

COMPOST COMMUNICATOR™

The quarterly newsletter of the United States Composting Council - Summer 2005 Edition

Inside This Issue:

Executive Director's Message
Page 2

Membership
Page 3

New Members
Page 3

Elections for Board of
Directors Positions
Page 3

Award Nominations
Page 4

Member Profiles
• *Wildcat Manufacturing*
• *DuraTech Industries Int*
Page 5

Member Profile - *Engineered
Compost Systems (ECS)*
Page 6

Compost Marketing
Special Section
Page 7

Best of 'on line'
discussion board
Page 8

In The News
Page 9

Takin' it Easy...in the BIG Easy!

We'll be dealing with nasty winter weather and a general slow down in our industry in just a few short months from now. Is there a better reason, in January 2006, to get on down to warm and sunny New Orleans? And while you're there, don't miss the 14th annual USCC Conference and Trade Show, the largest national compost exposition in North America, and see; outstanding educational presentations, a variety of industry exhibit booths, an equipment demonstration area, GREAT camaraderie and everything that the City of New Orleans has to offer! Be a part of North America's leading conference and exhibition, serving the needs of all composting, organic recycling and wood waste professionals!

Have you made your reservation yet for January 22-25, 2006, for the only national composting conference and exhibition run by and for composting, organic recycling and wood waste professionals!

**Additional conference registration information can be found on the USCC website at:
www.compostingcouncil.org**

Presidents Greeting

Carl Kipp

The end of the second quarter of 2005 is under our belts, and I hope that your season has been as



productive as we have experienced in the east and the southeast. The committees of the USCC have been working very hard to improve USCC services to our membership. The strength of the USCC is the members who work on the various committees to help steer the work of the Council, and to advise the board of directors and the executive committee.

The Market Development Committee, as an example, has become much more active and involved with the Seal of Testing Assurance Program ("STA") over the past few months. Membership in the STA Program continues to grow on a monthly basis. The program now has 90 member companies and 119 compost products participating. This amounts to over 3.9 MILLION cubic yards of compost in the Program! The TXDOT requires that all compost supplied to it be STA compost. A national specification published by the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) requires TMECC test methods be used (the test methods of the STA Program) to test compost for erosion control uses, on a national level. Two more state DOTs are VERY close to duplicating the Texas DOT specifications, which will lead to more Program growth, recognition and success!

The Market Development Committee hasn't been the only Committee keeping busy. Please

read the article on ICAW and see what the State Relations Committee has been up to! Have you visited the USCC website recently? It keeps getting better and better, and more user friendly, thanks to the efforts of the Communications Committee. They have totally assimilated and now manage the STA site, which was previously administered by the TMECC website. **We would like to express a big 'THANK YOU' to the TMECC website, and specifically to webmaster Wayne Thompson, for his years of voluntary efforts in this regard!** The Communications Committee is interested in your input and any suggestions that you may have to help make the USCC website even better and more user friendly.

There is work going on all the time, as a result of the dedication of ALL of our USCC committee members and chairs. I've just listed some of it above. Are you participating in a USCC Committee? It doesn't take much time and it's what really makes our organization run. **The USCC committees include; Communications, Conference, Finance, Legislative and Environmental Affairs, Market Development, Membership, Nominating, Professional Credentials Standards and Practices and State Relations.** Get active. Get involved, and help direct our industry through YOUR participation in USCC committee work!

Executive Director's Message

Stu Buckner

Update: ANNUAL CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW 2006

Conference attendees will have the opportunity to see first-hand how various pieces of equipment perform, and to discuss equipment needs with vendors and manufacturers. See what's new for processing organic materials and learn how to produce better compost. *We have published a few photos from the 2005 conference equipment demonstration area in this issue of the Compost Communicator. This is a just a small sampling of who and what was there. Additional photos will be run in the Fall issue as well as a list of Equipment Demonstrations planned for 2006.* Arrangements have been made with Natural Resources Recovery Inc. (NRI), the largest composting and wood waste recycling facility in Louisiana, to have space available for Equipment Displays and Demonstrations.

