



NICKLES AND DIMES

Alberta Bottle Depot Association

February 2003

President's Address

Here we are, the winter of 2003 soon to be spring, are you ready for the busy season?? For those of you who are on the glass bulking pilot project remember to watch your box and bag inventory. The upcoming rush will put a demand on containers that you have not experienced since July or August.

All depots are reminded that your internal container handling requirements are the responsibility of each individual depot to

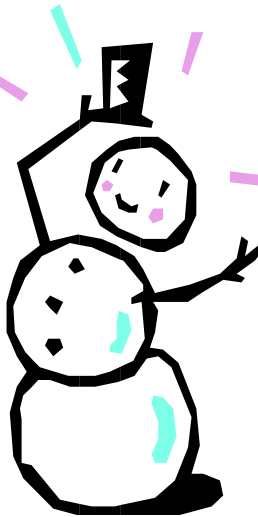


figure out and pay for. It is not ABCRC's responsibility to provide depots with a box for internal depot use, only for shipping. ABCRC feels that there are still too many depots leaning on them for this internal box and it needs

to stop. Inside the last commission review and increase was enough money to have each depot purchase its own inventory of boxes for internal use.

Where can you buy

boxes for your internal use? Contact ABCRC. They have a stock of boxes specifically designed for internal use which you can purchase, or contact Jeff at the ABDA and he can talk to you about the options available.

Co-operation and communication continues to be the chosen method of resolving disputes and moving forward on the variety of issues that the industry deals with and it is the method supported by the ABDA. To that end we are in discussions with various parties on the following issues: Automated con-

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ABDA/BCMB Judicial Review Update

The court dates originally set for February 11, 12 will now be designated for hearing the application which was postponed following the assignment of a court Judge to our case.

From the application hearing we are confident will come the determination of participation by the various parties as well as dates for the balance of the process.

Feature Report

- **ABDA unveils its own Can Counter! Check it out on page 4**
- **Changes in the oil collection business may mean new opportunity for depots, details on page 5.**

Uniform Code of Accounts Confirm Acton Study

The results of the UCA submissions by depots across the province are not yet out but early indications are that the actual numbers submitted by depots validate the work done a year ago by Acton Consulting. Several submissions had to be removed from the process be-

cause of improper data but according to the BCMB more than 150 submissions are usable. The UCA will be modified based on a review but will continue to be used by the BCMB for this type of data collection.

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ABCC Operating Agreement in the works

The ABDA is scheduled to meet with representatives of ABCC and BDL later this month to put the final touches on an operating agreement between the two parties. The agreement will attempt to define the working relationship and the handling requirements for all beer containers as they existed at the time the Acton Study was done.

The rates set out in the Acton Study were based on this work and consequently so is the retroactive rate payable to depots. Depots will continue to be expected to perform the work as outlined in the new agreement until the judicial review has been completed. ABCC has already noted

several changes that they would like to see to the handling procedures in depots but these items will be sidelined from the operating agreement until such time as a new rate for the changes can be determined.

For the most part, the operating agreement will look like the agreement that currently exists between ABCRC and Depots including schedules outlining shipping quantities and shipping containers.

There are only a couple of unresolved issues that could stand in the way of an agreement between the two parties being finalized before the next BCMB Board meeting; a dispute resolution process and

a collection schedule.

The ABDA Executive and Board will have an opportunity to review the final draft before it is adopted by the BCMB at their may Board meeting.

If you have any questions or would like to see a copy of the draft once it is finalized we will have a copy at our head office following the ABDA Board Meeting scheduled for March 16, 2003.

Milk Jug Pilot now under way

There are now 6 rural depots working with Alberta Dairy Council on a pilot that allows customers the opportunity to include milk jugs and gable tops in their items they are bringing to the depot. This remains a voluntary program and the customers do not receive any financial compensation for bringing the containers to depots for recycling. Depots have been provided with a bag stand and bags from ADC as well as hand-outs for customers to explain the program in more detail. Depots in turn are paid for the handling of the containers and will be

including the full bags with their regular loads to ABCRC. The pilot will run from January through June of 2003 and we will be reviewing the results and feedback from customers and depot operators at that time.

"If you are not failing now and again, it's a sign you're playing it safe."

- Woody Allen

Boxes, Boxes, Boxes

Tim touched on this issue briefly in his president's address as we did in our last ABDA Update. It is critical that depots understand that there has been a change in this area of our business relationship with ABCRC.

ABCRC provides 'shipping containers' and the target quantities you agree to work with in your depot should not include the volume of boxes

you require to manage your containers internally. If, during the course of your handling a beverage container, you use these boxes for anything other than filling and shipping then you should be purchasing your own in-depot boxes for this exercise. If the 'in-depot' box designed for this purpose and available through ABCRC doesn't work for you then feel free to purchase something else that does work. But remember that you are now paid to purchase this container and ABCRC shipping containers should be limited to shipping.



Bulk Glass Pilot Update

A pilot project to ship glass in mega-bags has been running now for a couple of months in the Edmonton area with considerable success. In a meeting of the depot operators in December it was agreed to extend the pilot through to February and a next meeting with operators is scheduled for the first week of March to extend it again.

