

Case Study

Cuts Down Time



Disposal Company Cuts Down Time Spent on Product Destruction

Wilmington, North Carolina-based SR&R Environmental destroys a tremendous amount of non-hazardous off-spec and expired materials on behalf of manufacturing and distribution companies across North Carolina, Georgia, and surrounding states. While most of the materials SR&R receives come in tanker-size volumes, they are increasingly handling more consumer commodities.

Destroying thousands of bottles and cans of shampoo, soap, latex paint, and similar materials required significant labor time. SR&R employees had to open containers one by one and pour the contents into the solidification pit, where a 40,000-pound excavator stirred in sawdust to create a solid that could be sent to the landfill.

This manual-intensive process made scheduling employees unpredictable and impacted the company's margins. Billy Murrell, owner and CEO of SR&R, started exploring options for adding an industrial shredder. After learning about the high costs, sizeable footprint, and lengthy lead time for drum and tote shredders, Murrell discovered a smaller, more economical solution that was capable of handling a large portion of their non-hazardous materials: the 4-SHRED-2 Monster Industrial Shredder.

Murrell was sold on the 4-SHRED with a 25-horsepower motor and 29:1 reducer after evaluating its feature set, pricing, and availability. Once it arrived on-site, SR&R fabricated a stand and hopper for the unit.

Problem

Too much time spent manually preparing consumer commodity packaging for destruction

Solution

4-SHRED Monster Industrial® Shredder with Torque Overload Protection

The best insurance policy

SR&R purchased the 4-SHRED with the optional torque overload protection, which helps prevent catastrophic failure caused by tramp metal entering the grinder. When torque exceeds 90% of the shaft's mechanical yield, the device decouples the shaft from the motor. Once the tramp metal is removed from the grinder, the system can be reset without requiring a major tear-down.

The torque overload protection proved to be a lifesaver. "Shortly after we got the 4-SHRED, we had something enter the grinder at just the right angle that kicked over the thermal overload," explained Murrell. "It worked perfectly. It saved us from breaking a brand-new unit. Resetting everything was easy. We were back up and running quickly — and without



“The 4-SHRED is a nice little unit. It was easy to put together. It’s worked really well, and we’ve been extremely happy with it”

Billy Murrell, owner and CEO of S&R

any expensive damage. Frankly, I don’t think anyone should buy a 4-SHRED without this protection.”

Savings across the business

Since putting the shredder into operation, SR&R has increased their throughput. Instead of having multiple people emptying containers into the pit, SR&R can have one person feed the shredder. “For example, we took 50,000 plastic jars containing oil samples and threw them into the shredder by the handful, and it just crunched through everything — no problem,” Murrell said.

From SR&R’s experience, the 4-SHRED works well with glass, plastic, wood, cardboard, and some metal, particularly paint cans. According to Murrell, “Whereas we used to have someone open up 10,000 one-gallon cans, now we just throw them into the unit, and it shreds them up and mixes them into everything.”

When SR&R receives cardboard boxes containing gallon jugs, they can shred the entire package without opening it up. Shredding the box with its contents increases the surface area, which, in turn, lessens the solidification media needed. “This is a win-win,” explained Murrell. “Before, we were opening the boxes, removing or puncturing the safety seals, pouring the contents out of the jugs, and filling a roll-off bin with cardboard. By running these entire packages through the shredder, we’re streamlining our process, saving a trip to the landfill, and using less solidification media.”

Compliance with Subtitle D landfill requirements

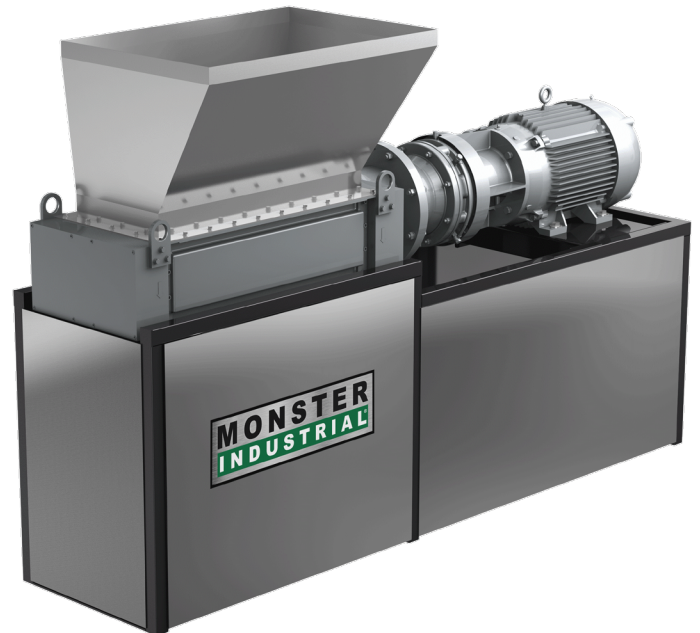
Materials sent to a Subtitle D landfill must pass the paint filter test, which means no liquids. Using an excavator to mash thousands of bottles is not 100% accurate. Murrell explained, “We’ve gotten in trouble with the landfill before. Invariably, you send the mashed-up materials to the landfill, and you’ve

inadvertently missed emptying one. Then their bulldozer pops it when the landfill manager walks by, and suddenly, there’s liquid everywhere. Now, with the 4-SHRED, everything comes out as a uniform plastic mulch, and this problem disappears altogether.”

By using the 4-SHRED to grind five-gallon or smaller containers, SR&R achieves a level of consistency they couldn’t do on their own. They are confident that everything they send will meet the landfill’s requirements.

A solid investment

Having used the 4-SHRED for more than a year, Murrell believes the unit has paid for itself and then some. “When I had to price in all the labor I used to need, I ran the risk of pricing SR&R out of business opportunities. Now, I can price more competitively because I’m looking at one person running the shredder versus needing three to four in the warehouse. It’s increased our margin and our throughput for smaller consumer commodity packaging.”



JWC Environmental (JWC), a Sulzer Brand, is a world leader in solids reduction, removal systems and product destruction for municipal and industrial applications. JWC Monster Industrial shredders and grinders are uniquely designed to cut through the toughest solids and bring them down to size. Monster Industrial products are working every day, protecting equipment and destroying debris. They are found in applications like

recycling, waste-to-energy, commercial facility sewage, food and beverage processing, agriculture, and oil and gas. Founded in 1973, the company has built and shipped more than 40,000 Monster grinders, shredders and screens to customers worldwide. More information on JWC Environmental is available at www.jwce.com

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