The equipment demonstrations will take place on Wednesday, January 25, 2006, at the NRI Pecue Composting Facility. Please note, that in addition to a 30 acre composting operation, the facility prepares unique blends of compost products and soil amendments using grain gluten, rice hulls, "LA" topsoil and pine bark. These materials will be available for mixing and blending equipment suppliers to show off their products. The



Jim Doersam, April Richardson and a guest from Germany enjoying the 2005 Conference

equipment demonstrations will be followed by a sumptuous luncheon and tour of a scenic, historic plantation bordering the Mississippi River.

For conference attendees who have immediate or future equipment needs, this is a unique opportunity to observe some of the best and newest equipment available. For vendors and equipment manufacturers, this is the ultimate opportunity to demonstrate your equipment to a national audience at one location. Consider it the sales call of a lifetime!



A big 'CAT' draws a crowd!

Last year, 14 manufacturers demonstrated 18 pieces of equipment, including; shredding/grinding, screening, mixing, bagging, mulch coloring, compost and mulch application, excavators and compost tea systems. More than 200 conference participants from nearly every state in the U.S. attended the

Equipment Demonstrations. **Thanks again to Texas Organic Products for hosting the 2005 equipment demo!**



Awaiting the Rotochopper Demo

More than half of the 14 spaces for equipment demonstrations have already been reserved. Vendors interested in participating should **RESERVE EQUIPMENT DEMONSTRATION SPACE NOW!** Go to www.compostingcouncil.org, and click on the conference menu to get rates and reserve both exhibit and demonstration space.

Executive Director, 'on the move'

Stu Buckner has been very active over the past 3 months, attending various conferences and promoting the USCC to a variety of audiences. Here is a recap of those events:

USCC at the Massachusetts' 5th Organic Recycling Summit

The state of Massachusetts is interested in forming a state composting association. Stu Buckner was asked to deliver the Keynote address at their annual Recycling Summit. The topic was the USCC's organizational structure, mission, pro-

grams and initiatives, and how the USCC could assist the state in forming a new composting association. Stu Buckner discussed the work of the USCC State Relations Committee in preparing model agreements for establishing state chapters of the US Composting Council. The final draft is currently being reviewed by the Board of Directors, and the chapter program will be discussed at the annual conference in New Orleans.

The USCC working with Green Roofs for Healthy Cities

The United States Composting Council participated in the **Third Annual Greening Rooftops for Sustainable Communities Conference, that was held May 4-6th in Washington, D.C.** USCC President, Carl Kipp, Wayne King and Stu Buckner attended and exhibited at this event. A key objective of the USCC's exhibit was to promote the use of compost in green roof applications. Since the event, the USCC office has been providing green roof designers and landscape architects with information on how to specify compost products and providing them with USCC member contacts for developing growing media for specific projects. If any USCC member is interested in being placed on a list for providing services for green roof projects, please send the USCC office an e-mail at uscc@compostingcouncil.org. If anyone is interested in learning more about this

rapidly expanding application, contact Wayne King at waynesr@erthproducts.com.

GORE Cover System – North America 2nd Annual Partners Meeting

Stu Buckner, was a guest speaker at the 2nd Annual GORE™ Cover System, North America Partner Forum, which was held in Elora, Ontario, on June 10th. The event brought current and prospective customers together for industry updates and information exchange. Attendees came from all parts of the U.S., Canada and Germany.



Stu receives a \$5000 conference sponsorship check from Oley Sheremeta

Oley Sheremeta, USCC Board Member and President of SEC Technologies, the North American Sales Representative for the GORE Cover System, presented Stu with a sponsorship check for \$5000 towards the Council's next Annual Conference and Trade Show to be held in New Orleans in January 2006. *The USCC would like to thank SEC/GORE Cover System-NA for their generous sponsorship contribution. It's a great time to reserve your sponsorship position for the 2006 show. The sooner you are registered, the sooner you will reap the rewards of sponsorship*

Membership

The USCC is, as you are all well aware, a national not-for-profit organization dedi-

cated to the development, expansion and promotion of the composting industry in the U.S. **There has been a significant increase in participation in the USCC as evidenced by membership growth of approximately 250%, over the past 3 years.** More and more composters, consultants, equipment suppliers and other professionals affiliated with our industry are supporting our organization and the composting industry. Your help, however, is still needed to expand the USCC and strengthen its position as THE national organization for the composting industry. Make a commitment this year to recruit a new member, join a committee and become more active in the association. **This is your association and it impacts your business!** Remember, if each member brought in just one new member, the organization would double in size. More members mean more possibilities for our future!

