

SUCCESS STORY

MCDONALD'S AUSTRALIA



TELFORD SMITH AND MCDONALD'S TEAM UP FOR RECYCLING SOLUTION

An article in the magazine Waste Management Review highlights Orwak baler installations at McDonald's Australia and the benefits they bring to the stores.

SUSTAINABILITY HAS BEEN A LONG-TIME COMMITMENT FOR MCDONALD'S AUSTRALIA.

Set on using its branding for good, the fast-food restaurant chain was a founding partner of Clean Up Australia more than 30 years ago and joined forces with Foodbank Australia in 2011 to manage food waste. More than 550,000 kilograms of edible goods has since been donated from distribution centres across Australia.

Internally, the golden arches is also rethinking packaging and has made a commitment to make recycling easier. McDonald's has looked outside of the box for recycling solutions with many stores across Australia installing an Orwak baler from Telford Smith, Orwak's distributor in Australia.

Orwak balers on site in Melbourne stores

Greg Old is Store Supervisor of five stores across Melbourne's south-east that each has a baler on site. He says, the balers have made a difference on several fronts including saving space, increased safety, and cost efficiency. "They've been a great introduction to the stores," Greg says. "It's an easier way to do things and saves room", and he adds:

"We've also found there were cost savings of close to \$1000 a month."

David Picone, General Manager for Telford Smith, says Orwak balers are designed to meet waste handling demands across multiple markets while saving time, space, and money. Empty cardboard boxes contain a lot of air, which translates to wasted space when they're thrown out into traditional big bins.



Multi-chamber baler for bagged waste and cardboard

David says the Orwak baler has a compaction rate of 5:1, meaning 3 m³ of waste will fit into one, 660-litre wheelie bin.

The balers are dual-function and easy to use. Bagged waste is placed in a hopper at one end where it is compacted into a 660-litre wheelie bin. Cardboard is placed in the other end where it is compacted into a dense bale.

The modular design allows additional chambers to be added for further recycling points such as milk bottles or soft plastics. The baler's compact size means it can fit into a secure corral at the back of restaurants, as opposed to taking up space in customer car parks.

Greg says some stores have minimal space for storage. For those without a baler, that space is reduced even further because of the need for larger bins for cardboard waste.

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