



# Recycling firm Forges ahead with VWS dynamic bin-weighing

Leeds-based waste management company Forge Recycling has reportedly doubled the size of its fleet and increased revenue by 40 per cent since introducing a new pay-by-weight service.

Forge has installed dynamic bin-weighing from VWS in its vehicles, and uses PurGo waste management software from VWS Software Solutions to provide an integrated pay-by-weight service to its customers. Around 85 per cent of the bins collected and emptied are now weighed.

"It means that we can now identify heavy bins and charge for any excess weight collected, which is additional revenue that was previously being missed," Harvey Mills, director and co-founder of Forge Recycling, explained.

"However, this isn't just an increased revenue exercise. The data enables us to be proactive in helping our customers to streamline the management of their waste."

As well as providing a more dynamic, accurate and efficient service, the new software has enabled the company to identify new revenue streams and manage costly customers more effectively, says VWS.

"We have introduced a new food waste and glass collection service, which means our customers can reduce the weight of their bins and improve their recycling rates," added Harvey Mills.

PurGo has been designed

an entirely paperless operation, using in-cab PDAs for scheduling, route optimisation, exception reporting, live vehicle location and activity reporting.

Harvey continued: "Very quickly we went from paper route sheets to using PDAs.



for waste management and recycling operators and materials processing facilities, to streamline processes, and standardise procedures, monitoring and reporting across all departments.

The software and interface are said to be highly automated, intuitive and friendly, and to integrate seamlessly with other business systems and software packages.

Since introducing PurGo, Forge Recycling has become

Everyone really embraced the new system and our drivers now use the PDAs to do their daily vehicle walk around checks, record pick-ups and drop-offs. They can also report any issues immediately. Removing the need for worksheets and paper-trails has definitely saved man hours."

Andy Mirecki of VWS Software Solutions added: "PurGo offers a huge number of reports, which can be tailored to each customer's requirements enabling them to monitor specific

aspects of their operations and service delivery.

"The software allows you to monitor the profitability and efficiency of individual rounds or even individual trucks. The dashboard is easy to understand and provides all the important information at a glance – e.g. collections that are behind schedule, ahead of schedule or complete; or how many failed

lifts.

"Forge Recycling are a great company to work with. They are enthusiastic and keen to find better ways of doing things. Technology plays a key role and as early adopters they were one of our first customers."

Harvey Mills concluded: "I'm in no doubt that introducing PurGo has had a major influence on the business and that our rate

of growth is in part due to the improvements we have made since using the system.

"Issue reporting is far slicker now. We have live data so we know exactly where each and every vehicle is and what is happening. We can report a missed collection to a customer within minutes and they love that."

[www.vwsLtd.co.uk](http://www.vwsLtd.co.uk)

## VWS to self-verify bin and underbody weighing systems

VWS has announced it has won approval from the National Measurement & Regulation Office (NMRO) to verify its own bin weighing and underbody weighing equipment for pay-by-weight services.

The self-verification means that VWS can provide a more flexible, efficient service to its customers, the company says, as well as fit and approve systems more quickly.

To become authorised to carry out self-verification under the Measuring Instruments Directive (MID) and Non-Automatic Weighing Instruments (NAWI) Directive, VWS was required to become an approved manufacturer.

As part of the audit process the company first needed to achieve ISO9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015 accreditations, to confirm its commitment to quality traceability, continual improvement and environmental management.

Julian Glasspole, managing director at VWS, said: "This is superb news, not just for us but also for our customers as we can provide a more efficient service. We used to have to call in Trading Standards to verify each and every pay-by-weight system. Now we can test and calibrate the equipment ourselves."

He continued: "All our engineers are now UK Weighing Federation trained and we have achieved the necessary Quality and Management accreditations. It has involved a great deal of time, effort and resources but is very much worth it. We are delighted to be the first to be given this licence in the UK."

The company's portfolio includes the VWS Enviroweigh bin-weighing system, said to be highly accurate as well as weights and measures-approved, which allows it to be used for pay-by-weight services.

## Weighing in motion with Intercomp

Weighing equipment manufacturer Intercomp has highlighted some of the benefits of its LS-WIM (Weigh-in-Motion) System, which it says can provide a reliable, easy-to-use and affordable solution to automate gate entry and exit for a variety of applications and locations, with the addition of the LS20 CPU.

"Inventory tracking, gate security, unmanned operation and weight compliance are examples of the key needs filled by the LS-WIM System," said the company.

"Bulk items, like dirt or aggregate, can be difficult to track for the purposes of inventory

management. Often times, yard managers rely upon estimations of volume, or ordering a quantity that is too large for its storage



area, to keep from running into shortages.

"Intercomp's LS-WIM System offers the ability to quantify

inventory, with an accuracy of one to two per cent in dynamic weighing mode, and keeps inbound and outbound traffic moving. In short,

one can eliminate waste from over-ordering and increase profits, while customer satisfaction rises due to fewer product outages."

A wide, 13-foot platform ensures that almost any type of vehicle, coming or going, can be weighed accurately, the firm contends – while a load capacity up to 100,000lbs (45,000kg) per axle means even the heaviest materials can be tracked with confidence.

"Regardless of the yard size, Intercomp's LS-WIM system can automate your entrance and exit gate. This equals greater security without the need for increased overhead.

"When a driver activates the system using the LS20 keypad, for manual entry, or key fob, for remote activation, the LS-WIM system creates an individualised record, including axle and gross vehicle weights and other information associated with the vehicle's unique ID.

"The CPU has the ability to store 1,500 of these records in its internal memory."

The firm continued: "Aside from a small footprint, and affordable initial investment, the ability to measure trucks axle-by-axle sets the LS-WIM and LS20 apart from full-length truck scales.

"Aside from knowing gross vehicle weight, vehicle operators with knowledge of axle weights of their vehicles can make adjustments to their trucks, or modify load disbursement, to ensure they are within local weight restrictions. Fewer violations equals less money paid out in the form of weight citations.

"Intercomp's LS-WIM System can become an integral part of transportation operations for nearly any organisation."

[www.intercompcompany.com](http://www.intercompcompany.com)

## Flintec's latest load cell launches

Among the most recent product developments from weight measurement specialist Flintec is the new PC.H family of legal for trade, dynamic load cells – designed for use in waste collection and agricultural on-board vehicle weighing applications.

Complementing the already established PC2H and PC3H, the new PC5H, PC6H and PC7H have been created to help installers fit load cells to new or existing applications where space is a limiting factor.

Alongside the three new products, Flintec has also redeveloped the conventional PC3H variant, replacing the potted seal with a welded hermetic seal, in-line with the

full range of on-board dynamic load cells.

Benefits highlighted include OIML and NTEP certification, and corner correction functionality to measure off-centre loads. The PC.H family is said to ensure that installers can achieve legal for trade approval quickly and efficiently – while current matching (mV/V/Ω) is an additional feature that allows for damaged or defective load cells to be replaced easily.

"The ability to weigh dynamically allows for operators to weigh on the move, providing enhanced operating efficiencies by not

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