Welcome New Members

- Peggy Jeffra, **A-A Recycle & Sand, Inc.**,
Linthicum Heights, MD
- John Vitas, **A-C Equipment Services Corp.**,
Milwaukee, WI
- John W. Bull, Grand Junction, CO
- Larry Hooker, **City of Bakersfield**,
Bakersfield, CA
- Daniel Domigan, Clovis, CA
- Powell Clinton, **Earthsaver Equipment, Inc.**,
Kalispell, MT
- Jennifer Nardella, **Fortune Plastics, Inc.**,
Old Saybrook, CT
- John Connolly, **JF Connolly & Associates**,
Hampton, NH
- Jennifer Seuss, **Laughing Crow Organics**,
New Orleans, LA
- William Leung, Tsimshatsui, Hong Kong
- John Kincer, **Maxim Egg Farms**,
Boling, TX
- Lynn Henslee, **Natural Resources Recovery, Inc.**,
Baton Rouge, LA
- Ludvig Nobel, Troutdall, OR
- Bart Sexton, **Oneida County Solid Waste Dept.**,
Rhineland, WI

- Paul Fagan,
Organic Residual Reclamation,
LLC, Dublin, TX
- Daniel Champeau,
Organic Residual Reclamation,
LLC, Dublin, TX
- Andrew Thompson, **Pearl Valley Organix Inc.**,
Pearl City, IL
- Geoff Richards, **Richgro Garden Products**,
Canning Vale,
- Karyn Kaplan, **University of Oregon,**
Campus Recycling Program,
Eugene, OR
- Tony Briggs, **Vermeer Manufacturing Co.**,
Pella, IA

The 'Compost Communicator' YOUR Newsletter!

The Compost Communicator is all about sharing composting industry information and news with YOU, the members of the USCC, as well as with prospective members and with our industry in general. We invite you to not only read the newsletter, but to contribute to it as well! We encourage you to send us articles that you think would be of interest to USCC members, and we will review and publish all that are appropriate. There is no minimum, nor maximum length required, nor any special writing skills needed. Just send us what you think will be of interest and we'll do the rest!

Please submit articles or information to the USCC, via e-mail, by **August 12** for publication in the next issue.

ALSO, contact the USCC office for advertising information. Submit to: USCC Newsletter at buckstop@vdot.net

Elections for Board of Director's Positions

Elections for the USCC Board of Directors will take place in September, 2005. Any USCC member is eligible to serve on the Board or to nominate another member. Please submit nominations to Carl Kipp at ckipp@garick.com, by August 19, 2005. There will be 3 composter positions and 2 affiliate positions avail-

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Gerald Tibbo - CEO, New Era Technologies



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Call the USCC offices (631-737-4931)
for COMPOST COMMUNICATOR
advertising rates!!

able for nomination in 2006. The Board consists of "Composter" members, representing composting facility operators and compost producers, and "Affiliate" members that represent associated organizations such as; public agencies, professional consultants, suppliers of services, products and equipment, etc. We encourage you to nominate one or more of your respected colleagues. The USCC relies on the talented people of the composting industry to further its mission and strengthen the industry. The nomination form can be found on the USCC website www.compostingcouncil.com. New Board Members will be installed at the Annual Conference in January.

Awards Nominations

The USCC is now accepting nominations for the Awards listed below. Please send Award nominations to Ginny Black at ginny.black@state.mn.us or

uscc@compostingcouncil.org. Nominations may also be faxed to the USCC at 631-737-4939. Nomination forms can be downloaded from the USCC web site. Awards that will be presented at the annual conference luncheon on Tuesday, Jan. 24th include:

Composter of the Year Award

Awarded to a commercial-scale composting facility, public or private, which has displayed excellence in both compost production and marketing/distribution. The nominated facility must be in operation for a minimum of 5 years and in regulatory compliance for the last 3 years.