ABCRC will be getting Board approval to adjust the financial compensation for the work as well as recognize the efficiency it offers them by eliminating most of the cardboard shipping containers from the system costs. Depots are reporting marginal changes to the work required in the depot and this will be analyzed by the Acton Study commission model and used to project the changes in the depots. ABDA will then work with ABCRC to determine the final adjustments to commissions for depots.

This offers the system as a whole a significant efficiency improvement and may be able to include one-way beer containers in the near future adding further efficiency to depot space. An update on the electronic R-Bill Pilot will be in our next newsletter.



2002 ABDA Award Winners

The ABDA started a new tradition at the 2002 AGM. That of recognizing some members for their commitment to improving our industry. We have started with two that focus on what we feel are the most important issues in our industry, service and efficiency. Feel free to make suggestions or nominations for this years award categories and award recipients.

Customer Service Award Recipient

Beverly Bottle Depot
Dennis Cherniwchan

This award was given to Dennis for the extensive renovations he did to his existing facility in Edmonton. Customer parking was dramatically improved and so was the depots ability to serve customers once they got inside his newly designed customer service area. Dennis notes that his volumes also dramatically improved as a result of the investment.



Industry Innovation Award Recipient

St. Albert Bottle Depot
Ahmed Yassin

This award recognizes Ahmed's commitment to technology as a means of improving his ability to serve his customers. The can counter has become a vital part of his operation now and Ahmed claims he would be lost without it.



Special Service Award

A special award was also given to Tim and Loree Mastel-Marr in recognition of their commitment to the industry and the association. Tim continues to serve as both ABDA President and one of our BCMB reps. Tim and Loree have recently sold the Fir Street Bottle Depot but remain part owners for Millwoods and Strathcona Depots in Edmonton.





ABDA Can Counter Unveiled

This first can counter designed by ABDA is now in the field. Several depots have already ordered units and production is under way with delivery available by March 1, 2003. The technology is industry proven and field tested with similar technology working in ABCRC and BDL plants in both Calgary and Edmonton.

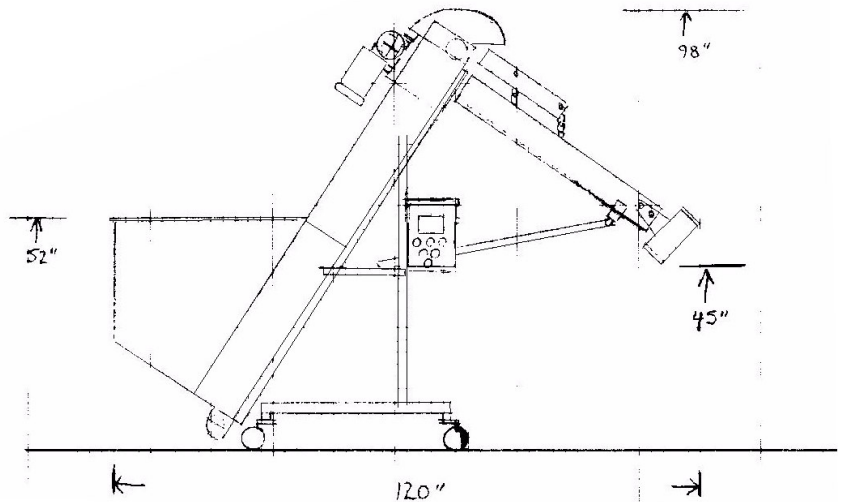
The counter developed by ABDA has several unique features including a toggle switch that allows you to count an individual customer while including it in the main pop can count. It also allows you to track running counts of both beer and pop cans at the same time. It is lightweight, portable and runs on standard 110V power. Based on noise tests it is not the noisiest part of a typical depot operation and only takes up the same amount of space as two mega-bags. Improvements in the technology industry in the past few years has allowed the development of this counter to be very affordable too. The price delivered to your member depot is \$9,000. Plus GST. If you want to order one for your depot just fax a written request to our office and Sonia will take care of the arrangements from there. The portions of the specification sheet has been reprinted here for your convenience.

Performance Specifications

Average Throughput – 300 cans per minute
Hopper Capacity – 34 cubic feet (2/3 mega-bag)
Count Capacity – 4 independent count positions (2 Main, 2 Sub)
Photo Sensor Technology QC Testing Results - +/- 7 cans on 1,800 (99.6%)

Dimensions

Overall Length – 304 centimeters / 120 inches
Widest Point – Hopper Lip – 128 cm / 50.5 in
Belt Width – 40 cm / 16 in
Discharge Height – 114-127 cm / 45-50 in
Hopper Lip Height – 132 cm / 52 in
Highest Point – Catchment Screen – 248 cm / 98 in
Without Screen – 240 cm / 95 in
Shipping Weight – Approx. 450 lbs



Manufacture

- CSA Approved.
- Standard 1 year manufacturer warranty available on all OEM parts.
- All conveyor main bearings are 'greased for life' requiring little maintenance.
- Slide chute is stainless steel for maximum life and performance.
- Water tight construction allows for easy maintenance.
- Standard 110V plug-in with low power requirements.
- 5" 'easy-roll' locking casters for convenient relocation.
- Lockout capabilities.

