

Countrystyle signs waste wood export contract



Countrystyle Group has recently signed a contract to export 50,000 tonnes of recycled wood chip to Sweden.

Countrystyle has been involved in the processing of mixed waste wood for the European energy market for some years and was one of the first in the South East to be involved in export on a large scale.

The Group's exports have, until recently, been via a third party at Chatham Docks. However, an opportunity arose earlier this year to enter into a contract directly with one of the largest Swedish end users and to take on leased premises at Ridham Dock. This is of significant strategic importance to Countrystyle as it allows a greater degree of control over shipments to Sweden and also the ability to export to other markets via Ridham Dock.

Waste wood is sourced from Countrystyle's own collection activities and third party recycling facilities. The non-hazardous wood is shredded and screened at the Group's existing Ridham facility to produce wood chip suitable for use as biomass fuel before being transported to Ridham Dock for storage.

There is a planning application in place that will allow the processing operations to be moved to the Dock. This will deliver operational efficiencies to the wood operations and also free up valuable space at the existing Ridham site for other recycling activities.

The processed wood chip is shipped to Sweden and consumed by a network of combined heat and power plants run by Vattenfall AB and E-On.

Kevin Sibley, Commercial Manager at Countrystyle Group comments:

"This is a really exciting time for Countrystyle. We are now in full control of our exports to Sweden and also in discussion with a number of other power plants in Europe regarding potential supply contracts for biofuels. The ability to export via Ridham Dock will present lots of opportunities and further enhance our portfolio of sustainable end markets. The waste to energy market is growing and developing year on year. Countrystyle is now ideally placed to supply a range of materials to end destinations throughout Europe".

TAKE A LOOK INSIDE

P2



Countrystyle re-awarded Hertfordshire County Council Plasterboard Contract

P2



Countrystyle awarded extension to Camping and Caravanning Club contract

P3



Countrystyle awarded new contract with Medway Ports

Countrystyle re-awarded Hertfordshire County Council Plasterboard Contract

Countrystyle has been re-awarded a four year contract to continue providing a plasterboard collection and recycling service to Hertfordshire County Council Household Waste Recycling Centres.

Countrystyle originally won the contract in 2009 and it saw the Group collect around 500 tonnes of plasterboard per year from 10 of 17 recycling centres in Hertfordshire. The new contract sees Countrystyle collecting plasterboard waste from the existing 10 recycling centres as well as an additional six centres and it is estimated that across the 16 centres, the Group will now collect over 1000 tonnes per annum.

The collection of the plasterboard is subcontracted to the councils transport contractor Nationwide Metal Recycling. The material is then bulked at their Roydon site for onward transport to Countrystyle's Ridham facility where it is recycled into gypsum powder and reclaimed paper. The gypsum powder is transported to nearby plasterboard manufacturer Knauf Drywall to be used in the production of new



board. Knauf's plasterboard plants in the UK are amongst the most sophisticated in Europe, designed to take recycled gypsum as part of the production process.

Cabinet Member for Transformation, Performance and Waste Management, Derrick Ashley comments: "Hertfordshire County Council first began recycling plasterboard from householders in 2009, following a total ban of gypsum waste going to landfill. Under this new contract, we are pleased to expand this service to the majority of our HWRCs, as we are continually looking for ways to be innovative and cost effective in our recycling activities".

Chris Howard, Countrystyle Group's Commercial Director said: "Countrystyle has been recycling waste plasterboard from Hertfordshire

County Council HWRC's since 2009 and we are delighted to be able to continue working alongside the local authority. As always, Countrystyle is completely committed to creating a more sustainable and eco-friendly environment and we are proud to play an integral part in the nation's drive to reduce waste from landfill".

Countrystyle commence 3 month trial with Reconomy

Countrystyle recently commenced a three month trial with Reconomy, one of the largest construction and utility waste and recycling brokers in the UK.

The trial which commenced in June 2012 sees Countrystyle, on behalf of Reconomy, provide skip and container services throughout Kent. Following the successful completion of the trial, the Group are aiming to work in partnership with Reconomy as their preferred supplier for central and west Kent.

Recycling & Waste Management Exhibition



Countrystyle are pleased to be exhibiting at the only event in the UK dedicated to the waste management and recycling industry - RWM in partnership with CIWM. The exhibition takes place at the NEC, Birmingham on Tuesday 11th to Thursday 13th September.

Why not talk to us at stand **17D29** over a smoothie?

Countrystyle awarded extension to Camping and Caravanning Club contract

Countrystyle has been awarded a two year extension to its waste and recycling contract with the Camping and Caravanning Club. The contract which was originally awarded in June 2010 sees Countrystyle continue to manage the collection and recycling of various dry and wet waste streams for 94 sites across the UK.

Chris Howard, Commercial Director at Countrystyle Group comments: "We are delighted to have won this contract renewal which reflects the existing high service levels provided by our staff and the quality of the partnership we have established with the Camping and Caravanning Club."

The Camping and Caravanning Club are boosting their green credentials by securing an impressive 100% waste recycling rate across a number of their sites including Bakewell in Derbyshire, Ebury Hill in Shrewsbury, Dartmouth in Devon and Slindon in West Sussex. The Club's headquarters in Coventry also achieved a 100% recycling rate for 2011. During the last camping season, approximately 80% of the waste generated from the sites' network was recycled.



Countrystyle awarded new contract with Medway Ports



Countrystyle has signed a three year waste management contract with Medway Ports, part of Peel Ports, the UK's second largest port group.

The contract which has recently started sees Countrystyle working alongside Medway

Ports at their Sheerness Dock site to provide collection and recycling services for their wood and fruit waste streams as well as general waste on site.