H. Clark Gregory Award

Awarded to an individual who has displayed outstanding service to the composting industry through various grassroots efforts; including backyard composting, vermi-composting and public or end user education. A nominee must be active in one or more of these compost related efforts for a minimum of 5 years.

Hi Kellogg Award

Awarded to an individual who has displayed outstanding service to the U.S. composting industry over a period of many years. This award recognizes individuals who have left a lasting positive impact on the U.S. composting industry. A nominee must be active in the composting industry for a minimum of 10 years.

Rufus Chaney Award

Awarded to an individual who has displayed excellence in the area of compost research over

a period of many years. This award recognizes those individuals whose breath of research and/or research findings have had a significant impact on the composting industry and/or end users of compost. A nominee must be active in compost/composting research for a minimum of 10 years.

Clean Water Award

Awarded to a person or company in the compost industry or related field who have completed projects that positively impacted water quality via the use of organics or increased awareness of the link between quality soils, compost and water quality. Projects that use organic materials and have created clean water, prevent pollution, improved soil quality leading to improved water quality, conserves water or other practices related to water quality issues are eligible for this award.

Member Profile

Wildcat Manufacturing

Wildcat Manufacturing began as a farm repair shop in a small two car garage. The founder of the Company, Charles Mehlhaf, had a knack for fabricating effective solutions for the local farm community's equipment problems. A local farmer came to Wildcat in the mid 70's with an idea to make a compost aerator, so he could make better compost. Mehlhaf liked the idea and built two, hauling the second one to the East Coast for demonstrations. The machine was well received and the orders started trickling in. Wildcat was there to provide the proper

equipment, for "turning" what was previously a liability into an asset, as more and more state yard waste disposal bans spread across America. In the late 1980's the first trommel screen rolled out of the Wildcat plant, which had grown from a garage into a state-of-the-manufacturing facility with 100,000 square feet under roof. In 1999 Wildcat recognized the industry's need for a tow-behind, self-powered, single-pass compost turner. Sales of the new towable unit took off and the next step was taken; the introduction of the first self-propelled Wildcat straddle turner.



Wildcat Turner SPB718

Wildcat was purchased by a group of overseas investors at about the same time that the newly designed turners were introduced. A more aggressive market strategy was put into action including having more equipment in stock to take advantage of rental and demonstration opportunities, as well as broadening the market base for the Wildcat Trommel screens to include topsoil and C&D material.

Wildcat Manufacturing and the compost industry have grown together over the years, and Wildcat has seen many changes in our industry. The com-

post business has become more regulated and the equipment has become more sophisticated. Wildcat understands the power of our customers. They make or break us, which is why it is vitally important to provide efficient friendly service after the equipment is delivered. We at Wildcat would like to thank you for your business as we look forward to many years serving the compost industry.

For more information contact Tim O'Hara at 800-627-3954; timo@wildcatmfg.com or visit www.wildcatmfg.com

Member Profile

DuraTech Industries International

DuraTech Industries International began manufacturing in 1966, operating as Haybuster. The company is diversified and manufactures products for the agricultural as well as the industrial industry. The company's first product was a hay tub grinder, and it continues to be a leading manufacturer of: agricultural tub grinders, bale processors, rock pickers, grain drills, and compost turners for farm and ranch use as well as erosion control. In the late 1980's, with nearly thirty years of experience building tub grinders, Haybuster took that knowledge and experience and moved into being a leader in the development and manufacturing of industrial tub grinders for green waste reduction and composting, and has continued to expand that market to include horizontal grinders and compost turners for industrial markets. The company changed

its corporate name to DuraTech Industries International to reflect the diversity of the products it manufactures. It kept the brand name of Haybuster for its agricultural products and adopted the DuraTech brand name for its industrial products.

DuraTech Industries has grown into a large manufacturing company employing over 135 manufacturing, sales and support people. The facility sits on 46 acres on the south edge of Jamestown, North Dakota and the buildings provide 206,500 square feet of manufacturing space. Each machine produced goes through a rigorous quality control check to ensure the quality that our customers have come to expect. Employee experience, pride, and loyalty shines through every product manufactured.

