



MASTEC MGB's Rolled-Out in Readiness for New Hobart Collection System

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Jaimie Clarke, Hobart City Council's Solid Waste Coordinator



In what has become the latest chapter in its remarkable Australia-wide success story, Adelaide-based bin manufacturing and distribution specialist MASTEC Australia Pty Ltd has recently completed a major bin roll-out for Hobart City Council. The Hobart contract follows on from the Company's previous success on the 'Apple Isle', which included the bin supply and roll-out contract for West Tamar Council that was completed during mid-2006.

The Hobart City Council contract incorporated the manufacture and supply of some 22,000 MASTEC® 240-litre MGB's for the City's new fortnightly residential kerbside recycling service. The new service, which is due to commence on March 19, replaces the City's existing crate-based weekly collection service.

Speaking about the new recycling service, Jaimie Clarke, Hobart City Council's Solid Waste Coordinator, commented:

"We believe that the new MGB-based recycling system will provide us with the best possible residential recycling outcomes - both in terms of the quantity and quality of the recyclables being collected and diverted from landfill, and in relation to the overall efficiency and sustainability of the recycling service."

"Together with the benefits associated with the increase in collection capacity offered by the new bins - and the fact that the MGB's contents are not exposed to the elements - we believe that the new system provides us with a number of significant operational benefits," he said.

"As well as eliminating the manual handling and lifting issues associated with the crate-based service, the jump in bin capacity



offered by the new system has enabled us to introduce a fortnightly collection service in place of the current weekly service."

"Importantly, by reducing the number of vehicle kilometres travelled per kilogram of recyclables collected, the move from a weekly to a fortnightly service delivers a significant reduction in the amount of energy 'invested' in each kilogram of recyclable material collected. This not only helps to boost productivity and efficiency, it also plays a significant role in increasing the overall sustainability of the service," Jaimie Clarke added.

The new service will utilise a 240-litre MASTEC® MGB featuring a bright yellow lid for ease of identification. The new bins also feature an easy-to-read usage guide, which has been hot-stamped into the top of the lid to provide information regarding the contents that should be placed in the bin.

As well as being awarded the contract to manufacture and supply the City's 22,000 new MGB's, MASTEC (Australia) Pty Ltd was also awarded the contract to assemble and distribute the bins throughout the City. The Hobart City Council roll-out was managed and supervised by MASTEC's senior crew leaders from Adelaide, and was completed using local labour.

The MGB's were transported in bulk from MASTEC's Adelaide manufacturing plant to a central assembly site at the Hobart City Council's McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre, where the 'depot team' attached the lids.

Bins, axles and wheels were then delivered to the households by the 'field teams' using MASTEC's fleet of six local delivery trucks,

which were also shipped to Hobart for the project.

The local delivery teams 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 the bins and information booklet to each of the households.

The bin lids were also temporarily 'sealed' with a removable sticker to highlight when the new system would come into force and when the new bin could be used.

"The entire bin roll-out process went extremely well - we're very happy with MASTEC's performance and professionalism," Jaimie Clarke said.

"From the bin manufacture and supply, through to the logistics involved with getting the bins over here and then out in the field, MASTEC's performance has been outstanding. It was fast, efficient and very well organised. Indeed, the process went even smoother than we expected," he said.

"Importantly, we've also had good positive feedback from the residents - both in relation to the new service and the bin roll-out. What's more, any concerns or minor issues arising from the bin roll-out were addressed immediately," he concluded.

The Hobart City Council roll-out program was completed in 14 days.

For further information, please contact MASTEC Australia Pty Ltd, Phone: (08) 8447 2500, Fax: (08) 8447 2032 or email: info@mastec.com.au quoting "Waste Disposal and Water Management in Australia"