

# MRF of the Month

## ReCommunity Delaware

Located on the banks of the Delaware River, “the first capital of the first state,” New Castle, Delaware was originally settled by the Dutch West India Company back in 1651. A mere 361 years later, in 2012, ReCommunity signed a 20-year agreement with the Delaware Solid Waste Authority to repurpose two existing buildings, install leading-edge processing equipment and operate the ReCommunity Delaware Materials Recovery Facility to service the state and surrounding areas.

The \$15 million MRF was designed and built with a state-of-the-art Bulk Handling Systems processing system which includes two integrated processing systems and five National Recovery Technologies optical sortation devices.



The 35-ton-per-hour facility handles single-stream collected recyclables for residents in Delaware and the surrounding areas, including parts of Maryland. Additionally, the MRF handles multi-stream commercial recyclables from the region, as well, “working with other Delaware communities and businesses to process commercial recyclables, which will help increase the volume and quality of the resources,” according to the company.

The 64,000-square-foot MRF is expected to process more than 90,000 tons of recyclable materials in 2014 and has the

### Technical Specifications\*

#### ReCommunity Delaware Materials Recovery Facility

**Location:**

New Castle, Delaware

**Start-up date:**

July 2013

**Number of processing lines:**

Two integrated processing systems

**Throughput:**

35 tons per hour

**Tons of material expected to be processed in 2014:**

90,000 tons

**Residue rate:**

Approximately 10 percent



capacity to handle more than 160,000 tons annually. The installed system was tested out as recovering more than 99 percent of recyclables, without a residue sorter.

The facility also includes a state-of-the-art DSWA Education Center to help promote recycling awareness and elevate community engagement. “Both are key,” according to the firm, “to increasing the quality and quantity of recovered materials, which ultimately will provide economic, social and environmental benefits to the community.”

The ReCommunity Delaware MRF runs one shift, six days a week, employing approximately 40 “team members,” which could increase to 70 jobs as the facility takes on more materials.