DuraTech Industries manufactures over 20 different products for both the agricultural (Haybuster) and industrial (DuraTech) markets. Our talented engineering department is continually working on new products to bring to market. We take pride in reacting to customer needs and wants, and it shows in the products manufactured. The products are marketed through a network of nearly 600 dealers located around the world. DuraTech Industries provides its dealers and customers with a variety of services including; sales, marketing, parts, superior service support, whole goods inventory financing, as well as retail financing and leasing. DuraTech Industries is proud to be a member of the USCC and the composting industry.



A Duratech grinder at work

We thank our dealers and customers and their continued support for helping DuraTech Industries in "clearing the way for a better tomorrow". For further information and to view the product line visit our website at www.duratechindustries.net DuraTech Industries, Box 1940, Jamestown, ND 58401 Phone: 1-800-243-4601 Fax 701-252-0502

Member Profile

Engineered Compost Systems (ECS)

ECS was founded in 1999, and entered the compost industry offering an engineering design and manufacturing firm that was focused solely on the compost industry. ECS' first products were an appropriate and robust aeration control and monitoring system for ASP and in-vessel applications called the CompTroller™ and, a modular in-vessel composting system that used roll-off compatible vessels called the CV Composter™. Some people in the industry still associate ECS with (and sometimes only with) the roll-off based CV Composter™ in-vessel system.

ECS' products and services have grown considerably since 1999. There are now over 20 facilities in the US and Canada that are using ECS in-vessel, ASP and/or control equipment. ECS innovative products include:

- CV Composter™—modular in-vessel systems using ECS CompTroller™ (proprietary aeration control hardware, software, process controllers, data recording) and stainless steel roll-off vessels
- SV Composter™—stationary in-vessel systems using ECS CompTroller™ and site-built concrete and stainless steel tunnels for facilities with 1 to 500+ tons/day
- Aerated Static Pile Systems—ASP systems using the ECS CompTroller™ and Low-Friction in-slab or above-grade aeration for primary and/or secondary composting
- RF Teleprobe™—Rugged, field tested temperature probes that continuously measure, transmit and log compost pile temperature data to a PC. PC software provides dial-up access via phone/modem and can

be upgraded to provide total aeration system control for ASP facilities.

- CompTroller™—ECS Aeration Control and Monitoring System automatically regulates aeration and produces a record of regulatory compliance. The primary components include; operator interface PC software, field control nodes, blower control variable frequency drives (VFDs), and temperature and pressure sensors.
- ECS Low-Friction Aeration System—the aeration system is designed to provide both reversing and re-circulating aeration. The design minimizes the volume of exhaust air scrubbed in the biofilter, and results in better temperature and moisture uniformity throughout the compost media. System components include: process blowers, motorized and manual dampers, and all pipes and fittings required for the air handling system.

ECS also offers a broad range of design and technical support services including: facility pre-design and pro-forma analysis; numerical modeling; facility equipment specification and integration; compost process engineering; material handling design; facility start-up; operator training; and, continuing technical support.



ECS modular composting units

ECS thanks the Council for the Member-Profile opportunity. We have found that the USCC offers legitimacy to our industry, and cooperation among its members. The Council's advocacy and programs promoting composting have benefited us all. ECS is very proud to be a member of the US Composting Council!

For more information on ECS: Engineered Compost Systems, 4211 24th Ave West, Seattle, WA 98199 Office 206-634-2625, Email: info@compostsystems.com, Website: www.compostsystems.com

Compost Marketing Special Section

The recycling process is only complete when the recycled product goes to market, and is reused in its new form. Compost, even well made compost, which sits too long at a composting site and isn't sold or used, is nothing more than waste in a different form.

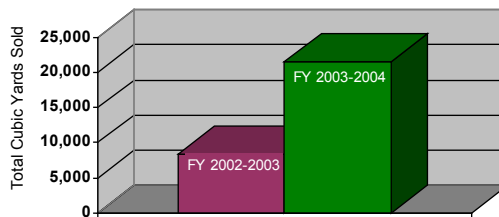
We asked our compost producer members to share compost marketing success stories with the USCC membership, from which to learn and hopefully put to work in their own operation. Several members did respond and their stories are listed below. Thanks to all of you for contributing to YOUR newsletter! We look forward to more member input in future editions.

