



View of the trash pit at the Wheelabrator Westchester facility.

Wheelabrator: energizing the county since 1984

BY MEAGHAN CASEY

In 1984, Wheelabrator Technologies, Inc. changed the landscape of waste disposal in Westchester County with the introduction of a state-of-the-art waste-to-energy facility.

Since its inception, the Westchester plant has been under contract with the county to process at least 550,000 tons of solid waste annually. It is estimated that in one year, the amount of solid waste processed at the plant could fill the area of half a football field, more than 1.5 miles high, making it virtually impossible to effectively dispose of through landfills and recycling alone.

The process the plant uses is simple. Incoming trucks deliver trash to an enclosed reception area and deposit it into a concrete

See COUNTY Page 6

LEADERS IN THEIR FIELD



Wheelabrator implements WM leadership program

Page 3



Jon Yanofsky, executive director of the Paramount Center for the Arts, is grateful for the financial support that Wheelabrator Westchester has provided the theatre. Pages 4-5.

PHOTO: PAULA MULLER

Wheelabrator honored for sterling safety record

BY MEAGHAN CASEY

Adding yet another feather to its cap, Wheelabrator Technologies was recently named a regional leader by the U.S. Dept. of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

The company was presented with the OSHA Regional Administrator Award for 2007 and was recognized at the Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) Participants' Association Region I conference in Mystic, Conn.

"It's been just phenomenal working with Wheelabrator," said Marthe Kent,

OSHA's Region I administrator. "It's a world-class company with the kind of commitment that an OSHA administrator just can't believe. Wheelabrator stands out, even among the best of the best in its industry, as a true leader and source of inspiration."

Kevin Baughn, manager of environmental, health and safety for Wheelabrator, accepted the award from Kent.

"It's a privilege to be able to accept this award on behalf of (President) Mark Weidman and the rest of Wheelabrator

See SAFETY Page 6

PRSRT-STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Grant
Communications

Wheelabrator Westchester, L.P.
One Charles Point Ave.
Peekskill, NY 10566

A PUBLICATION OF:
Wheelabrator Westchester, L.P.

Mark Santella
Regional Vice President

Tom Maillet
Plant Manager

Wheelabrator Westchester, L.P.
One Charles Point Ave.
Peekskill, NY 10566

Tel. (914) 739-9555
Fax (914) 739-9104

www.wheelabratortechnologies.com

PRODUCED BY:



GRANT COMMUNICATIONS
CONSULTING GROUP
Boston/New York
(781) 598-8200
e-mail: gccg@grantgroup.com

Performances we can be proud of



Tom Maillet
Plant Manager

Welcome to the second edition of Wheelabrator Westchester News. In this edition, you will read about the tremendous achievements within our company and our community.

We celebrate the hard work and dedication of Jon Yanofsky, executive director of the Paramount Center for the Arts. With his vision, and the vision of the board members and residents of this area, the Paramount is once again a vibrant institution in Peekskill. We at Wheelabrator are proud to lend our support and we wish the Paramount all the best for the upcoming season. This fall marks the first time a theatre group will be in residence. We welcome them to our community and look forward to their first performance in November.

Internally, Wheelabrator has also found reason to celebrate. Our plant was selected to pilot a Waste Management leadership program for all of Wheelabrator Technologies, Inc. It is quite an honor to be chosen among the company's 21 sites, including 15 other waste-to-energy facilities. My applause goes out to a number of those sites who this year were honored as VPP Star facilities. Thanks to this final group, Wheelabrator Technologies has achieved its goal of having all of its sites certified as Star sites, and was recently honored by OSHA as a regional leader.

Thank you all for your continued support and interest in who we are and what we do. We are proud to have been serving this community for 23 years and look forward to many more to come.



The Wheelabrator Westchester plant has been energizing the community for 23 years.

Regional VP has grown with company

BY DAVID LISCIO

Mark Santella knows Wheelabrator Technologies from the ground up, ever since he worked as a field operator at the company's Bridgeport, Conn. facility in the late 1980s.

Today, Santella, 39, is among the waste-to-energy company's newest vice presidents, overseeing the Mid-Atlantic Region.

Born and raised in Revere, Mass., Santella considers himself a native Bostonian and New Englander, as does his wife, Stefanie, whose hometown is East Boston. He can still recall the amusement rides that once occupied Revere Beach, the nation's first public beach and a still-popular strip of sand that overlooks Boston.

The Wheelabrator promotion one year ago took the Santellas from their home in Florida to their new residence in Collegeville, PA, which is centrally located in the Mid-Atlantic Region.

"The adjustment has gone well, and our children are anxious to begin the new school year to meet new friends," said Santella.

The Santellas have a daughter, Nicole, 12, and son, Dominic, 9.

