MRF of the Month

Canada Fibers Arrow Road Multi-Material Recycling Facility Complex

Toronto is the largest city in the Great White North, but not everyone in the recycling industry realizes the city's metro area is also home to one of the largest materials recovery facilities in North America. The massive Canada Fibers Arrow Road Multi-Material Recycling Facility Complex was built as a two-phase project on a 27-acre site over the course of several years.

The section of the complex completed during phase one – an 110,000-ton-per-year single-stream MRF, used primarily for the processing of materials from the industrial,



commercial and institutional (IC&I) sector – opened in October 2010. Phase two was completed in May 2013, and it brings the annual capacity echnical Specifications

Canada Fibers Arrow Road Multi-Material Recycling Facility Complex

Location: North York, Ontario

Start-up date: Phase one in 2010 and phase two in May 2013

Number of processing lines: Three

Throughput: 55 tons per hour

Tons of material expected to be processed in 2014: 350,000

Residue rate: Less than 10 percent



of what the company calls "the largest singlestream site in North America" to over half a million tons.

In building the second phase of the facility, Canada Fibers used Bollegraaf equipment supplied by VAN DYK Recycling Solutions to create a \$35 million, state-of-the-art single-stream MRF including bag-breaking technology and multiple unique new screening and sorting technologies. The specialized sorting equipment employed at the MRF includes 10 TITECH optical sorting units, 20 vacuum hoods for the high film content in Toronto's curbside-collected material and glass breaker screens. Recirculation loops continuously feed residues back into the sortation system, allowing for greater capturing of recyclable commodities.

The second phase of the facility has

three processing lines – two for residential, single-stream-collected materials and one for materials from the IC&I sector. The mix processed by the Canada Fibers MRF is approximately 65 percent fiber and 35 percent containers. In addition, the 130,000-square-foot facility is insulated with cellulose manufactured with ONP supplied by the company and has a provision for the future installation of solar panels.

According to the company, the technology and innovation invested in this facility allows the MRF "to sort 19 different recyclable products from residential, commercial and institutional waste streams while accomplishing a 97 percent recovery rate with a residue rate under 10 percent."

The Canada Fibers Arrow Road Multi-Material Recycling Facility Complex has over 150 employees working two shifts, with a third shift for essential maintenance activities.



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