Metro Waste - Compost sales soar after necessary policy changes

The City of Des Moines operated a compost facility on the southeast part of town, and offered the compost to residents for free for many years. Residents could come to the Metro Compost Center (MCC), load up their buckets and haul the compost to their gardens and lawns. Metro Waste Authority (MWA) took over operations in March 2001, and implemented a metro-wide yard waste collection program. MWA also implemented a number of changes to its compost policies to help cover increasing production and hauling costs, and to make the yard waste collection program sustainable. Minimum purchase amounts were established in 2002, and MWA ended the free compost program in January 2004.

The same year, MWA established the Compost Distributor Program to allow designated retail outlets to sell MWA Turf

Gold Premium compost. The program is designed to provide Central Iowa residents with multiple, convenient locations to purchase compost in quantities of less-than-a-truckload. The program also has the advantage of removing small-quantity compost sales from the MCC, allowing MWA employees to focus on yard waste process-



ing. Currently, four retailers participate in the Compost Distributor Program. One retailer has multiple locations throughout the metro area to better serve Central Iowa residents.

“Our goal is to maximize revenues generated from the sale of compost to help offset the cost of diverting yard waste from the landfill,” said Beth Shonts, business development manager. MWA also wants to continually expand the customer base, create awareness of the benefits and uses of quality compost, and establish new products for MWA customers. Bulk sales of compost are still offered at the MCC, but only in quantities of eight cubic yards or more.

MWA's compost sales have soared over the last few years. MCC sold only 8,500 cubic yards in fiscal year 2002-2003. The volume of compost sold by MWA in fiscal year 2003-2004 was over 21,000 cubic yards!

“We have taken a product that we couldn't give away and made it into a product worth over \$100,000 annually,” said Tom Hadden, Executive Director.

Visit www.mwatoday.com or contact Beth Shonts at (515) 323-6525 for more information about MWA's compost program. **MWA is a member of the USCC's STA Program.**

A regional government agency serving Central Iowa, Metro Waste Authority is a team of people, communities and the private sector actively working for a quality environment through cost-effective waste reduction and removal solutions. MWA won the Gold Award for Landfill Management Excellence in 2002 and the Transfer Station Excellence Award in 2004 from the Solid Waste Association of North America.

The Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown.... err, rather, the Big Pumpkin, City of Davenport!

The Davenport, Iowa Composting Facility partnered with local pumpkin grower Mike Franz in his attempt to break the state record for largest pumpkin. Davenport's Earth Cycle Compost was incorporated into the pumpkin patch soil last fall, and with a lot of hard work over the spring and summer, Mike's reward was **a new Iowa record 1,083-pound pumpkin** besting the previous record by 27 pounds.

The competition organized by the Midwest Pumpkin Growers Association drew 48 competing pumpkins from throughout the Midwest and Colorado. Franz grew a second pumpkin weighing near 1,200-pounds, but a mouse ate a hole through the bottom prior to weigh in and would have been disqualified. In addition to receiving \$2,000 for first place in the competition, Franz sold the new record pumpkin for \$1,000 to FoodLife, an upscale food



The Davenport prize winning pumpkin

court in Watertown Place on Chicago's Michigan Avenue that had it professionally carved and displayed for Halloween.

Franz supplied the Davenport Compost Facility with a 573-pound pumpkin to display during October. A Halloween display was arranged in a high traffic area at the facility where the four-foot wide by four-foot high orange giant drew customer's attention. The most asked question was "is it real?" The entire display, which included stalks of Indian corn, pumpkins and gourds, was ultimately processed with a Vermeer tub grinder and composted to provide soil amendment for next year.

Franz, who had not finished in the "top twenty" in previous contests said, "With 100% certainty, the addition of Earth Cycle Compost greatly improved this year's results." The Davenport Compost Facility will be partnering with Franz for 2005 with an eye on the new world record set this year in Ontario, Canada at 1,446-pounds! For additional information, call Scott Plett, manager of the Davenport Compost Facility at 563-888-2100. **The Davenport Compost Facility is a member of the USCC's STA Program.**

EKO Compost - Success after success after success....

