



A cooperative effort of the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the N.C. Department of Commerce.

Recycling Works

Volume 16, Number 1

Winter 2010

Metech Recycling Expands Operations in North Carolina

by Matt Todd, Recycling Business Development Specialist

Electronics recycling is a rapidly growing industry. As the industry has matured over the past few years, there have been many mergers and acquisitions, creating larger networks for collection, processing and marketing.

Metech Recycling has recently expanded its national recycling footprint and processing capabilities. Metech International and Guaranteed Recycling Xperts merged in April 2009 to form Metech Recycling, which specializes in secure and responsible electronic recycling.

The company now operates eight facilities in 500,000 square feet of building space

across the country. Metech Recycling maintains operations in California, Colorado, Massachusetts, Nebraska, North Carolina and Utah.

Last spring, all company facilities were named "Qualified e-Stewards" by the Basel Action Network. E-Stewards are leading North American electronics recyclers who are qualified as upholding the highest standard of environmental and social responsibility. Metech Recycling has also achieved ISO 9001 and 14001 certification.

Chris Ryan, the new president of Metech Recycling, has been with the company in various capacities for many years.

"Metech started with a focus on the precious metals part of the business, and then began

(See [METECH](#), page 4)

CRA
 20th Annual
 Conference
 & Trade Show
 RECYCLING MEANS BUSINESS

See page 2 for details!



Monitors and televisions await processing at Metech's Creedmoor facility.

Inside

- March CRA Conference Highlights .2
- Recyclers in the News.2
- Pallet Recycle Loop3
- NC Biomass Trader Takes Off4
- C&D Presentations Online5
- RMD Listings Growing6
- Market Pricing Trend Graphs.7
- Market Pricing7

Carolina Recycling Association Conference Set for March 16-19

by Scott Mouw, Section Chief, CBAS

For two decades, the Carolina Recycling Association's annual conference has provided an excellent opportunity for networking, making business deals, finding new customers and markets, and helping to grow recycling efforts in the Carolinas. The 20th Anniversary CRA conference returns to the Grove Park Inn in Asheville on March 16 - 19, 2010, offering a packed agenda covering a wide range of major recycling issues, including:

- Plastics recycling in the Carolinas
- Advances in C&D collection, processing and markets
- Conversion to single stream and cart-based collection
- Building the capacity of independent recycling collection companies
- Recycling's contribution to climate change solutions
- Improving the handling and marketing of glass
- Working with elected officials



- Initiatives to increase food waste collection and diversion
- Incentive systems to increase recycling participation

The 20th Annual CRA Conference will be the largest single gathering of recyclers in the Carolinas this year. Opportunities to exhibit and sponsor the conference are also available. For more details, please see: www.cra2010.com.

Recyclers in the News

The Habitat for Humanity ReStore serving Durham and Orange counties recently moved to Highway 15-501 North, near the intersection of I-40 at exit 270.



The ReStore sells overstocked, discontinued, used or new construction materials, appliances, home goods and furniture to the public. Proceeds from the ReStore support Habitat for Humanity affiliates in Durham and Orange counties in their mission to build affordable housing.

For more information <http://www.restoredurhamorange.org/index.php> or call 919-403-8668.



LEVEL

SCHOLARSHIPS

For Recycling Entrepreneurs

Register now for the next course offering. These exciting, business-building courses are designed to give entrepreneurs the skills needed to grow their recycling businesses.

To apply for your scholarship, call:
(919) 715-6516 (RBAC), or
(919) 715-7373, ext (SBTDC)

Follow the Wooden Pallet Recycling Loop

by Wendy Worley, Recycling Business Development Specialist

Effective Oct. 1, 2009, wooden pallets were banned by state law from disposal in municipal solid waste landfills. Pallets may be sent to construction and demolition landfills if they are generated only as C&D waste. Pallets from an industry other than construction of homes and buildings are not allowed in any landfill.

Fortunately, pallets can be managed in many different ways to avoid disposal, including:

- reducing or eliminating the use of pallets,
- reusing and repairing used pallets, and
- recycling pallets into new products.

Pallets can be “recycled” by a number of different type markets, ranging from reuse and repair to grinding for mulch or boiler fuel. Markets for pallet reuse, repair and recycling are strong in North Carolina, with more than 70 pallet recycling companies serving the state. The [N.C. Recycling Markets Directory](#) lists current pallet recyclers.

Pallet Reuse and Repair

Recyclers may pay for pallets, take them for free or charge to take them, depending upon the amount and kinds

available from any given generator. Most pallet recycling companies are interested primarily in receiving immediately reusable or repairable pallets. These pallets represent the highest value for pallet recyclers and generate the best deal for suppliers. Many pallet recyclers also work to restore broken pallets to working condition to get as much value as they can from the product.

