

PROBLEM**High Volume Crate and Pallet Disposal**

Subaru of America's Parts Distribution Center in Irvine, CA, operates a highly-automated 150,000 sq. ft. warehouse with a staff of only 17 persons. The operation regularly receives an average of 10 ocean containers of parts a week, plus daily air shipments from Japan and domestic suppliers. This generates a tremendous volume of large crates and pallet bins. It took one full-time employee to break down the empty crates and place them in open-top scrap bins.



In addition to the costly labor, the waste volume presented disposal problems... created unsightly conditions... used up valuable warehouse space... and incurred excessive haul-off and disposal expenses.

SOLUTION**A Low-Speed BloApCo Vertical Pallet Shredder**

A system was designed around a **low-speed BloApCo vertical pallet shredder** with patented "**Pierce-and-Tear**" action that substantially reduces noise, dust and throw-out of shredded pieces. Complete crates and pallet bins (as large as 58" wide by 48" high) are loaded onto a 60" wide infeed conveyor inside the building which transports the material through a wall opening, discharging directly into the shredder. The shredded pieces then drop into a compactor.

The 40 cu. yd. compactor container is regularly hauled away and returned the same day.

The system features an overweight safety plate built into the shredder infeed conveyor which shuts down the system if anyone were to walk on the conveyor. According to Subaru, employee acceptance of the system has been excellent and it has eliminated the hard physical work and unsightly conditions. By cutting haul-off costs by 75%, the new shredding and conveyor system paid for itself in less than 24 months.

Subaru of America, Parts Distribution Center, Irvine, California