The Mid-Atlantic Region encompasses five facilities – Gloucester County in New Jersey; Baltimore; Falls Township in Morrisville, Pa.; Frackville, Pa.; and Westchester County. Santella's main office is at the Falls Township facility, but he is usually on the road

Santella. "Our greatest accomplishment this year has been our exemplary employee safety record, coupled with strong operation and financial results."

Wheelabrator Westchester has been no exception.

"Westchester has been one of our strongest and most consistently-operated facilities," he said. "The employees at Westchester are dedicated, talented and have a tremendous sense of pride in the facility."

Familiar with the area, Santella was operations manager at the Falls Township plant after leaving Bridgeport. He later served as plant manager for the company's two facilities in Florida's Broward County, and general manager of two other Florida facilities on the West Coast, in Pinellas County and near Tampa.

Before joining Wheelabrator, Santella earned a bachelor of science degree in marine engineering from Massachusetts Maritime Academy in Buzzards Bay. As part of his education, Santella was required to spend part of some semesters aboard merchant ships. He decided life on land was more to his liking.

"The employees at Westchester are dedicated, talented and have a tremendous sense of pride in the facility."

Mark Santella
Vice president, Mid-Atlantic Region



two or more days a week visiting one of the other plants.

"Our strengths in the region include a talented group of facility managers, dedicated and knowledgeable employees, well-run facilities, strong operational performance, and strategically located facilities," said

Wheelabrator Westchester Quick Facts

The Westchester facility processes up to 2,250 tons per day of municipal solid waste for 35 communities. At full capacity, it can generate 60,000 kilowatt-hours of electrical energy per hour. This is the equivalent of supplying all of the electrical needs of more than 87,000 New York homes.

A Breakthrough Performance

Waste Management helps create strong leaders at Wheelabrator Westchester



Above, the Breakthrough Performance Leadership team includes, front from left, Susanne May, Brett Baker, Jose Seco and Mike Idiagbor; back from left, Patrick Fahey, Roel Mendoza, Tom Maillet and Bob Ferris; below, from left, Baker, Bruno Campea, Fahey and Maillet discuss the 2008 operating budget.

By MEAGHAN CASEY

Rolling out Waste Management's Breakthrough Performance Leadership (BPL) program, employees at Wheelabrator Westchester are breaking new ground.

BPL is a program that will engage employees by implementing systems to help them perform the best they can, and by developing strong leaders.

"It's how we develop the best people to go along with the best data and best assets," said Waste Management CEO David Steiner. "BPL is a way of investing in our employees' development and showing that we care about them."

Westchester's leadership team was chosen to spearhead the pilot program for its parent company, Wheelabrator Technologies, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Waste Management.

The team includes: Plant Manager Tom Maillet, Operations Manager Brett Baker, Maintenance Manager Patrick Fahey, Labor/Ash Manager Kenneth Phillips, Controller Bruno Campea, Environmental Health and Safety Manager Susanne May, Operations Supervisor Art Campbell, Shift Supervisors Nadah Bailey, Jose Seco, Doug Andress and Mike Haeser, Plant Engineer Mike Idiagbor, Lead Mechanic Bob Ferris, Lead E&I Technician Pete Brazeau and Lead Laborer Roel Mendoza.

"It's exciting to be the only Wheelabrator plant piloting the program," said Maillet. "We've always had great stability at the management leadership level at this plant, and I think this program will only make us stronger."

As part of its participation, the Westchester team has

attended formal training sessions and has led meetings for employees at the plant to identify opportunities and solve issues that affect customers, as well as employee work life. The team members are responsible for providing performance management feedback, coaching employees to apply the skills and knowledge learned in training, interpreting operational data, viewing the organization as a total system and not just his or her job, and engaging employees to improve satisfaction, loyalty and retention.

"Through this process, we're creating stronger employee/manager relationships, which are intended to improve the overall quality of life for all of our employees," said Mark Santella, Wheelabrator's vice president for the Mid-Atlantic Region.

Six markets, including Wheelabrator Westchester, participated in the first wave of BPL, which consisted mainly of information gathering. District leaders and employees talked and listened to each other about their work environment, based on the results of an employee survey, and are currently looking at the issues and opportunities for change.

Slated to begin this fall, the second wave of the program should be completed by the end of 2008 and will continue as an ongoing program. It will incorporate action planning and execution to drive results. Each year, refresher training will take place, as needed, and the employee survey will be repeated. The process is intended to create an annual rhythm that will permanently change the way employees think about performance and improvement.

The overall program is expected to expand from 3,500 Waste Management employees to 10,000 employees later this year.





Top, view of the interior of the theatre from the balcony; center, the seats still have their original detail; bottom, General Manager Scott Seltzer pours a soft drink.



