infused compression wear use recycled copper in special processes to apply copper to fabrics.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COPPER ASSOCIATION

in the hospital environment to employ copper on touch surfaces to keep surfaces cool and free of very virulent microbes to combat Hospital Acquired Infections (HAI). Copper has been shown effective in various demonstration cases done at hospitals with IV poles and other equipment made out of copper alloys. They proved to be much better than stainless steel that is being used.

"There is a history of metal applications in all types of materials including fabrics, Baker continued. "I think the origin of metals in fabrics arose in Japan when they began to

See COPPER, Page B2

## Silver volume stagnation predicted

The Silver Institute released "Silver Scrap: The Forgotten Fundamental," a report produced by Metals Focus, the London-based independent precious metals research consultancy, on behalf of the Silver Institute. The study provides detailed information on recycling broken down by region and by five sectors: industrial end uses, photography, jewelry, silverware and coins. This analysis then forms the bedrock for the forecast in scrap volumes out to 2017 and how those volumes might vary with price.

### Highlights from the report include:

- Silver recycling is projected to decline to 178.0 Moz (5,536t) by 2017. This is 14 percent lower than the 2011 peak, as growth is only expected to average 3 percent a year, even if prices rally to over \$20. This outlook is based on further losses in photographic scrap, a depleted pool of near-market silverware and a limited response from most industrial end-uses.

- The study found that scrap from industrial sources is the largest segment, accounting for around half the total last year. A key finding was the low level of recovery from the vast majority of end-uses, as highly fragmented ownership and low silver contents often make recovery uneconomic. The main exception is the substantial and growing volumes coming from ethylene oxide catalysts.

- Silverware is the second biggest source of silver scrap supply, with an 18 percent share of the 2014 total. This large slice was mainly ascribed to a sizable pool of product and a comparatively high value per piece. By contrast, silver jewelry recycling is modest, despite higher consumption today, as consumers appear to be content to hold on to a still fashionable metal and resale is less valuable.

- The report notes that photographic scrap remains in marked structural decline as a lagged result of the digitally-led fall in its fabrication since a peak in the late 1990s. However, still sizable volumes of recycling of old x-rays helped this sector achieve 16 percent of the 2014 scrap total.

- The West, in particular North America, dominates recycling today, with 53 percent of last year's total. Chinese scrap was, however, noted to be growing fast, with its share on target for almost 20 percent by 2017, largely as a result of gains in industrial recycling.

- The report isolates four main drivers of silver recycling: the silver price; the scale of a products' stocks; the degree to which ownership is fragmented and, lastly, environmental legislation in conjunction with its enforcement and voluntary compliance.



# Demand for aluminum continues growth

The Aluminum Association released the latest edition of the Aluminum Statistical Review for 2014. The latest edition of the review, which features a new design and statistics through 2014 in the North American market, includes information on every cycle of the aluminum production process.

This year's review shows continued growth in demand for the metal and positive trend lines in many key market sectors. Among key findings, the report found that in 2014 in the U.S. and Canada:

- Demand for aluminum (producer net shipments and imports) increased by 3.6 percent to 25.5 billion lbs.

- U.S. imports of aluminum and aluminum products increased 7.0 percent over 2013, to a total of 11.7 billion lbs.

- Growth in U.S. imports was largely a result of an increase in aluminum originating from China, with shipments up 38 percent over 2013 levels.

- Shipments to the transportation sector grew 11.1 percent to 8.4 billion lbs.

- Shipments in the building and construction market increased 6.7 percent to 3.1 billion lbs.

- Container and packaging shipments edged up four-tenths of one percent to 4.6 billion lbs.

Net shipments of semi-fabricated or mill products increased 4.2 percent over the previous year to 17.6 billion lbs.

Aluminum Association president and chief executive officer Heidi Brock offered, "One notable takeaway from

this report is the apparent increase in aluminum imports coming from China – up some 38 percent in 2014. Preliminary data suggests these imports are continuing to grow in 2015. The Association is currently working to highlight these changes in the marketplace with both the Chinese and U.S. governments to help ensure that the aluminum trade between our two countries is free, fair and transparent."

Overall in 2014, the industry shipped more than 25.5 billion lbs. of metal for the first time since before the recession, with total demand up more than 36 percent since 2009. Demand in the building and construction sector has grown nearly 19 percent, while the transportation market has grown an unprecedented 95 percent during that same time period. Despite the recent growth, the North American aluminum industry has committed to more than \$2 billion in domestic capital investment to take advantage of the anticipated continued demand growth in the coming years.

