

# WRS 'Delivers the Goods' in Port Stephens MGB Roll-Out

As anyone who has ever been involved with the introduction of a new residential kerbside waste, recycling or greenwaste collection service will attest, managing the 'bin roll-out' phase can be a complex and extremely challenging task. Together with the obvious logistical challenges involved with the transport of tens of thousands of bins to a central site - followed by final assembly and delivery to every household within a city or region - bin roll-outs can also present a major asset management 'data processing' challenge, as councils and contractors endeavour to keep track of bin serial numbers and bin locations.

With that in mind, Adelaide-based bin manufacturing and distribution specialists Waste & Recycling Supplies (SA) Pty Ltd (WRS), has developed a fully-integrated bin assembly and delivery system to meet the needs of councils, waste authorities and collection contractors throughout Australia. Peter Joseph, Assembly and Distribution Manager with Waste & Recycling Supplies, explained:

"For us, it has always been about much more than simply manufacturing quality

bins - it's about providing our clients with a high quality 'total service solution'."

"By incorporating all aspects of the process into one service - from manufacture to final delivery - we're not only able to significantly improve the efficiency and ease of the bin roll-out process, we're also able to provide our clients with the peace of mind that comes with knowing that the bins will be delivered on time and in the best possible condition, ready for the new collection service to commence - regardless of their location or the number of bins involved," he added.

Developed with a focus on maximising the speed and ease with which the bin roll-out process can be completed, WRS' Bin Assembly and Distribution service incorporates all aspects of the roll-out, including:

- Bin manufacture;
- Delivery to one or more 'centralised' local distribution centres;
- On-site final assembly
- Delivery to households (including delivery of supporting 'new service' related information);

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• *One of the WRS bin delivery crews in action during the recent Port Stephens MGB roll-out. A total of 57,300 bins were delivered in 18 days.*

(Photo: Anthony T Schmidt)





- On-site computer-based asset logging (including recording bin serial numbers and location); and
- Data reporting services.

The benefits of this fully-integrated approach to bin supply were again highlighted during the recent bin roll-out for Port Stephens Council, in the New South Wales Hunter Region. John Claydon, Contract Manager with Port Stephens Council's residential waste and recycling collection contractors Solo Resource Recovery, commented:

"Having WRS manufacture the bins, as well as take care of the bin assembly and distribution process, not only provided us with an extremely efficient roll-out, it also made the whole procedure significantly less stressful for everyone concerned."

"We're extremely pleased with the results. From the logistics and transport operations, through to the final delivery of the bins and information, and logging of the serial numbers and addresses, every aspect was handled extremely well."



"Furthermore, due to fact that there was only one company looking after the whole process, everyone knew where everything was, and everyone was kept well informed about all aspects of the operation," he said.

"Importantly, WRS' focus on maintaining strong lines of communication also extended to council and ourselves, and this meant that any minor issues that occurred during the roll-out were able to be dealt with quickly and efficiently. Needless to say, this is also a major factor when it comes to ensuring the success of any new service," John Claydon added.

The new Port Stephens residential collection services commenced on July 1st, and



**Top Left:** Lids being fitted to MGB's at the temporary assembly depot in Port Stephens. **Above:** Loading MGB's ready for delivery to households. **Left:** The Port Stephens kerbside garbage and recycling services each utilise a 240-litre MASTEC® MGB from WRS.

(Photos: Anthony T Schmidt)

incorporates a weekly garbage collection and fortnightly co-mingled recyclables collection. Both the recyclables and garbage services are being provided by Solo Resource Recovery. The new services each utilise a 240-litre MASTEC® MGB from WRS.

For easy identification, the garbage MGBs have been fitted with a red lid, while the recycling MGBs incorporate a bright yellow lid. Both lids feature a hot-stamped usage

guide, which provides an easy-to-read graphic guide as to the contents that can be placed in each of the bins. The new service involved the manufacture and delivery of some 57,300 bins throughout Port Stephens. In addition, during the roll-out each household was provided with an information kit explaining the new service and change-over procedure.

The Port Stephens roll-out was managed and supervised by WRS' core team from Adelaide, who put together a team of short-term contract staff, supplied through the Port Stephens Employment Plus office. The MGB's were transported by road train direct from Adelaide to Port Stephens, where they were delivered to one of two temporary assembly depots. Teams at the depots attached the lids, and loaded the bins, axles and wheels onto the smaller 'local' trucks (from WRS' own fleet) ready for delivery to the households. Two-person delivery teams in the 'local' trucks were responsible for fitting the axle and wheels (an extremely fast and easy process thanks to MASTEC's quick-lock wheel design), logging the bin serial numbers against the addresses, and delivering a pair of bins to each household.

Despite the process being temporarily interrupted by some of the worst weather and

most severe rainfall to hit the Port Stephens region for many years, WRS was able to complete delivery of the 57,300 bins in just 18 days -representing an average of almost 3,200 bins being assembled and delivered each day.

Speaking about the bin roll-out, Steven Bernasconi, Waste Management Co-ordinator with Port Stephens Council, commented:

"A roll-out like this is a major undertaking. In fact, it's fair to say that from a logistics perspective, delivering and logging 57,300 bins is probably the largest logistics exercise to be carried out in Port Stephens for almost 20 years."

"Needless to say, we're extremely impressed with both the speed with which WRS got the job done, and the quality of the results - not only in terms of the physical bin delivery, but also their data logging results. They were professional in every aspect of their operation, and very service oriented in their approach. We're very happy with the results," Steven Bernasconi concluded.

For further information, please contact Waste and Recycling Supplies (SA) Pty Ltd, Phone: (08) 8447 2500, Fax: (08) 8447 2032 or email: [info@wasterecycling.com.au](mailto:info@wasterecycling.com.au) quoting "Waste Disposal and Water Management in Australia".

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**Waste & Recycling Supplies (SA) Pty Ltd**

26 Duncan Court, Ph: (08) 8447 2500 Fax: (08) 8447 2032  
 Ottoway, SA 5013 e-Mail: [info@wasterecycling.com.au](mailto:info@wasterecycling.com.au)