

PROBLEM *Wooden Reels 60" in Diameter*

Houston Wire and Cable Company, a large distributor of wire and cable in Houston, Texas, faced a major problem disposing of wooden reels as large as 60 inches in diameter, pallets and other sizable waste generated by their cable distribution operation. Waste handling costs and "tipping" charges for disposal of the reels increased 400% in a single year due primarily to landfill surcharges.

Houston Wire and Cable management set three goals. First, they needed a scrap reduction method that would handle large reels, heavy timbers and large pallets. Second, because of rising landfill costs, effective size reduction would be required to increase container weights. Finally, they compared capital and operating costs of various scrap reduction systems.

**SOLUTION** *BloApCo's Super Shredder*

The **BloApCo Super Shredder** model installed at Houston Wire and Cable quickly demonstrated its capability to shred large wooden reels and pallets. The Super Shredder disposes of a volume of wooden cable reels 36 inches thick and up to 60 inches in diameter. Heavy steel through-rods in the reels are shredded along with the cable reels. The Super Shredder also shreds skids with 4"x 4" runners, 4"x 12" timbers, and 8x8" blocks. Standard 50 lb. pallets, evenly fed, are shredded at the rate of 300

pallets per hour. the massive shredder shreds 50-gal. steel drums at the rate of 100 per hour.

The installation of the top-feed Super Shredder at Houston Wire and Cable placed the shredder outside the plant over an existing compactor. Cable reels and other waste are fed into the shredder inside the plant. Lift truck operators simple raise the reels and other waste to the top feed conveyor on the shredder.

The performance of the BloApCo Super Shredder exceeded projections, reducing wooden reels and pallets to 1/7th of their original volume and reducing hauling expense and landfill fees by as much as 50%. In addition, the greater ease in handling and loading reels into the shredder has lowered labor costs.

Houston Wire and Cable Company, Houston Texas