

# MRF of the Month

## City of Quebec's Material Recovery Facility

The capital of Canada's *la belle province*, the City of Quebec, is one of North America's oldest European settlements, having been founded in 1608 by the French explorer and diplomat Samuel de Champlain. The "Father of New France" (as de Champlain was known) spent his life trying to fortify and establish Quebec City, much as the City of Quebec's Material Recovery Facility has fortified and established itself as the region's preeminent destination for commingled recyclable materials.

Originally built in 1994, the 40,000-square-foot facility underwent a thorough modernization process this year



in order to "improve the quality of the sorted recyclables (and consequently their selling prices) and be able to process growing volumes of materials," according to the company.

"The first phase of modernization has allowed the City of Quebec to double the capacity and effectiveness of the sorting center," said David Marcouiller, project director at Machinex.

The system – which includes Machinex equipment such as a MACH ballistic separator, an OCC disc screen separator and a scalping screen – is expected to be able to process up to 100,000 tons annually and produce high-quality materials.

"The mechanical separation has been increased and the quality is now greatly improved," noted Stephan Bugay, director of the Division of Residual Materials Management of Public Works for the City of Quebec. "We now have a modern MRF that allows us to widen market opportunities for our sorted materials. The improved sorting process has allowed us to accept new materials and simplify source-separation in



## Technical Specifications

### City of Quebec's Material Recovery Facility

#### Location:

City of Quebec, Province of Quebec, Canada

#### Start-up date:

1994

#### Number of processing lines:

One

#### Throughput:

About 225 tons per day

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

58,000

#### Residue rate:

Between 5-10 percent



households.”

The facility receives recyclables collected via single-stream curbside programs from 270,000 households in Quebec City and surrounding communities. The input of the MRF is approximately 66 percent fiber, 24 percent commingled containers and around 10 percent rejects.

Plastic bags and winding materials such as garden hoses, extension cords or clotheslines were cited as the most problematic elements of incoming loads.

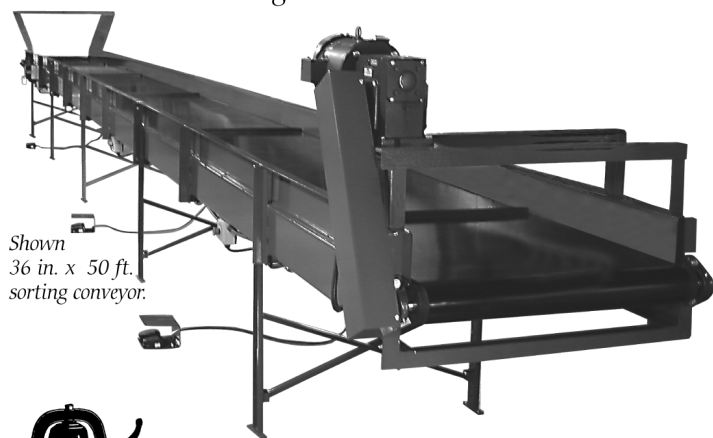
The City of Quebec’s Material Recovery Facility has 75 total employees, of which 42 are sorters working on a day shift, five days per week.



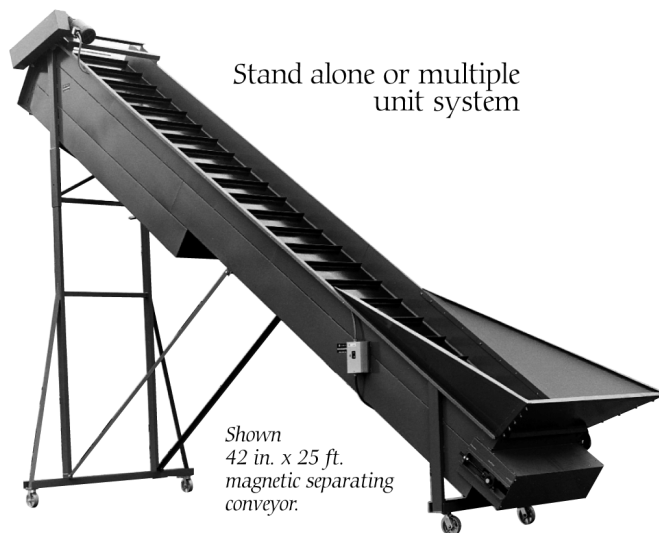
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