Westchester plant helps to renovate cultural landmark

By MEAGHAN CASEY

Constructed as a state-of-the-art facility unrivaled in the region, the Paramount Theatre thrived in the 1930s, serving as a landmark and the cultural hub for Peekskill residents.

At the time, it was designed as a 1,500-seat movie palace by Publix Pictures, a subsidiary of Paramount Pictures. The Paramount boasted a mammoth cooling and air conditioning plant, a beautifully furnished lounge, rest rooms and many other exclusive features. It continued to prosper through the Depression and World War II, but was eventually sold in 1973 and acquired by the City of Peekskill in 1977.

Today, the theatre is restored to its original glory, thanks in part to local sponsors such as Wheelabrator Westchester. The community-based Save the Paramount campaign fought to keep the facility alive, and now it is once again thriving.

“Through fundraising and private donors, corporate support and city, county and state funds, we were able to hit high gear and

complete a top-to-bottom interior renovation project,” said Paramount Executive Director Jon Yanofsky. “Wheelabrator is among our top corporate supporters. The company is an essential part of our overall support base.”

The Paramount’s major renovation and historic restoration projects have included repairing the walls and ceiling; re-creating the original 1930s ceiling design; completing the decorative painting of the theatre walls and balcony, faux opera boxes and columns; installing new carpeting throughout the theatre and lobby areas; and, refurbishing the classic vintage theatre seats. The concession area and restrooms were completely renovated and improvements were made to the sound system and lighting.

“We’ve built on the history,” said Yanofsky. “The auditorium is gorgeous, with very intricate, ornate paintings – back to the way it was.”

Renamed the Paramount Center for the Arts, the theatre now operates as a year-round multidisciplinary performance center,

with live shows, arts-in-education programs, films, and visual art exhibitions, serving more than 55,000 people annually from throughout the mid-Hudson Valley Region.

Yanofsky, who has worked as an arts administrator most of his professional career, took over as executive director in 2003. His background includes work in New York City and San Francisco, presenting festivals and educational programs.

“The opportunity to come to a theatre that was such as central part of the community, and to be part of its revival, was exciting to me,” said Yanofsky.

Yanofsky credits the board of directors’ dedication to the theatre, as well as the city’s role in its restoration. “The board has been integral in both running and saving the theatre,” he said. “The board members were the glue that held it together all these years, and the city, which has remained the owner, has been an incredible partner in the process.”

Wheelabrator’s support, through the Paramount’s annual gala, as well as through

funding for general operating expenses, has been constant.

“Wheelabrator’s support predates me, but working with (Plant Manager) Tom (Maillet) has been wonderful,” said Yanofsky, who also sits on the board of directors of the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce with Maillet.

“So many of us, whether it’s the Peekskill Education Fund or the Peekskill Celebration, have Wheelabrator to thank,” he added. “They’re such an important part of what we’re all trying to do in this community. The company really demonstrates what it means to be a corporate citizen, and Tom personifies this. He has a real desire to see things moving in a positive direction.”

In addition to the Paramount’s physical renovations, Yanofsky has also been working to grow its programming. This year, the center welcomed The Mighty Theatre Company as the company in residence. The company will present its first production, “Checkhov Shorts,” (a series of brief, comic plays) in November.



Top, Paramount Executive Director Jon Yanofsky stands in the ticket booth; center, the billboard announces upcoming shows; bottom, the inside of the Paramount Theatre.

Wheelabrator: energizing the county since 1984

COUNTY: from Page 1

receiving pit. Overhead cranes then transfer the trash into boilers, where temperatures exceed 2,000 degrees in order for combustion to occur. Air to feed the combustion is drawn from the receiving building, sustaining a negative pressure and preventing odors or dust from escaping. Power boilers recover energy released during the combustion process, in the form of high-pressure steam, and a turbine generator converts the steam into electrical energy.

Converting waste into energy reduces the volume of a community's garbage by up to 90 percent. The remaining 10 percent is an inert ash that can be safely disposed of in modern landfills or used in various commercial applications, such as construction materials or road paving.

Wheelabrator Westchester, at full capacity, can generate more than 60,000 kilowatts of electrical energy for sale to Consolidated Edison Company. This is the equivalent of supplying all of the electrical needs of more than 80,000 homes. The plant's contract with the county will be up for renewal in October 2009. At that time, the plant will celebrate its 25 years of dependable service to the 900,000 residents of Westchester County.

"Wheelabrator is eager to continue providing clean, renewable energy to the residents of this area for decades to come," said Plant Manager Tom Maillet. "We are dedicated to this community and this industry and look forward to extending this great partnership."



Wheelabrator Westchester started operations in 1984.

Wheelabrator honored for safety record

SAFETY: from Page 1

Technologies," Baughn said. "To be selected is truly an honor and an indication of our dedication to provide a safe and healthy workplace for our employees. We will continue our efforts to be the best in our industry and to exceed OSHA standards."

