

Recycling company in United Kingdom processes ASR fractions and electronic scrap using the BHS Rotorshredder

# British recycling company relies on plant technology from BHS-Sonthofen

Sonthofen, Germany, 3 January 2022. British recycling specialists Recycling Lives commissioned a recycling plant that was planned and implemented by BHS-Sonthofen. The plant is designed to handle a variety of materials such as automotive shredder residue (ASR), electric and electronic scrap (WEEE) as well as so-called "meatballs" (electric motors and motor armatures). The process developed together with the company is based on a profitability analysis and ensures marketable end products.

In the process of expanding capacities, the British recycling company Recycling Lives decided it required a plant that could process different materials simultaneously at its 15-acre Recycling Park in Preston. These included ASR, waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), metal composites and meatballs. After BHS had drawn up an initial concept for a plant, extensive tests were carried out at the Sonthofen test center with about two to three metric tons of each material required by the customer.

## BHS calculated profitability after tests in the test center

Customers of BHS-Sonthofen need a validated basis for decision-making before they invest in a new plant. Data on throughput and material quality, among other parameters, is collected during the tests and analyses in the test center. This information is then used to create a mass balance a profitability analysis– a key advantage for customers. The recycling company used the calculation to estimate the profitability of the plant investment."

Accordingly, the experts from BHS designed the plant based on the test data. The feed material is supplied to the Rotorshredder of type RS 3218 via a feeder. The tools of the Rotorshredder exert a very intense stress on the feed material through impact, shock and shearing forces. The result is selective size shredding: Particle sizes are selectively reduced and composite materials are separated. All fine fractions of particle sizes smaller than 25 mm are processed on other existing plants. The fraction >25 mm is conveyed to a zigzag sifter, which frees the feed material from light material (fluff, films, fibers, dust, etc.).

The cleaned material is then transported via an overhead magnet to a cyclone separator, which was included in the order to BHS. In the overall control concept BHS took these assemblies into account and also supplied the steel structures for these parts of the plant. The process, which was developed by BHS together with the British customer, produces market-ready end products.

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Recycling Lives' Chief Engineer Gary Halpin explained: "Since the machine was installed three years ago downstream from our main shredder at the Recycling Park in Preston, it has proved efficient in further reducing the particulate size for more efficient extraction of metals and other materials from the waste stream. It is a valuable element within our waste processing operation, helping to extract maximum value and also increase the amount of material that can be recycled as we progress towards a circular economy solution."

#### **Recommended images**

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#### Image 4:

The tools of the Rotorshredder exert a very intense stress on the feed material through impact, shock and shearing forces.

File name: BHS\_RS\_3218\_2015\_12\_R-20436\_RUP\_3939



## About BHS-Sonthofen GmbH

BHS-Sonthofen is an owner-operated group of companies specializing in machinery and plant engineering with headquarters in Sonthofen, Germany. In keeping with our mission "Transforming Materials into Value," we offer innovative process solutions, technologies and consulting services in the business areas Process Technology, Building Material Machinery, as well as Recycling & Environment. Our experts in the field of mechanical and thermal process technology with a focus on filtration, drying, mixing, crushing, and recycling form the basis for our success. Our company has a global presence, with 500 employees, three production facilities and nine subsidiaries.

As a globally active systems supplier, the Recycling & Environment division offers innovative process solutions as well as a comprehensive range of machine technology with modern control solutions for the recycling and waste disposal industries. For the effective treatment of valuable and waste materials, processes for metal recovery and industrial waste are readily available. Furthermore, we offer machines for the recycling of a wide range of waste materials, such as industrial, commercial and domestic waste, refuse-derived fuels, tires, and biomass. How you benefit: One-stop solutions. We provide support throughout the entire process from consulting, process development, and profitability analysis to the planning and commissioning of turnkey recycling plants and processes. Our portfolio also includes extensive after-sales services.

For further information, please visit: www.bhs-sonthofen.com/en/.

## **About Recycling Lives**

Recycling Lives is a recycling company with a difference, built on a belief in doing business that's good for people and the planet. The company places social and environmental sustainability at the heart of everything it does. Recycling Lives plays a critical role in the UK's circular economy, helping customers reduce, reuse and recycle across automotive, manufacturing, construction, retail, utility, public sector, domestic markets and more.

More than 500 people are employed across the UK and everything is centred around a unique social value model. This is delivered working with the Recycling Lives social enterprise which tackles homelessness, rehabilitates offenders and reduces food poverty. With 18 sites nationwide, including Lancashire, Greater Manchester and the Midlands, its main 15-acre

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Recycling Park is home to state-of-the-art machinery, including Europe's only fully-digitised fragmentiser.

For further information, please visit: www.recyclinglives.com

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