The Aluminum Statistical Review is intended to support members of the industry, financial analysts, government agencies, students and the general public. It is divided into five major sections: supply, shipments, markets, foreign trade and world statistics. Its contents include text, tables and charts to provide year-end figures and other historic data on U.S. and Canadian shipments, markets, supply and foreign trade.

## Copper

■Continued from Page B1

make antimicrobial clothing because of their fetish with cleanliness. It soon migrated to other parts of the world. A few years ago, an enterprising company in Israel named Cupron developed a copper-based antimicrobial technology for a first-of-its-kind antifungal sock designed for foot care for people with diabetes."

Cupron uses copper oxide powder made from natural, recycled copper which is combined with, for example, polyester to create small particles that can then be added to fibers (polyester, nylon, polypropylene) much like color or other additives. Their processes and applications are patented. These copper-infused fibers apparently have a positive effect on the diabetic foot, specifically an ability to kill athlete's foot fungus.

Cupron cites over 30 studies of their products on its website, www.cupron.com. In one study of 56 patients with severe athlete's foot, a significant improvement of the medical symptoms in all patients was seen within 9 days of wearing socks made with its fibers. They were found to kill 99.9 percent of athlete's foot fungus on the sock. The sock also recently received approval from the EPA for its antifungal public health claim. The antifungal technology is embedded in the fibers of the sock, and as a result, Cupron claims the effectiveness will not diminish over time. The company is also marketing a pillowcase and other products that include its patented copper technology embedded in microfibers.

"The reason why Cupron persevered because they understood that diabetics and others people who have problems with wound healing would benefit from having copper socks because copper aids in wound healing," Baker added. "After that and more recently people got the idea that copper could be used for other purposes. The business of copper infused compression fabrics is the most recent development. It's a twist on the idea of antimicrobial, but some manufacturers of those products also claim that it also enhances performance. There is little if no scientific evidence to support those compression claims. It's the same thing with people who wear copper bracelets, or copper infused golfing gloves. Some swear by them while others claim no effect, except turning the wrist green."

Baker believes that there is no bonafide scientific evidence of consistency, of repeatability and reproducibility that improved performance effects are actually caused by copper. He thinks the theory is because of copper's ionic potential, its oxidation reduction potential, which makes it a really good conductor of electricity, that it has the same type of impact on the human body. Some manufacturers claim that the ionic contact produced through sweat and contact with the skin are having some type of stimulatory effect based on electrical properties that is enabling these beneficial functions. "It's clearly true for the antimicrobial

properties, but whether or not it's true for pain therapy or strength conditioning, there's not strong evidence to support it," said Baker.

"Who knows if it's virgin or recycled copper that manufacturers of infused compression wear are using? If it's a thread, it's probably a very fine wire. Most of the copper wire that is produced for electrical applications has to be ultra-pure because you can't have any impurities that could cause hot spots and fire hazards. Building codes require it to be non-recycled or virgin copper. So it depends on where these compression fabrics manufacturers are sourcing their copper if it's virgin or recycled. I have never heard of wire being manufactured that is not ultra pure. Wire and cable makers would not waste their time making unpure copper products.

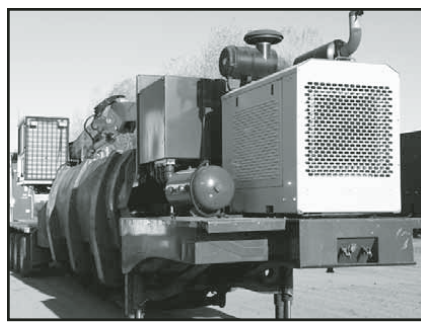
Baker reported that at this time, the copper infused fabric market represents a very tiny but growing market share of copper consumption, an extremely low tonnage. Even though you see copper compression commercials on TV and they have respectable sales, the amount of copper in any one of these products is minuscule compared to the many other high-tonnage applications such as infrastructure.

"Our other concerns about copper infused fabrics are unintentional dispersions of copper into the environment," Baker warned. "You don't think about copper leaching off in the washing machine and stressing water treatment facilities with copper loading, which eventually winds up in the environmental pool. For that reason, the copper industry does not endorse those types of products. It makes very good sense for these copper fabric manufacturers to use recycled copper, but I don't know where they source the product."

"At the end of its useful life, copper infused clothing, like any other product has to be disposed of. There's no documentation of what people are doing with these used garments and they essentially become hazardous waste whether incinerated or buried in a landfill. There's not enough tonnage of this fabric to be concerned about now, but it's like throwing copper in the trash can. It's still a useful product that can be recycled, but I don't think the recycling infrastructure is there to capture it at end of useful life. Consumers will likely just throw it away, or give it to a charity like Salvation Army. And, what will they do with it?"