Hyatt Regency Maui

PROBLEM

This resort was built on volcanic soil that was very low in organic matter. This problem was compounded by constant salt spray from the ocean creating unstable pH. Heavy foot traffic also created some very compacted soil.

SOLUTION & RESULTS

Topdress 40 acres of turf with 3/8" - 1/2" of compost. Till in 1" of compost to flower beds. Backfill larger tree and shrub plantings with 1/3 compost to 2/3 native soil. Mulch with 1"-2" of compost.

RESULTS

Turf areas greened up in 5-7 days. Landscape responded in 2-3 weeks. Water use was reduced by 25% in containerized plants. Foliage exhibited vigorous growth and vibrant colors. Herb gardens were more abundant than ever. "Thanks to EKO Compost, the Hyatt Regency Maui has become healthier, more beautiful and environmentally friendly", James Carpo, Dir. of Landscaping, Hyatt Regency Maui.

Lake City High School

PROBLEM

The athletic fields were severely compacted, with very poor turf growth and many areas of thin coverage and dry soil conditions throughout the playing field

SOLUTION & RESULTS

Aerate and topdress the entire field with 1/4" of compost, then break up and backfill the holes with compost through normal watering and mowing.

RESULTS

The turf responded immediately and within 3 weeks was a vigorous green color. Overall plant density and bare/dead spots were filling in. "Overall plant density, color and tiller development improved dramatically in less than 3 weeks after EKO topdressing", Dan Macias, Turf Consultant.

Old Works Golf Course

PROBLEM

The Old Works, a Jack Nicklaus Signature Course, was designed to clean up and beautify a large Superfund site in Anaconda, MT. This task involved bringing back to life soil that was depleted by more than 100 years of mining and smelting.

SOLUTION & RESULTS

40,000 cubic yards of EKO compost were mixed with clean topsoil for the fairways, native areas, roughs and backdrop landscapes.

RESULTS

The EKO compost blend (85% soil/15% compost) significantly improved the infiltration rate and bulk density which made it easier for healthy turf to grow and resist compaction. Fairway and rough playability and durability were greatly enhanced. Transplanting shock was reduced in landscape planting due to a 80% compost/20% soil planting mix.

"The growth rate of turf grasses and native grasses was enhanced. Within 1 week turf grasses were sprouting and a healthy canopy developed quickly", Mark Pokorny, Construction manager.

EKO Compost has 3 facilities is participating in the USCC's STA Program!

They are; Missoula, MT (800-232-5356), Lewiston, ID (800-746-5947) and Maui, HI (808-572-8844)

Best of the 'on line' discussion board

This feature is not intended to provide detailed and thorough answers to the questions

raised. They can only be found, in many cases, by examining the volumes of compost science research. This is presented to provide a summary of the thoughts and suggestions of those who responded to the query.

SIC Code for Composting Facilities

Q - Is there a formal business classification for composting facilities under the SIC (State Industrial Classification) system? Is there a compost producer/seller code that can be used, or anything close? We are currently classified as a 'retail operation'.

Responses

1. We are government wastewater utility -- 9511 Municipal solid waste management may come under the same number, which would apply to municipal composters.

2. There apparently are no SIC codes that are labeled as compost production. Most companies, based on the responses I received, are using 'fertilizer manufacturer' codes, but others have chosen different codes. These include: 4953 (landfills) for facilities that were at landfills, 2875 (for fertilizers, mixing only), and 2499 (wood processing, misc.). **SIC code 2875 generated the most responses.** Again, check with the codes that are accepted by your state before making a final decision.

3. SIC is no longer used. It is now the NAICS (North American Industry Classification System). Go to the link listed below, and you can search on compost.

www.census.gov/epcd/naics02. Results for “compost” included; Compost dumps 562219 and **Compost manufacturing 325314.**

4. By using one code it could drag you into a classification that you do not want, for example work comp or insurance rating. So beware.

5. The NAICS System will be standard for NAFTA countries. Go to www.census.gov for advisement and potentially input on classification codes. Also, they are currently seeking input on products from the waste management industry section 56: www.census.gov/epcd/products.

