

MRF of the Month

Progressive Waste Solutions Baton Rouge MRF



Progressive

Waste Solutions

Located in the capital city of the Bayou State, the Progressive Waste Solutions Baton Rouge Materials Recovery Facility has been sorting recyclable materials for the surrounding region since 2006.

The 35,000-square-foot facility manages materials for over 425,000 households in the Baton Rouge area, including East Baton Rouge Parish, Hammond, Iberia Parish, Jefferson Parish, Lafayette, New Orleans, Ponchatoula and Youngsville, Louisiana. Residential collection feeding the MRF is via single-stream, while commercial recyclables come into the facility by different means, including source-separated materials and single-stream collected recyclables from some sources.

The original build of the MRF included a Bollegraaf 13 tons-per-hour single-stream system, with a 2008 expansion bringing optical sortation to the plant, increasing its throughput to 15 tph. Two years later, Green Machine paper screens brought the capacity to 25 tph.

Earlier this year, however, the facility saw a large-scale expansion – including an expansion of the MRF's footprint by 7350 square feet – intended to manage the evolving material stream coming into the facility. Included in that expansion was a Green Machine OCC screen with pre-sort platform, including three Green Eye optical sorters and a new magnet. The upgrade took the system to 40 tons per hour, allowing for more efficient management of containers and OCC. All materials at the MRF are baled by IPS Balers.

Speaking of challenges faced by the facility, the ever-present complaints about plastic bags notwithstanding, of course, TK of Progressive Waste Solutions noted that the “Ever-evolving material stream composition presents a very fluid challenge. As municipalities push for greater waste diversion from landfill, the types of acceptable materials in recycling programs expands sometimes faster than the capabilities of the local processing facility. The recent upgrades at this facility allow Progressive Waste Solutions to be much more nimble in processing recyclables and recovering valuable resources in order to meet the needs of our customers.”

The Progressive Waste Solutions Baton Rouge MRF runs one eight-hour shift a day, five days a week.



Technical Specifications*

Progressive Waste Solutions Baton Rouge MRF

Location:

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Start-up date:

July 2006

Number of processing lines:

One

Throughput:

40 tons per hour

Tons of material processed in 2012:

66,000 tons

Residue rate:

13 percent



*Know of a North American MRF that you feel *Resource Recycling* readers should know about? If so, e-mail your recommendation, with high-resolution pictures, to dylan@resource-recycling.com, and your facility may just be highlighted in a future “MRF of the Month” column.