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Scrap Tire NEWS

Covering The News And Developments In The Scrap Tire Recycling Industry

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RMA Releases U.S. Scrap Tire Market Report

Think those old tires you replaced get tossed into some landfill? Think again. Nearly 90 percent of tires that are replaced and discarded each year are put to a new productive use, the Rubber Manufacturers Association (RMA) concluded in its ninth Biennial Scrap Tire Market Report. "The reuse rate of scrap tires tops most recovered waste materials including glass bottles, paper and aluminum cans," Michael Blumenthal, RMA vice president said.

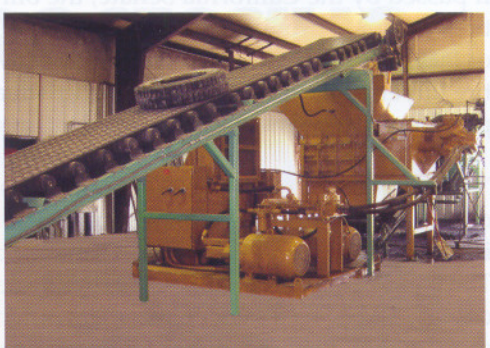
The Report shows continued progress in scrap tire management practices across the nation resulting in significant reduction of scrap tire stockpiles and continued progress in putting waste tires to new uses.

"Scrap tire management in the U.S. is a huge environmental success story," Blumenthal said. "Markets for scrap tires are growing and old piles of scrap tires are shrinking." See RMA Report Summary page 16...

Kansas Tire Recycler Keeps Pace

Funding opportunities, a solid business plan and reliable equipment performance drive tire recycling operation in the heartland.

With a population of only 2.8 million — and an annual number of scrap tires at just slightly under that — Kansas would hardly seem poised to be a progressive tire recycling force. Yet, in the last several years, the Jayhawk State has become an outstanding example of how to identify scrap tire problems early on, help devise solutions to address those issues, offer financial and technical help to make it all happen, and support those efforts afterward.



Tires (mostly truck tires) are primary-shred through a Saturn 62-40HT shredder

In one case which focused on creating playground material from scrap tires, doing so has been a truly collaborative effort between the state; Tom and Cathie Jenkins, who own and operate CATSCO, Inc., one of the state's leading scrap tire recycling facilities; and Granutech-Saturn Systems, who supplied the company's key processing components. If all goes according to plan (and given their track record and commitment, there's no reason to doubt it will), the state may soon find itself recycling every scrap tire generated within its borders — a position in which even larger, more populous states would, no doubt, like to be.

Building the business

Kansas City-based Central American Tire Salvage Company (CATSCO) is the culmination of decades of varied tire-related business efforts put forth by Tom and Cathie Jenkins. The couple's foray began in 1971 with a north Missouri tire retailing company called Jenkins Tire Service.

"We did that for about 11 years, at which point we decided to get into the scrap tire end of the business," says Tom Jenkins. "So, in 1983, armed with two men and a truck, we became a tire hauler. At the same time, however, we also maintained a storefront in St. Joseph, Missouri, where we sold used tires that still had a marketable value."

The couple ran the hauling operation for better than twenty years, all the while seeing the tire recycling market grow, mature and, according to Jenkins, occasionally stumble.

"I sat on the sidelines and watched this recycling thing for years. In that time, I saw so many businesses fail — mostly, I feel, because the technology wasn't where it needed to be. But in 2005 we felt we were ready to move over to recycling and submitted a grant proposal to the State of Kansas. Because that proposal only covered us creating product for alternative daily cover (ADC), we were initially turned down."



Material off the belt of the Saturn 62-40HT is used for TDF or as a crumb rubber feedstock

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