"Copper prices are now in a trough, but that is true of all commodities. Copper tends to lead the commodities trades in the sense that if you look at copper prices and what they are doing month-to-month you can expect that other metals and commodities, whether pork bellies or corn for example, will follow. The markets are really tight right now because the price of copper is low, but it cycles. It always cycles. It's very predictable that the price will rise over a period of time that usually lasts a few years. Our industry is used to weathering the storm and enjoying the sunshine at times of peaks," Baker ended.

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## TimkenSteel awarded

TimkenSteel received two awards for its water treatment program from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Ohio EPA recognized TimkenSteel with gold and silver awards for utilizing a new compound that reduces chemical use by 90 percent, or 777,000 pounds per year. Additional benefits include reducing solids by more than 2 million pounds annually and cost savings of \$30,000 per year.

TimkenSteel's water treatment plant receives wastewater from the company's Harrison, Gambrinus and Faircrest plants in Canton. The water is cleaned and returned to the steel plants for use.

The Ohio EPA's Encouraging Environmental Excellence (E3) Awards program recognizes organizations that reduce waste, improve efficiency and work to continuously improve as environmental stewards. The gold award is the most prestigious.

# World crude steel production decreases in September

World crude steel production for the 66 countries reporting to the World Steel Association was 131 million tonnes (Mt) in September 2015, a -3.7 percent decrease compared to September 2014.

In the first 9 months of 2015, Asia produced 828.9 Mt of crude steel, a decrease of -2.0 percent over the first three quarters of 2014. The EU produced 127.5 Mt of crude steel during the first nine months of 2015, slightly down by -0.3 percent compared to the same period in 2014. North America's crude steel production in the first 9 months of 2015 was 85.1 Mt, a decrease of -6.8 percent compared to the first three quarters of 2014. The C.I.S. produced 75.9 Mt of crude steel in the first nine months of 2015, a decrease of -5.8 percent over the same months of 2014.

China's crude steel production for

September 2015 was 66.1 Mt, down by -3.0 percent compared to September 2014. Japan produced 8.6 Mt of crude steel in September 2015, a decrease of -7.3 percent compared to September 2014. India's crude steel production was 7.3 Mt in September, down by -1.4 percent on the same month last year.

In the EU, Germany produced 3.4 Mt of crude steel in September 2015, a decrease of -3.9 percent compared to September 2014. Italy's crude steel production was 2.1 Mt, down by -3.9 percent on September 2014. Spain produced 1.3 Mt of crude steel in September 2015, 8.5 percent more than September 2014. France's production for September 2015 was 1.3 Mt, a decrease of -8.5 percent compared to the same month in 2014.

Turkey's crude steel production for September 2015 was 2.5 Mt, down by -14.1 percent on September 2014.

In September 2015, Russia produced 5.5 Mt of crude steel, down by -3.2 percent over September 2014. Ukraine produced 2.1 Mt of crude steel, up by 14.1 percent compared to the same month in 2014.

The U.S. produced 6.7 Mt of crude steel in September 2015, down by -8.5 percent compared to September 2014.

Brazil's crude steel production for September 2015 was 2.5 Mt, a decrease of -13.0 percent on September 2014.

In the Middle East, Iran produced 1.3 Mt of crude steel in September 2015, down by -6.4 percent compared to the same month last year.

The crude steel capacity utilization ratio for the 66 countries in September 2015 was 69.3 percent. This is -4.0 percentage points lower than September 2014. Compared to August 2015, it is 1.3 percentage points higher.

## River Metals Recycling Paducah achieves SHARP recognition

River Metals Recycling (RMR) Paducah received the prestigious Safety & Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) designation from the U.S. Department of Labor. Paducah is RMR's third recycling facility in Kentucky to receive this award. The Newport and Owensboro locations also earned this distinguished designation.

The Paducah recycling facility teammates were recognized for their

commitment to creating and maintaining a safe and healthy workplace. SHARP is the highest honor OSHA awards to small worksites that demonstrate an exemplary commitment to workplace safety and health.

Bob Eviston, RMR president, thanked the Paducah teammates for their daily contribution to the company's success and for operating for four straight years without any work-

related injuries or illnesses. "Congratulations to all RMR Paducah teammates on receiving SHARP certification," said Eviston. "It is yet another testament to safety being our No. 1 core value."