Pallet Grinding

If pallets are not suitable for reuse or repair, they can be ground for other uses such as landscape mulch, playground cushion bedding, animal bedding, compost and soil amendments or biomass fuel. Many companies that offer pallet repair services are also capable of this type of processing. Other types of recycling firms such as commercial composters, wood waste grinders and construction waste recyclers are possible outlets for discarded pallets.

The poster shown below illustrates the recycling process and loop of a pallet that ends up in North Carolina. More information about pallet recycling, including a link to this poster, can be found at <http://www.p2pays.org/BannedMaterials/WoodenPallets/>.

Wood Pallets *Carolina Recycle Loop*

1 Collect

When a wood pallet is collected for recycling, it is taken to a pallet recycling business where it can be reused as a pallet or made into a completely different product. There are more than 70 businesses in N.C. that recycle wood pallets.

3 Buy-Recycled

Ground pallets can be made into playground mulch or biofuel that is sold throughout the Carolinas and beyond.



2 Process

N.C. wood pallet recycling companies carefully inspect recovered pallets and determine whether a pallet is reused, repaired or recycled. Pallets in excellent condition are resold. Some pallets require minor repairs before sold as a reconditioned pallet. Reconditioned and used pallets are sold to industry at a cheaper cost than newly-manufactured pallets. Pallets not able to be reused are ground into small uniform pieces. The grinders used to process pallets also have large magnets that extract nails, which are also recycled.

Recyclable Wood Pallets are Banned from landfill disposal.

www.re3.org

METECH, from page 1

working with corporate clients such as telecom companies to provide responsible end-of-life recycling services,” said Ryan. “Our recent merger with GRX has expanded our focus into the office and residential sector.”

With the added stream of consumer-generated material, including fallout from the digital television conversion, Metech has an interest in securely controlling the most problematic component of the consumer e-scrap material stream – cathode ray tube glass. Each CRT (depending on its size) contains about four to eight pounds of lead.

Metech Recycling is responding to this demand by expanding its capacity to efficiently and securely process 10 million pounds of CRT glass per year.

“The benefit of having increased CRT glass processing in-house is to ensure CRTs are converted into clean, sorted commodities before the material leaves our control,” states Ryan.

The new facility that will initially serve as an internal CRT processing outlet for the company is located in Creedmoor. The CRT processing operation is housed in 120,000 square feet of flex space, within an old manufacturing facility.

After manual dismantling to reclaim the wire, scrap metal, circuit board and plastic housing, the stripped-down CRT is sent to the glass processing area. Here the CRT is cut to separate the panel glass from the funnel glass (leaded). The metal shadow mask is removed, and the segregated glass streams are run through a dry-scrubbing process to remove coatings and crush the glass. In this form the “cleaned” glass becomes a more attractive commodity. Through this process, the volume of glass managed as leaded glass (funnel glass) is significantly lowered, creating more value for Metech.

In addition to Metech’s Creedmoor operations, the company also has a processing center located in Durham. This site mainly serves as an end-of-life dismantling center for contract customers such as Verizon, Lucent Technologies and others. The Durham location has been open a little more than a year, and currently employs 20, working out of a 30,000 to 40,000-square-foot facility.

A majority of the material the Durham operation handles is telecom gear, generating a high percentage of printed



Dry scrubbers on Metech’s glass processing line remove CRT coatings and crush the glass, resulting in a cleaner product and valuable commodity.

circuit boards, wire and scrap metal from the nearly one million pounds of e-scrap that is processed per month. The small amounts of CRTs that may find their way to this facility are diverted to the monitor processing operation in Creedmoor.

Plans for the future are still evolving as Metech settles into its new North Carolina facilities. Looking ahead, Metech plans to develop a service market in the area, offering collection and processing to North Carolina businesses and local governments. They will also look to add other operations in addition to monitor processing at the Creedmoor location. This all means more jobs and more competition for responsible e-scrap recycling in North Carolina.

For more information, contact Chris Ryan of Metech at (866) 479-4920, or visit www.metechrecycling.com.

NC BioMassTrader Takes Off

Launched in late 2009, NC BiomassTrader is designed to facilitate the development of biomass markets in North Carolina and increase job creation in the state’s biomass economy (see ad next page). Recent listings include a “wanted” listing for swine waste, and used fryer oil is listed in the “available” category.

Contact Brian Rosa at (919) 715-6524 or Tom Rhodes at (919) 715-6516 at DPPEA for more information about NC BiomassTrader.



