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- Larry Heinrich, City of Alliance (Neb.) Solid Waste Dept.

A SOLID INVESTMENT

The City of Alliance, Neb., is able to bale its solid waste more quickly and densely with its new two-ram International Baler model.

Baling municipal solid waste (MSW) so that the bale maintains its integrity takes the right baler, says Larry Heinrich, utilities superintendent of the City of Alliance, Neb.

Fortunately, since the summer of 2009, the Alliance Solid Waste Department has had just the right baler on the job—a horizontal two-ram model from International Baler (IB). Heinrich says the new baler was purchased to improve bale density, bale integrity and production speed at the Solid Waste Department’s facility.

“This machine is helping make the bales more dense,” says Heinrich of the first goal. “The more weight we can get into the bales improves our costs at the landfill.” Dense bales allow more MSW volume in each cubic yard at the landfill, extending the landfill’s life and allowing each delivery to pack more tonnage.

The other benefit of the dense bales being made by the IB unit is the production of bales that hold their shape and integrity. “The person who has really noticed the difference with this baler is our driver who takes bales to the landfill,” says Heinrich. “These bales are tight and they are not breaking, so we’re not losing material on the way to the landfill or having difficulty unloading once we get there.”

The third benefit involves speedy turnaround times and automated production on the tipping floor. “There has been a real difference in how fast this baler works through material after it’s dumped on the floor compared to the prior unit,” says Heinrich. He adds, “Most of our employees have been here for 10 years or more, and they say they can really tell the difference.”

Additionally, the machine’s automated functions, including wire-tying and a stamper that alleviates bridging, means that fewer employees need to monitor the machine’s activities, notes Heinrich.



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