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

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

## Super Size Reduction & Steel Cleaning

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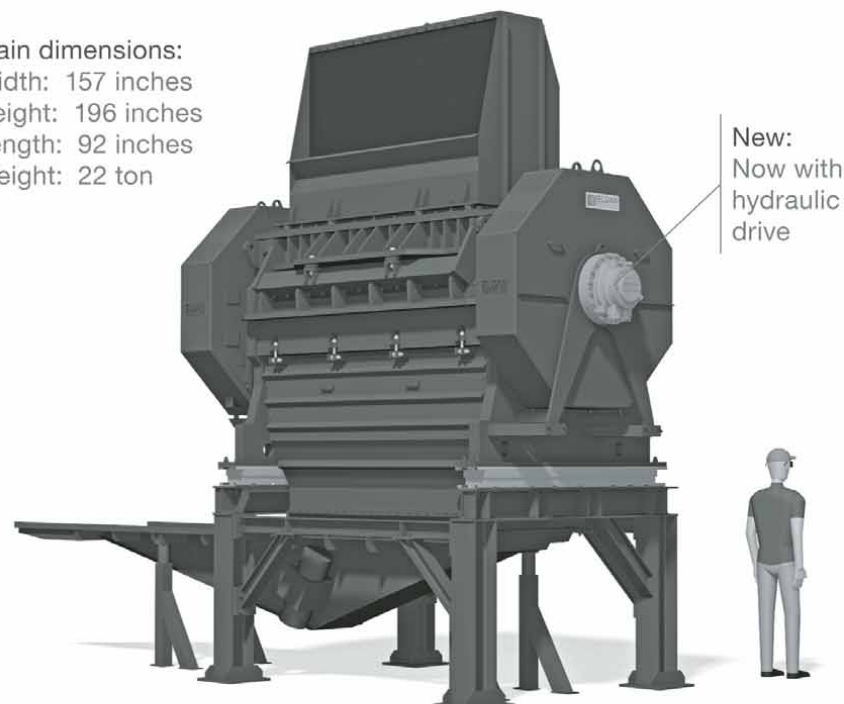
The heavy duty Eldan Multi Purpose Rasper is a multi-size machine.

The machine is capable of turning whole car tires and pre-cut truck, OTR and mining tires into TDF and chips with sizes as small as 0.4 inch.

Input capacities up to 12 ton/production hour.

This Multi Purpose Rasper can not only produce tyre chips, but also clean old steel wire into high quality steel (99% clean).

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Toll Free: 866 963 5326, Phone: 716 731 4900





# EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT

## ■ Loggers/Balers

by MARY M. COX

maryc@americanrecycler.com

Auto loggers and balers are familiar components within the overall metal recycling market. They're used to reduce a very large, common material found in the industry so that it can be further handled in the most economical way possible.



Granutech-Saturn Systems, Inc.

The MAC Magnum™ Logger from Granutech-Saturn Systems claims a continuous-rotation crane with the longest reach of any logger/baler in the industry at 27'4". The load capacity of the logger provides 5,800 lbs. of lift at full reach, and it is capable of both automatic and semi-automatic modes. For added flexibility and ease of operation, the cab features an IQA™ control operator/interface system. Equipped with a plus size 20', high production chamber, the MAC Magnum also offers variable density options, ranging from 30 to 80 lbs. per cubic foot, and outputs a 40" x 26" variable length log/bale. Baling pressures can be adjusted from within the cab to vary the densities of the bales and logs to suit the requirements of the buyer. "Our efficient hydraulic system enables a quick cycle time for increased production and extreme heavy duty, high capacity work

cycles, in a cutting edge design unmatched by traditional balers," said Greg Wright, business development manager. The unit also features semi and fully automatic operating modes. Built to withstand the rigors of auto logging operations, all surfaces which come in contact with material are lined with wear plates of abrasion-resistant, high-alloy steel.

Wright commented on industry developments: "To diversify operations and increase revenue streams, many yards are taking in more loose scrap and white goods in addition to cars than they ever did before, to supplement their business. A versatile machine like the MAC Magnum logger gives today's auto scrap yards the flexibility to also handle a larger variety of materials, including light iron loose scrap, white goods recycling and nonferrous recycling.

"In January of 2018, Tier IV engines will be required on auto loggers. These engines are more expensive and complicated and manufacturers will need to be compliant. This will no doubt drive pricing up across the industry for these types of machines, which are heavy and so will likely require permits and a tri axle tractor for hauling."

Because Iron Ax owns and operates scrap yards and has been in the scrap business for 45 years, "we know the scrap industry and what is needed to get a job done. That gives us a unique perspective that our customers seem to really appreciate," stated John Kitchens, vice president. Iron Ax manufactures two different size balers. One has a 16' long baling chamber, and the other has a 20' long baling chamber. Both balers can be purchased with or without a crane. The company's most popular baler, the IPB-20, has a 20' long baling chamber, but no crane. The 16' balers are more popular in international markets due to the smaller size of their automobiles but the firm's U.S. customers prefer the larger sized baler.