C&D Recycling Webinar Series Presentations Available Online

by Wendy Worley, Recycling Business Development Specialist

Late last year, RBAC developed a series of free construction and demolition waste recycling webinars. The building industry, waste haulers and recyclers, and government and university officials joined together to learn and discuss the state of C&D recycling and how to increase C&D diversion in North Carolina.

Presentations from each webinar are available online at <http://www.p2pays.org/rbac/CDwebinars.html>. The topics covered included: Defining the C&D Waste Stream, Opportunities for Recovery of Mate-

rial in the C&D Waste Stream, Growing the C&D Recycling Infrastructure and The Role of C&D Recycling in the New "Green Economy."

With C&D waste comprising about one-third of all waste disposed of in North Carolina, it remains a priority target for statewide diversion. RBAC will continue to work to improve C&D recycling infrastructure and diversion throughout the state. For more information, contact Matt Todd at (919) 715-6522 or matthew.todd@ncdenr.gov.

New Exchange Service for Biomass Materials

*Now joining NCWasteTrader,
another dynamic waste marketplace...*

www.ncbiomasstrader.org
N.C.'s Biomass Exchange

*For more information, call:
Tom Rhodes at (919) 715-6516*

Natural Capital Investment Fund

NCIF makes loans and investments in the \$35,000 to \$250,000 range, primarily to expanding businesses.

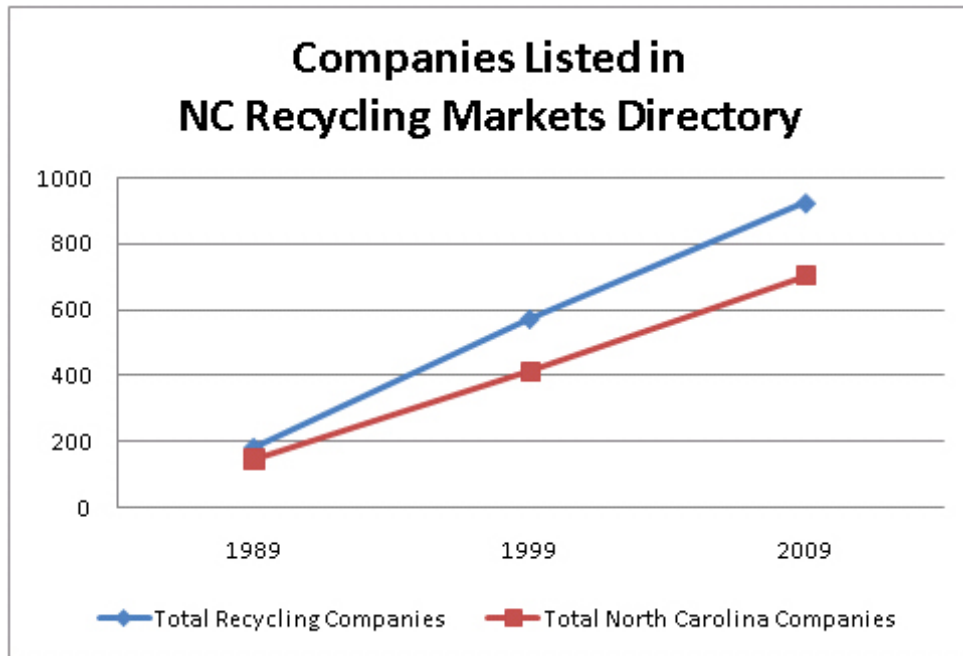
Recycling businesses interested in NCIF funding should contact Rick Larson at rlarson@conservationfund.org or by phone at (919) 967-2223.

NCIF is an affiliate of The Conservation Fund, a national nonprofit with a unique commitment to balanced land and water conservation solutions that emphasize the integration of economic and environmental goals.



RMD Listings Show Tremendous Growth

by Matt Todd, Recycling Business Development Specialist



Since going online in 1989, the N.C. Recycling Markets Directory has listed recycling companies that collect, transport, broker, process or remanufacture recovered materials in North Carolina. It has become one of the primary tools used throughout the state to find recycling markets for materials (previously waste) generated by citizens and businesses in North Carolina.

From a mere 184 companies in 1989, the total number of companies listed in the N.C. RMD grew to 925 in 2009. Demonstrating the growth of recycling enterprises in the state, the number of N.C.-based recyclers in the directory increased 380 percent between 1989 and 2009.

The N.C. RMD is a continuously updated, fully searchable online directory. Information on company name, location and materials accepted is provided for each listing.

If your company is listed in the RMD, please check your listing and update anything that is out-of-date, <http://www.p2pays.org/dmrm/start.aspx>. You can do this electronically by going to your listing, and clicking on the “Correct Your Company Information” link located under the list of materials taken for recycling. You can enter new contact information or edit the list of materials accepted for recycling. If you need your password please contact Matt Todd at (919) 715-6522, or matthew.todd@ncdenr.gov.

