



The Association of
Plastic Recyclers



STACKING CASE STUDY

GROCERY CHAIN PROFILE

- 150+ conventional supermarkets
- Rigid plastics collected at store level and backhauled to central recycling center
- Also recycles OCC, Paper, Film Plastics, Waxed OCC

RIGID PLASTICS RECYCLED

- Wide mouth pails/buckets (frostings, deli salads) and seafood trays
- Departments included: In-store bakery, deli & seafood

HOW THE RIGID PLASTICS RECYCLING SYSTEM WORKS

1. Wide mouth pail, buckets and trays are lightly rinsed and nested by size
2. Nested containers placed in dedicated melon bin in backroom
3. Full nested bins returned to central recycling center with other recyclables (baled OCC, bagged plastic film)
4. Bins shrink-wrapped onto pallets, loaded onto trailer and sent to local markets

ECONOMICS

- Estimated annual volume of rigid plastics from 150+ stores = 300 tons per year
- Estimated (typical) handling cost: Labor and Transportation
- Labor and transportation costs = revenue neutral

BENEFITS	DRAWBACKS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoided waste disposal costs • Minimum central recycling center space– stacked bins cross-docked to dedicated trailers • No capital equipment investment • Revenue Neutral 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited markets because of low trailer weights • Less revenue than baling