Iron Pack Balers are high speed, high production balers. The baling cycle is approximately one minute long, and each baler features

remote control and automatic cycle. Programmable pressure settings are also offered, so the hydraulic pressure can be increased or decreased with the touch of a button. The feature provides the operator with total control for making a loose or tight bale. General processing volumes vary but volume consistently increases for those who use an Iron Pack Baler. Kitchens said, "Our balers are used in small, single yard operations and in large yards across the world too. Set up time is minimal because units are designed to increase production and efficiency. Once a baler is in place and the outriggers have been lowered, the operator is ready to process within minutes." He added, "I think the baler market will continue to grow. A car crusher is limited to one function only, but a baler can do everything a crusher can do and



The RM Johnson Co.

more. We've had many customers switch from a crusher to a baler and quickly find that they could grow their business because they could process a larger range of materials."

"The first OverBuilt baler/logger was produced in early 2008. Since then, as with our high speed car crusher, we've responded to client wants and needs to



Sierra International



Iron Ax

produce a superior baler/logger – a leader in the recycling industry. With a 26.5' crane and a lifting capacity of 5,000 lbs. at 25' filling and with a 20' baling chamber, it can handle the largest trucks, cars or vans a scrap yard has to offer. Setup time is 5 minutes from time of placement.

See LOGGERS/BALERS, Page B6

### Manufacturer List

**Al-jon Manufacturing LLC**  
Mike Stout  
800-255-6620  
www.aljon.com

**Colmar USA, Inc.**  
Liliana Gambino  
716-693-9877  
www.colmarequipment.com

**Diamond Z**  
Pat Crawford  
208-585-3031  
www.diamondz.com

**Granutech-Saturn Systems**  
Greg Wright  
888-900-4308  
www.granutech.com

**Harris**  
Holly Waters  
800-468-5657  
www.harrisequip.com

**Iron Ax**  
John Kitchens  
877-247-6629  
www.ironax.com

**Overbuilt, Inc.**  
Steve Besch  
800-548-6469  
www.overbuilt.com

**The RM Johnson Co.**  
David Van Vleet  
800-328-3613  
www.ezcrusher.com

**Sierra International**  
Jose Pereyra  
800-343-8503  
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# Alcoa to curtail smelting and refining capacity

Alcoa disclosed that it is taking decisive action to curtail uncompetitive smelting and refining capacity to ensure continued competitiveness amid prevailing market conditions. The company will reduce aluminum smelting capacity by 503,000 metric tons and alumina refining capacity by 1.2 million metric tons. Alcoa began the curtailments in the fourth quarter of 2015 and will complete them by the end of the first quarter of 2016.

The reductions will further improve the cost position of the upstream business and ensure competitiveness in a lower pricing environment, including a 30 percent drop in the Midwest transaction aluminum price year-to-date. Alcoa has been aggressively reshaping its upstream portfolio as part of a successful multi-year strategy to position itself as a low-cost global leader in alumina and aluminum production. Once these actions are complete, Alcoa will have closed, divested or curtailed 45 percent of total smelting operating capacity since 2007.

In its aluminum business, Alcoa will idle the Intalco and Wenatchee primary aluminum smelters in Washington State, and the Massena West smelter in New York. The company will not modernize the New York Massena East smelter and will permanently close the facility; potlines at Massena East have been closed since March 2014. The cast-houses at Intalco and Massena West, which produce value-add shaped products, will continue to operate. The Alcoa

Forgings and Extrusions facility in Massena is unaffected.

In its alumina business, Alcoa will partially curtail refining capacity at its Pt. Comfort, Texas facility by about 1.2 million metric tons.

"Across the globe, we have been taking measures to curtail smelting and refining capacity that is not competitive to improve our cost profile," said Roy Harvey, executive vice president and president, Global Primary Products.

Once these actions are implemented, Alcoa will have curtailed or closed 673,000 metric tons of uncompetitive smelting capacity and 2.5 million metric tons of uncompetitive refining capacity since its announced review of 500,000 metric tons of smelting capacity and 2.8 million metric tons of refining capacity in March 2015.

Total restructuring related charges in the fourth quarter of 2015 associated with these actions are expected to be between \$160 million and \$180 million after tax, or \$0.12 to \$0.14 per share, of which approximately 30 percent would be non-cash.

As previously announced, Alcoa will separate into two, publicly traded companies in the second half of 2016 – an upstream-focused company including its mining, refining, smelting, energy and casting businesses, and a value-add company including its global rolled products, engineered products and solutions, and transportation and construction solutions businesses.