Member pricing: \$9,000.00 + GST. Includes delivery.



President's Address cont'd

(Continued from page 1)

tainer counters, reverse vending machines, negotiations and agreements with beer, advocating for individual depots and for the industry as a whole to the Government, BCMB, manufacturers and in court if necessary, ongoing discussions with ABCRC, data collection for the BCMB on the Universal Code of Accounts, industry advertising,

policy development and help with issues, help for individual depots with processing, serving customers, controlling cash and inventory, shipping, boxes, etc...

For help resolving any and all of your depot problems feel free to contact Jeff or Sonia. It



is their pleasure to help you as best they can. The best to all this winter, and I hope everyone is looking forward to spring!!!

Timothy Mastel-Marr,
President

Make them while you can!

NEWALTA changes policy—creates opportunity

NEWALTA has eliminated their payment for oil for all but large volume accounts and has replaced what used to be a payment with a charge. ABDA, through AUORC has signed a contract with NEWALTA which they have said they will honour but the opportunity comes in the changing mar-

ketplace. Many small customers who used to get paid for the material will now be faced with a charge of \$60, and up to \$90. If this generator

knows of an alternative location where he can take his material he will likely want to drop it off rather than pay for the pickup. And that is where we

come in. Our 53 Eco-Centres are already reporting an increase in volumes and enquiries about the services they offer. The 6 new depots now collecting empty oil containers may also benefit from this change in business philosophy, particularly if other collectors follow NEWALTA's lead.

"Small opportunities are often the beginning of great enterprises."

-Demosthenes

Contacts

BCMB - Phone #1-888-424-7671,
780-424-3193, Fax 780-428-4620

Newalta - (for pickups of oil & drums) - 780-469-0392

C & D Plastics - (for pickups of plastics) - 780-481-4029

Recycle Hotline - 1-800-463-6326

Internet Websites

AUORC—<http://auorc.tripod.com>

BCMB – <http://www.bcmb.ab.ca>

RCA – <http://www.recycle.ab.ca>

Encorp Pacific – <http://www.encorpinc.com>

RCBC (Recycling Council of BC) - <http://www.rcbc.bc.ca>

CRI (Container Recycling Institute) - <http://www.container-recycling.org/>

Used Oil – <http://www.usedoilrecycling.com/>

Recycling Canada – <http://www.redden.on.ca/~dbp>

Waste News – <http://www.wastenews.com>

Compost Council of Canada - www.compost.org

Solid Waste Magazine – <http://www.solidwastemag.com>

California Deposit Laws - <http://www.crra.com/botbill/BOTBILL.html>

Recycling Edmonton—<http://www.edmonton.searchlocally.com/Personal/GoodsRecycling.html>

Can Central—www.cancentral.com/issue3.htm

Free Software – <http://www.ded.com/nonags/>

New sites:

Enviro Business Guide– www.recycle.ab.ca/directory.htm

Milk Recycling—www.recycling.com

Grass Roots Recycling Network—www.grrn.org/beverage/deposits

Alberta Bottle Depot Association

34, 4620 Manilla Road SE
Calgary AB T2G 4B7

Phone: 403-287-6574
Fax: 403-243-4108
Email: abda@shaw.ca
1-877-787-2232

W're on the web
www.geocities.com/abdasdep



Other News Headlines worth reading:

- WDO estimates Ontario Blue Box cost overruns of \$20—40 million:
<http://www.solidwastemag.com/article.asp?id=15596>
- Nova Scotia Recycling Survey Results now available: <http://www.rrfb.com>
- Idaho, Wisconsin, Minnesota are all pushing for state bottle bills:
<http://www.grn.org> <http://www.guardidaho.org>
- RCA 2003 Conference date changes: <http://www.recycle.ab.ca>

ABDA AGM 2003—The Coast Edmonton Plaza Hotel, October 18, 19

Plans are already well underway for this year's Annual General Meeting. The ABDA is going to do its best to continue to provide the best in value and information to its members. Last year's AGM in Red Deer continued our upward trend in attendance breaking all recent records. We even hit our maximum capacity for the Saturday Evening Dinner Event.

2003 Promises even more with new additions to our package already. You won't want to miss any of this year's event being held at the newly renovated Coast Plaza in downtown Edmonton. We are also going to continue to build on our 'family friendly' theme with free shuttle to West Edmonton Mall and anywhere downtown so plan on bringing your whole family and spending the weekend.



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fax 1-780-475-8805 or
24 hour Pager 1-780-455-0777

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& residential, Trading larger and smaller depots*

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Sutton Group North Star Realty
Commercial-Residential

13202 - 118 Ave. Edmonton, Alberta T5L 4N4
(Not intended to solicit property already listed) (**Certain conditions apply O.A.C.)