If your company is NOT listed in the RMD (and you serve clients in or handle material from North Carolina), you can list your company electronically by going to the link above, and clicking on the “Get Listed” link at the top of the page.

This tool provides essential links between businesses, industries and local governments searching for markets for recyclables and the companies that accept the materials for reprocessing and reuse.

Recycling Works is published by the N.C. Recycling Business Assistance Center, a program of the Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance of the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources. For more information call (919) 715-6500 or (800) 763-0136, or write to DPPEA, 1639 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1639.

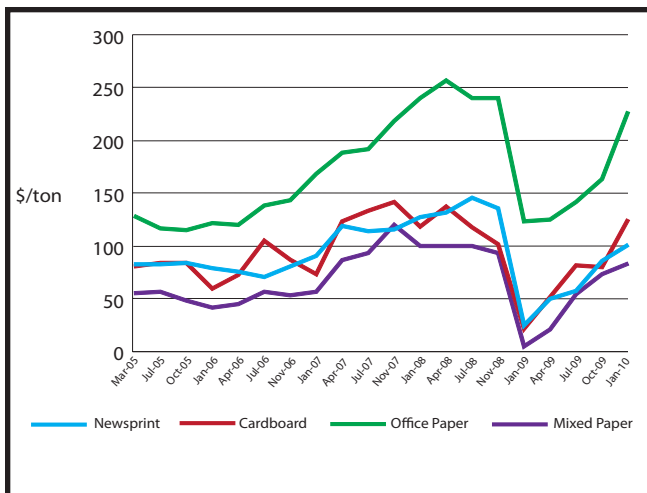
Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor, North Carolina
Dee Freeman, Secretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources



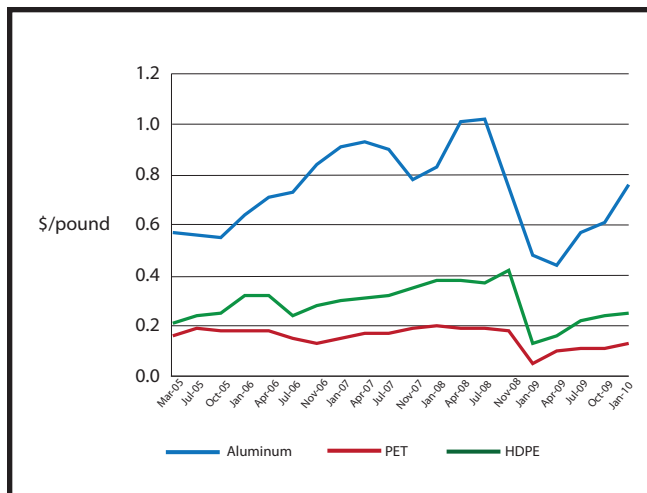
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Quarterly prices for newsprint, cardboard, office paper and mixed paper in dollars per ton, baled.



Quarterly prices for aluminum cans (loose), PET (baled) and HDPE natural (baled) in dollars per pound.



The Recycling Business Assistance Center is a program of the N.C. Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance.

Call (919) 715-6500 or (800) 763-0136 for free technical assistance and information about preventing, reducing and recycling waste.



North Carolina market prices for recyclables

Prices current as of Jan. 20, 2010

Item	Western Region	Central Region	Eastern Region
METALS			
Aluminum cans, lb. loose	\$0.765	\$0.775	\$0.73
Steel cans, gross ton baled	\$211	\$151.78	\$130
PLASTICS			
PETE, lb. baled	\$0.14	\$0.12	\$0.12
HDPE, lb. baled Natural	\$0.26	\$0.24	\$0.24
Colored	\$0.175	\$0.155	\$0.14
PAPER			
Newsprint, ton baled	\$105	\$95	\$102.55
Corrugated, ton baled	\$120	\$110	\$144
Office, ton baled	\$220 (SOP)	\$200 (SOP)	\$260 (white ledger)
Magazines, ton baled	*	\$110	**
Mixed, ton baled	\$90	\$80	\$80
GLASS			
Eastern Region sells glass F.O.B. origin			
Brown, ton crushed delivered	\$18	\$19	\$17
Clear, ton crushed delivered	\$25	\$29	\$21
Green, ton crushed delivered	\$3	\$2	(\$7.50)

* Markets with mixed paper.
 ** Markets with newsprint.
 Note: Prices listed above are compiled by RBAC and are for reference only. These prices are not firm quotes. RBAC obtained pricing information from processors for each category and developed a pricing range.

Visit RBAC online at <http://www.p2pays.org/rbac>

DPPEA-FY09-03