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www.cbebaler.com

### CB&E UNVEILS JAM-RELEASE TECHNOLOGY FOR 2-RAM BALERS

Catawba Baler & Equipment (CB&E) introduces the market's only two-ram baler that quickly and safely ejects jammed recycle material from the charge chamber without manually digging out the material. CB&E's new Gold Rush Series 12/9 two ram baler with optional Free Jam™ technology replaces the "gathering wall" of a conventional baler with a patent pending jam-release system. This gives operators push-button control from the tower over the Free Jam release door to clear jams.

The optional Free Jam system increases profit potential for any recycling facility operating conventional two ram balers.



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Brackets are provided with .5", 1" and 1.5" standoff spacers to provide sufficient clearance for shaft shoulders, slingers or other end bell protrusions. Mounting bolts, flat washers and lock washers are also included.



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### GALBREATH INTRODUCES ROLL-OFF CONTAINER LOCKING SYSTEM

Galbreath's new ROC-LOC Roll-Off Container Locking System is compatible with most brands of cable hoists, hook hoists and trailers. The ROC-LOC has air-actuated, auto-system airbags that ensure contact with the container and require less maintenance.

The ROC-LOC requires only 60 psi of air pressure, and has two single-acting airbags to keep each arm in the "hold" position. It is mounted to the side of the hoist frame, below the top of the side rollers, and has independent hooks to ensure contact with the container's long sills.



**Moley Magnetics, Inc.**  
4922 IDA Park Drive  
Lockport, NY 14094  
716-434-4023  
www.moleymagneticsinc.com

### 28" MAGNET ADDED TO THE ESA MOLEY MAGNET LINE

Moley Magnetics, Inc. has introduced the 28" ESA Moley Magnet. Moley's ESA line of enclosed hydraulic scrap magnets are heavy duty and suited for demolition use or where a quick change of attachments is beneficial.

The ESA Moley Magnet is unique because it is designed to be installed on skid steers, rubber tired backhoes and knuckle boom cranes. The magnets' low weight (882 lbs.) and low oil flow make it suited for use on smaller equipment.



**Seabright Products, Inc.**  
127 North Water Street  
Hopkins, Michigan 49328  
800-253-0532  
www.seabrightproducts.com

### SEBRIGHT PRODUCTS OFFER NEW OIL FILTER RECYCLER

Seabright has designed a new oil filter recycler (OFR) for high volume applications and for a wide range of vehicles. The OFR increases oil recovery rate, reduces labor costs, virtually eliminates down time, results in a cleaner, safer work area and scrap steel that is ready for cost-effective transport.

The OFR's 10" cylinder design offers up to 196,000 pounds of force and has options such as custom hydraulic dumpers, a sorting table, multiple disposal openings and more. The OFR can process up to 13 barrels of filters per hour.

## Loggers/Balers

■Continued from Page B4

The ability to change pressures with the touch of a button in the computerized IQAN system from the operator seat makes changing bale and log parameters from cars to white goods, loose scrap or aluminum, a simple task," Steve Besch, sales manager, explained.

"Optional features include a central grease station on the operator platform for ease and safety in greasing the crane. Standard features such as a user-friendly high back chair and joy stick controls make the unit a comfort to run, even for a long day. Just turn the key and you can do the rest from the cab. Other options such as cab operated down rigger controls, an additional 180 gallon fuel cell and air compressor make this portable machine self-contained for users. Bale/log cycle time is 1.5 minutes and current production allows for the manufacturing of 12 per year with a business plan to increase that by 25 percent in 2016," said Besch.

He noted how the recent industry demand for packing more weight into less area has dictated the need for high-pressure, high-volume machines, "The OverBuilt baler/logger provides tight bales that can be stacked in multiple types of transport containers from flat beds to gondolas and overseas cargo containers."

According to David Van Vleet, sales manager, the portable E-Z Log Baler made by RM Johnson Co., Inc. produces a bale in a fast, neat manner. After a fluid level check, it is ready to go and an operator can move the grapple crane up to 400", reach out 23' and lift 2,000 lbs. By selecting the metal type and volume of each bundle, a user can produce log bales to fit the requirement of the desired market and the machine can operate from the control platform. The unit can be moved to the same location as the scrap that must be processed.

"Even expensive machines are worthless if the final product can't be shredded. Our innovative hydraulic compression sequence solves this problem. Once the loose scrap is loaded into the baling chamber, the E-Z Log Baler 'rolls' the scrap. An interwoven, low density bundle of about 35 lbs. per cubic

foot is the result. Rolling the material, as opposed to mere compressing, produces a log that will stay together even when dropped. Yet the rolled logs remain loose and low density enough for a 1,500 hp shredder to easily process them," Van Vleet stated.