As part of the contract, Countrystyle provided Medway Ports with a variety of wheelie bins as well as rear end loaders and roll-on roll-off containers. General waste collected from the wheelie bins on-site is taken to the Allington waste-to-energy plant, operated by Kent Enviropower, where it is burned to generate electricity to power the facility and the local supply network. The waste wood is collected and taken to the Group's specialist recycling facility in Ridham, Kent, where it is processed and exported abroad either for use in chipboard manufacture or to be burned to power a network of combined heat and power plants.

Supporting the comeback of Maidstone United FC

Countrystyle has teamed up with Maidstone United Football Club to mark the club's comeback to Maidstone. The club signed an initial one year contract with Countrystyle and the Group will provide on-site wheelie bins and a weekly waste collection service.

The first match and official opening of the stadium happened on the 14th July where The Stones played Brighton & Hove. This is a very exciting time for the club and we wish them the best of luck.



Countrystyle sponsors former capped player's cricket lunch

Countrystyle were proud sponsors of the former capped players of Kent County Cricket Club lunch which took place at the St Lawrence Cricket Ground, Canterbury during the Kent Spitfires v Hampshire Royals Twenty20 match on Sunday 24th June.



Stuart Butler-Gallie, Director at Countrystyle Group said: "As a keen follower in my youth of the great Kent side of the 1970s, it was an honour and privilege for Countrystyle to sponsor the lunch and for me to be able to sit with my cricketing heroes such as Derek Underwood, Asif Iqbal, Alan Ealham and Mike Denness".

Legislation Update

MBT Guidance

Activities involving the storage, recycling or disposal of waste generally require an Environmental Permit. However some waste activities pose less of a risk to the environment and human health and are therefore exempt from requiring a permit.

New regulations were introduced on 6th April 2010 which changed the exemptions system. Those who registered a paragraph 7 exemption for spreading agricultural waste on agricultural land have until 1st October 2013 to register under the new system.

If you have registered a land spreading exemption under paragraph 7, to spread non-agricultural wastes for example paper sludges on your land, you will have until 1st October 2012 to register under the new system or obtain an environmental permit.

Many of the waste types traditionally spread on agricultural land under paragraph 7, for example; paper sludges, food processing sludges, are not included in the new U10 exemption. These wastes must now be spread under a permit.

For more information visit <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/sectors/130181.aspx> or contact a member of the Countrystyle team on 0844 880 7700.

An update from our associate companies

Civils contracting continues to expand

With recent projects ranging from small drainage solutions to installing infrastructure for one of Kent's largest solar farms, FGS Agri's civil engineering enterprise goes from strength to strength.

James Deekes is the latest addition to the Civils team, having been brought in to manage a number of forthcoming steel frame construction projects.

FGS Agri are also pleased to have started their two year landscape management contract for FCC Environment (formerly WRG), undertaking landscape management at various sites across Kent and Essex. Despite the inclement weather, they have made a positive start to this enterprise.



In addition, FGS Agri undertakes the remediation and reinstatement operations for completed construction projects and offer maintenance programs to each project from one to five years for watering and replanting, tailored to the environment and clients' requirements.

Major investment sees FGS Plant enter powered access market

FGS Plant has entered the powered access market in the South East following a substantial investment in new equipment.

Kent based FGS Plant have bought 38 pieces of new access equipment to add to their existing fleet of excavators, rollers, dumpers, tower lights and telehandlers.

The powered access purchased has all been manufactured by Genie and range from 4.5 metre scissor lifts to 20 metre boom lifts. The equipment will predominantly be deployed for construction sector projects around Kent, Surrey, East Sussex and Hampshire.

FGS Plant Sales Director, Malcolm Sutton said: "We've been pleased to take the opportunity to add powered access to our fleet and begin to establish ourselves as Kent's 'one-stop shop' for heavy plant rentals. In addition to this, our investment forms part of plans for greater strategic growth for our business as a whole in the South East".



Countrystyle welcomes...

Lisa Lamb

Group Customer Relationship Manager



What was your first job?

I've been in sales since I left school, firstly as an assistant in a DIY store before I become a sales rep for the waste industry.

What aspect of your job do you enjoy the most?

Closing large contracts and the challenge of managing people with different personalities.

What do you wish you had invented?

Facebook, as I would be rich.

What book did you last read?

I don't read as I can never relax. I only read on holiday and even then I just pick books from the top paperbacks at the airport.

Who is your hero and why?

Richard Branson, I see myself in him as he loves a challenge like me.

If you weren't in waste, what would you want to be?

Slimming World District Manager as I already have my own group helping 120+ people lose weight.

Where would you most like to visit in the world?

Australia – cities to beaches, rainforests, coastal drives, deep red outback, sunsets, a no worries attitude and an array of nature.

If you were to have lunch with anyone living or dead who would it be?

Mario Balotelli as he is a bit of a bad boy. He has an amazing personality and a larger than life character.

Top safety accreditation for Countrystyle Group

Countrystyle is one of the latest successful companies to join a leading edge scheme, designed to help the industry improve its safety record.

Countrystyle recently received accreditation from SAFEcontractor, a programme which recognises very high standards of health and safety practice amongst UK contractors.

Under the SAFEcontractor system, businesses undergo a vetting process, which examines health and safety procedures and their track record for safe practice. Those companies meeting the high standard are included on a database, which is accessible to registered users only via the SAFEcontractor website.

Over one hundred and fifty major nationwide businesses, from several key sectors, have signed up to use the scheme when selecting contractors for services such as building, cleaning, maintenance, refurbishment or electrical and mechanical work.

SAFEcontractor