6. I’ve often wished for a more specific SIC code for a composting facility. I’ve used 4953 (landfills) for facilities that were at landfills, 2875 (for fertilizers, mixing only), and 2499 (wood processing, misc.), but none of these was designed to describe composting facilities. Unfortunately, where this becomes an issue is when the NPDES form requires an SIC code to determine stormwater testing, all three above require more testing than is probably necessary for typical green waste (or for that matter wood waste processing) composting sites.

7. I was under the impression that someone was revising the SIC code (new name, broader numbering/classification system) but I imagine it will be awhile before the “authorities” catch on. Some regulatory agencies (like the CA State Water Board and the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts business data for Texas - which implements the NPDES

program in CA) still use the “old” (1987) SIC codes. You can search for other SIC codes here: www.osha.gov/pls/imis/sicsearch.html?p_sic=4953&_search

8. Because of all the residual information based on SIC, there is a complete cross-reference guide at NAICS between the two systems as the slow transition takes place. The NAICS code that includes compost manufacture (325314) is equivalent to SIC 2875 as far as compost is concerned.

9. I am curious as to how many “Compost Dumps” there are. Perhaps the USCC should help educate the NAICS as to what an appropriate classification would be. NAICS/SIC site: www.census.gov/epcd/naics02/

In the News

International Compost Awareness Week 2005: ICAW: The Possibilities are Endless ... Compost!

Communities throughout the United States, Canada and the UK celebrated *International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW)*, May 1-7, and are encouraged to continue this focus on composting and the benefits of compost use throughout the year. *ICAW* (est. 1999) is a multi-media publicity and educational initiative to showcase compost production and demonstrate compost use. Compost Awareness Week has grown in both strength and numbers, over the past 5 years, through its sponsors and compost advocates. Compost Awareness Week serves the

important role of bringing the *Compost!* message to the attention of the public, businesses and other groups. Communities and government agencies, as well as members of the composting industry, utilize the week to promote their specific *Compost!* messages and programs.

Compost Awareness Week is the largest environmental education event for composting. This year’s national poster theme, “*The Possibilities Are Endless – Compost!*” is a great way to get the message out. All types of composting, from “do it yourself” composting in your backyard, to large-scale, community-wide composting are promoted.

The U.S. Composting Council would like to thank the companies that sponsored International Compost Awareness Week, 2005.

A list of sponsors is included on the poster on page 10.

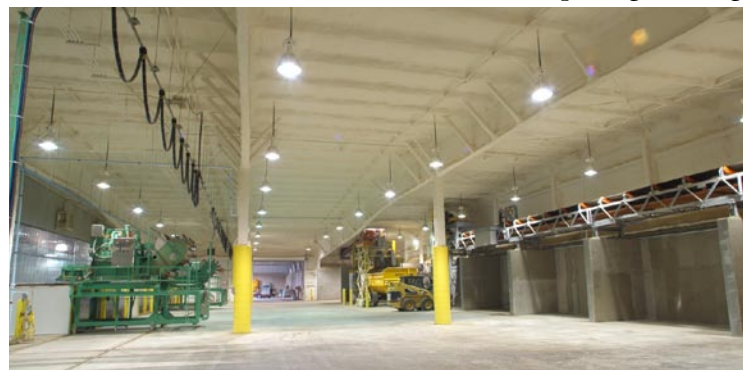
University Area Joint Authority Constructs New Composting Building

The University Area Joint Authority (UAJA), located in State College, Pennsylvania, serves Penn State University and adjacent areas. UAJA has constructed a new compost facility as part of an expansion of its water treatment facilities, growing from 6.0 million gallons/day (MGD) to 9.0 MGD capacity. UAJA’s previous 41,000 square foot, pre-engineered steel building was demolished as a result of significant corrosion.

The Designer of the new 63,000 square foot composting building was Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc., who used Black & Veatch as their Design Consultant. Black & Veatch



New Composting Building



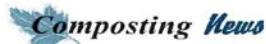
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International Compost Awareness Week 2005

The US Composting Council would like to thank the following ICAW sponsors



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COMPOST COMMUNICATOR

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