

GREEN FOUNDRY CASE STUDIES

MATERIAL & RESOURCE CONSERVATION

Reusable Bin System Replaces Single-Use Gaylord Boxes



BEFORE



AFTER

Description

Historically, suppliers would ship materials in Gaylord boxes (heavy-duty cardboard boxes) and wooden crates. These containers would be used once and then shipped offsite for landfill disposal. Working with the suppliers, the disposable containers were replaced with reusable plastic and metal containers.

Environmental Benefits

- Annual reduction of waste disposed of in a landfill equaled 1,126 Gaylord Boxes (1 standard Gaylord box = 1 cubic yard); and 750 wooden and wire crates (1 standard wooden/wire crate = 1 cubic yard).
- Transportation fuel savings and landfill equipment fuel savings due to a reduction of 63 30-cubic yard containers delivered to a landfill each year.

Cost & Savings

- The parts suppliers provided the new reusable plastic and metal bins free of charge, so there was no cost to implement. Cost savings is estimated at: 63 loads x \$300 = \$18,900 in annual disposal costs.

Other Benefits

Ergonomic—eliminated cutting of the Gaylord boxes and the bending movements associated with removing parts from the tall boxes and wooden bins.

Safety—\$4,600 from injuries associated with working with the Gaylord boxes and the wooden and wire crates in 2014 and 2015.

Productivity—minimal.

Material Handling—no need to remove the parts from the flammable containers before placement in the weld area.

Team Member Morale—the employees are excited about the new method and fully support it.

Applicability

- Any company that transports or stores materials in disposable containers and/or wooden pallets can implement this program.

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