The Regional Administrator's Award is presented annually to companies, individuals or organizations who distinguish themselves through their extraordinary contributions, commitment and leadership. The award winner must also achieve tangible results such as bringing additional sites into VPP.

In March, Wheelabrator achieved its goal of having all 21 of its sites (including 16 waste-to-energy facilities and five independent power-production plants) certified by OSHA as VPP Star sites. The honor is shared by less than .01 percent of the nation's worksites. Only nine other companies in the U.S. have more worksites certified as VPP Star locations.

Created in 1982, OSHA's VPP process holds managers accountable for worker safety and health, the continual identification and elimination of hazards and the active involvement of employees in their own protection. Companies in the Star program achieve average injury and illness rates 50 percent lower than other companies in their industry.

Seco brothers have worked together at Wheelabrator for 22 years

SECO BROTHERS: from Page 8

opened."

"There's camaraderie among the people that work here," said Manny. "It's a fun environment."

The brothers have witnessed great change and growth



José Seco, left, talks with José Morocho, a utility operator.

since their earliest days on-site.

"There's been continuous progress to improve the work environment and the safety culture here," said José. "We didn't even wear hard hats when we first started in '85, and today we've achieved OSHA's Voluntary Protection Program Star status."

From his starting position as a laborer, Manny moved on to serve as utility operator and ash handling systems operator — a job he has held for the past 15 years. He is responsible for running the ash system, maintaining ash equipment and overseeing the traffic control of the trucks that are loaded.

José, who currently serves as shift supervisor, was working as an assistant manager for McDonald's Corp. before joining Wheelabrator. He served as utility operator and assistant plant operator before becoming shift supervisor in 1994. His responsibilities include overseeing the safe operation of the facility, training employees, making sure employees are functioning in a safe manner, preparing reports and maintaining equipment.

"A lot of it is about coaching and counseling the employees that come in, and making sure everything is running smoothly," said José. "Every day, it's a different challenge. It's never a boring day."

His philosophy is to always maintain a positive outlook. "If you're having fun on the job, it's not a job," he said.

"That's what keeps me coming back."

Both Manny and José reside in Putnam Valley. José is engaged and Manny has two sons, Joseph, 23, and Daniel, 21, with his late wife. "I have to keep working to put one through med school and the other through law school," Manny said.



Manny Seco on the job.

WHEELABRATOR WESTCHESTER

CARES ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT.

Wheelabrator's
waste-to-energy plant
produces one of the
cleanest sources of
electricity.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, modern waste-to-energy plants produce electricity cleaner than almost any other source of electricity, and do so using a renewable source of fuel: trash (U.S. EPA, 2003).

Many scientists believe that emissions of carbon dioxide and other "greenhouse gases" are leading to unusually high warming of the atmosphere or "global warming." The U.S. Department of Energy has labeled waste-to-energy technology as a major part of a plan to reduce carbon dioxide emissions in the United States. By replacing fossil fuels, waste-to-energy reduces the buildup of greenhouse gases in the air. Combusting biomass—materials such as paper, wood and food waste—does not add to the buildup of greenhouse gases.

Family business

Seco brothers have worked together at Wheelabrator for 22 years

BY MEAGHAN CASEY

For José and Manny Seco, life at Wheelabrator Westchester is about more than just business. It's about family.

The brothers, who have each worked at Wheelabrator for 22 years, share a close connection that translates from their personal to professional lives.

José, older by 14 months, was hired February 11, 1985 as a laborer. Manny followed suit and joined the plant on June 31, 1985, also as a laborer.

"José told me about the opportunity and encouraged me to apply," said Manny.

"It wasn't the first time we've worked together," said José. "Even in high school we worked at the same restaurant. I guess you could say we pretty much follow each other."

"We try to keep work and house separate, though," said Manny. "We keep it professional here, and outside we're brothers."

The Secos grew up in Spain and moved to the U.S. in 1969, when Manny was 8 and José 10. The family lived in Peekskill for a time, where the boys attended public school. Now, the brothers are the only two in their immediate family to reside in the U.S. Their father returned to Spain, as did their sister, a teacher, who is currently living there with her husband and two sons.

"Most of our family is still in Spain,"

said José. "I have Manny and a cousin in the U.S. That's it. That's all the family we have here."

Despite a lack of blood relatives in the area, José maintains that the Wheelabrator community is a close one.

"The employees here are like family," he said. "A lot of us have been around for quite a while, 20-something years. It's a die-hard crew, so to say, and we go way back to when this plant first

See SECO BROTHERS Page 6



Brothers José, left, and Manny Seco enjoy working together at the Wheelabrator Westchester plant.

PHOTO: PAULA MULLER