



Turnkey Plastics Recycling System from Cumberland Helps Boston-Based Firm Increase Capacity

CUSTOMER

With a motto of ‘One Goal – Zero Waste’, Save That Stuff, Inc. (STS) is a leading recycling and waste services firm. Based in Boston, the company provides a comprehensive range of recyclable materials collection and processing services, including plastics recycling.

CHALLENGE

The company needed to upgrade its older equipment to keep up with increased demand for a plastics clothes hanger recycling application. A major retailer supplies the used hangers, which STS recycles into regrind PP, which it then sells to the open market.

SOLUTION

The team at Cumberland worked with STS to create a turnkey solution featuring a Vecoplan shredder, a Cumberland granulator, and a Sterling Blower evacuation system that could successfully process the large volume of plastic hangers and produce higher quality PP and HDPE regrind.

RESULTS

STS is now recycling increased volumes of the plastics, and selling larger amounts of PP and HDPE regrind because of the Cumberland system. In addition, the company is now positioned to obtain new business by increasing its plastics recycling capabilities.

A custom-designed shredding/demagnetizing/granulating/blowing solution from Cumberland helps Save That Stuff, Inc. improve operations for challenging recycling application, and increase capacity to obtain more business

Founded in 1990 with a single truck and a mission to provide cost-effective alternatives to traditional waste disposal, Save That Stuff, Inc. has a vision and a mission with the ultimate goal of zero waste. The company, based in Boston, continues to be locally owned and operated, and has grown to become a leading recycler for all of New England. While plastics recycling only makes up about 10% of their current business, STS is looking to increase that percentage. With a major order from a leading USA retailer to recycle plastic clothes hangers into PP regrind, and additional orders for recycling HDPE crate-grad material, STS turned to Cumberland to help provide a turn-key recycling system to meet and exceed its needs.

Watch the Process in Action Here:



PARTS TO PELLETS – BRINGING NEW LIFE TO OLD CLOTHES HANGERS

STS sources huge volumes of used clothes hangers from a major USA retailer for recycling. STS takes the used hangers, which are made of PP, and recycles them into high-quality regrind which it then sells to the open market.

Brad Cole, Sales Manager at STS, said that the company needed to upgrade its existing machinery to keep up with the clothes hanger recycling application. “We needed to update our older equipment to handle this job,” he said. “We also have wanted to increase our plastics recycling capabilities, so we can take on additional projects.”

After meeting with STS to discuss their needs, the Size Reduction team at Cumberland went to work designing a specialized, turnkey system that not only handles the clothes hanger project, but can be used for a wide variety of other plastics recycling applications.

“We’re known for taking on challenging applications, and this new machinery will definitely help us with that.”

- Brad Cole, Sales Manager, Save That Stuff

Cole said that now that the new Cumberland system is in place, they are looking at taking on additional plastics recycling jobs. “We think crate-grade HDPE is a good potential market for us,” he said. “We also see pouch recycling as a possibility.

We’re known for taking on challenging applications, and this new machinery will definitely help us with that.”

A TURNKEY SOLUTION

When designing the new system for STS, Cumberland had a unique advantage: they could supply a complete, turnkey solution from a single source.

“We often partner with Vecoplan to sell their shredding equipment along with our Cumberland granulators,” said Joe Platek, Business Development Manager at Cumberland. “This provides a total package solution for our customers.”





The system that Cumberland designed for STS consists of a heavy-duty Vecoplan single-shaft shredder, a Cumberland granulator, and a Sterling Blower elutriation system.

The turnkey system is designed for up to 2,000 lbs/hour throughput. Clothes hangers are fed into the shredder, which shreds and feeds the material on a conveyor to the Cumberland granulator, which in turn grinds the material to pellet size and is evacuated by the Sterling Blower system. The elutriator is able to separate the fines from the quality, clean regrind and provides a collection point for both material streams.

SEPARATING METAL FROM PLASTIC

A unique part of the Cumberland machinery is the integration of a magnetic system that catches and separates the metal clips from the shredded plastic hangers. This is an important step to make sure no metal accompanies the shredded plastic as it enters the granulator.

Located on a conveyor between the Vecoplan shredder and the Cumberland granulator, the system magnetically removes all metal from the plastic stream. This critical step ensures that the plastic that enters the granulator is free of metal contaminants, resulting in higher quality regrind.



ABOUT CUMBERLAND

Cumberland is the world's brand leader in size reduction equipment. Since 1939, Cumberland granulators and shredders have proven to be rugged, reliable and dependable. As the first granulator company, Cumberland still leads the way with the broadest line of granulators and shredders to meet the growing needs of the plastics and recycling industries. Whether the application requires single or four shaft shredders, beside-the-press or central granulators, our customers rely on Cumberland to deliver their throughput requirements and produce the highest quality regrind available in the industry.

For more information, visit www.cumberland-plastics.com or call 262-641-8600.