He claims the simple but unique design of the machine, with easily accessible components, aids trouble-free operation and servicing. He added, "Fewer moving parts and smaller hydraulic cylinders produce a better bundle at a lower processing cost than other loggers. All of the hydraulic cylinders are manufactured with high-grade seamless polished steel in our own factory. All E-Z Log Balers also use standard parts and components. Operating instructions are provided by our trained specialists and baler options include stationary or portable; diesel, gas or electric engines. Custom designs and specifications are also available."

"Sierra was the first equipment manufacturer to introduce the car logger back in 1997 and our RB 5000 and 6000 are the proven highest production car loggers available. They're built to last with no structural problems reported, and as with all Sierra equipment, there are no options, everything you need is included. Equipped with an air conditioned continuous rotating crane that has a reach of 26.5' and 5000 lb. capacity makes logging cars easy. The RB 5000 and 6000 are ready to work when you are, all you have to do is lower the hydraulic stabilizers and you are ready to go," said Jose Pereyra, sales manager.

Clients of Sierra report a 24 to 28 cars per hour logging capability and an 18 to 22 ton per hour capacity with loose #2 scrap, under most conditions. The company sells 40 car loggers per year and also manufactures shear/balers and two ram balers. All product prototypes are tested at sister company Sierra Recycling and Demolition, prior to going to market.

Pereyra said, "We serve scrap processing, recycling, and auto dismantling markets as well as nonferrous, transfer stations and RDF plants. Sierra is known as having the best service and parts departments. We understand down time and we want our customers to keep it to a minimum."



## 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 877-777-0043.

### UPCOMING TOPICS

- |     |                   |
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| JAN | Containers        |
| FEB | Cyclones/Blowers  |
| MAR | Size Reduction    |
| APR | Eddy Current Sep. |
| MAY | Fluid Recovery    |

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.



## Covanta opens metal processing facility in PA

Covanta disclosed the startup of a new metal recycling processing operation in Fairless Hills, Pennsylvania. The new facility cleans and sorts metal materials recovered from a number of Covanta's facilities in the Northeast.

The facility has a design capacity for up to 12,000 tons per month and includes access to a deep water port, which provides the opportunity to load bulk cargo ships for shipments.

Since 2012, Covanta has made significant investments to recycle more metal from the waste stream. Using new technology and installing systems to recycle more ferrous and nonferrous metals, metal recovery has improved by the equivalent of 16 cars per facility per week for ferrous, and for nonferrous, the equivalent of 25,000 additional aluminum cans per week. In total, Covanta now recycles approximately 500,000 tons of metal per year.

## Novelis opens aluminum auto heat treatment line

Novelis celebrated the opening of a state-of-the-art aluminum automotive heat treatment line in Nachterstedt, Germany, to serve European and global automotive customers. Located adjacent to Novelis' existing rolling mill and the world's largest aluminum recycling center, the \$85 million investment will increase production capacity by 120,000 metric tons of automotive sheet annually.

At full production, this line will increase Novelis' European automotive sheet capacity to 350,000 metric tons per year and will provide global customers with high-quality automotive sheet, including the Novelis Advanz™ portfolio of alloys used in lightweight vehicle structures and body panels. Since 2011, Novelis has invested more than \$550 million globally to triple its automotive sheet capacity.

Novelis aluminum can be found in more than 180 different vehicle models

in production today. Together with its customers, Novelis is developing innovative aluminum alloy solutions for high volume production that achieve high levels of strength, safety and performance.

With this expansion, the company widens its global manufacturing operations to serve the rapidly growing automotive market. The technology used in the new Nachterstedt finishing line is identical to that of the lines recently commissioned in the U.S. and China, providing Novelis' global customers with the highest level of quality and consistency regardless of location. With 56 newly created jobs and 1,200 employees in total, the Nachterstedt complex is the biggest facility of the nine Novelis plants across Europe and one of the biggest employers in the state of Saxony-Anhalt.

## Alcoa opens jet engine parts facility

Alcoa officially opened its jet engine parts facility in La Porte, Indiana. The facility doubles Alcoa's capacity in La Porte and provides new capabilities that broaden its reach in engines for large commercial aircraft.

The approximately \$100 million, 320,000 sq.ft. expansion enables Alcoa to manufacture single piece structural parts – components that encase the rotating parts of an engine – that are nearly 60 percent larger than those already produced in La Porte.

