

# MRF of the Month

## Greenstar Recycling

Birthplace of basketball greats LeBron “King” James, Gus “Honeycomb” Johnson and Nate “The Great” Thurmond, Akron, Ohio is located approximately 39 miles south of Cleveland and the shores of Lake Erie. And it is also home to Greenstar Recycling’s brand-new, \$7 million materials recovery facility, which opened in June 2012 with fanfare including a visit from Akron’s mayor and other county officials.

The 196,000-square-foot MRF – one of 15 MRFs for Greenstar around the country – was made from a renovated plane hangar and will manage single-stream curbside recyclables from approximately 150,000 households in Akron as well as approximately



300,000 in Cleveland and around 60 percent of the recyclables collected in nearby Mahoning County, to the East. It also has the capability to service businesses and municipalities within a 150-mile radius around Akron.

The new facility runs a 25 tons-per-hour Machinex system with controls from the Ples-sisville, Quebec-based equipment manufacturer, with two Pellenc optical sorters and balers from Harris and Machinex. The system also includes a two-deck OCC screen, scalp screen,



### Technical Specifications\*

#### Greenstar Recycling

##### Location:

Akron, Ohio

##### Start-up date:

June 2012

##### Number of processing lines:

One

##### Throughput:

25 tons per hour

##### Tons of material processed in 2012 (estimated):

40,000 tons

##### Residue rate:

10-15 percent





glass breaker screen, ONP screen and a finishing screen, all from Machinex. The facility is rounded off with an ONP screen from Lubo, an eddy current and standard magnet from Steinart and a glass clean-up unit from Binder.

Around 40,000 tons of recyclables are expected to be processed by the facility this year with the material mix made up of about 50 to 55 percent fiber and 35 to 40 percent containers. After the MRF's first month of operation and adjustments, it has a residue rate of around 10-15 percent, with the biggest issues being bags and scrap metals, as well as easily-tangled items, such as hoses, tarps and extension cords.

According to Greenstar, the goal is to run 25 tons per hour with an 85-percent uptime which equals 21.25 tons per shift-hour. With that 25 tons, the company expects should produce 74 tons of fiber, 43 tons of containers and 27 tons of residue in an eight-hour shift.

At start-up, 43 employees are employed at Greenstar's Akron, Ohio MRF, working one shift, five days per week. According to the company, as volume increases, employees and shifts will increase, as well.

\*Know of a North American MRF that you feel *Resource Recycling* readers should know about? If so, e-mail your recommendation, with hi-resolution pictures, to [dylan@resource-recycling.com](mailto:dylan@resource-recycling.com), and your facility may just be highlighted in a future "MRF of the Month" column.