The facility employs the latest in high-tech, advanced manufacturing equipment, including digital x-ray and blue light technology for enhanced quality assurance. It also 3D-prints resin patterns for metallic prototypes and uses automated casting furnaces with advanced controls to meet precise product specifications.

## Nucor reports results for third quarter and nine months of 2015

Nucor Corporation disclosed consolidated net earnings of \$227.1 million, or \$0.71 per diluted share, for the third quarter of 2015. By comparison, Nucor reported net earnings of \$124.8 million, or \$0.39 per diluted share, in the second quarter of 2015 and net earnings of \$245.4 million, or \$0.76 per diluted share, in the third quarter of 2014. Third quarter of 2015 diluted net earnings per share of \$0.71 was above our guidance range of \$0.45 to \$0.50 per diluted share due to a larger than forecasted LIFO credit and better than forecasted performance in the steel mills segment.

In the first 9 months of 2015, Nucor reported consolidated net earnings of \$419.7 million, or \$1.30 per diluted share, compared with consolidated net earnings of \$503.5 million, or \$1.57 per diluted share, in the first nine months of last year.

Nucor's consolidated net sales decreased 3 percent to \$4.23 billion in the third quarter of 2015 compared with \$4.36 billion in the second quarter of 2015 and decreased 26 percent compared with \$5.70 billion in the third quarter of 2014. Average sales price per ton remained consistent with the second quarter of 2015 and decreased 15

percent from the third quarter of 2014. Total tons shipped to outside customers were 5,883,000 tons in the third quarter of 2015, a 3 percent decrease from the second quarter of 2015 and a decrease of 13 percent from the third quarter of 2014. Total third quarter steel mill shipments decreased 3 percent from the second quarter of 2015 and decreased 10 percent from the third quarter of 2014. Third quarter downstream steel products shipments to outside customers increased 9 percent over the second quarter of 2015 and decreased 3 percent from the third quarter of 2014.

In the first 9 months of 2015, Nucor's consolidated net sales decreased 19 percent to \$12.98 billion, compared with \$16.10 billion in last year's first nine months. Total tons shipped to outside customers decreased 9 percent from the first nine months of 2014, while average sales price per ton decreased 11 percent.

The average scrap and scrap substitute cost per ton used in the third quarter of 2015 was \$262, a 3 percent decrease from \$271 in the second quarter of 2015 and a decrease of 31 percent from \$379 in the third quarter of 2014. The average scrap and scrap substitute cost per ton used in the first nine

months of 2015 was \$285, a decrease of 26 percent from \$387 in the first nine months of 2014.

Overall operating rates at steel mills decreased to 69 percent in the third quarter of 2015 as compared with 73 percent in the second quarter of 2015 and decreased from 81 percent in the third quarter of 2014. Steel mill utilization decreased to 69 percent in the

first nine months of 2015 from 78 percent in the first 9 months of 2014.

Earnings in the fourth quarter of 2015 are expected to decrease compared to the third quarter of 2015 due to continued deterioration in global steel markets. A slowing economy in China is causing further global overcapacity and resulting in significant levels of steel imports into the U.S. market.

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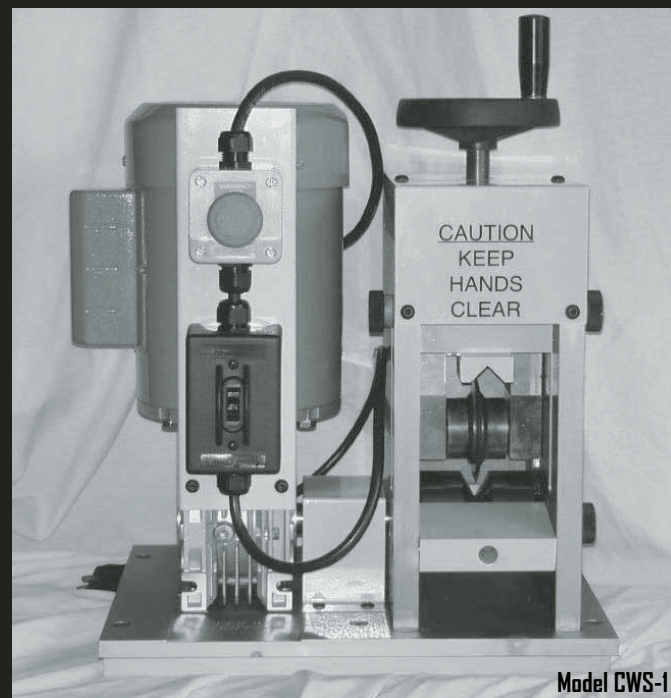
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