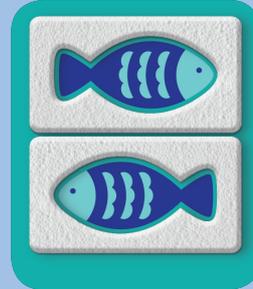


CONTRIBUTIONS TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

CASE STUDY
RECYCLING #8

LONDON BILLINGSGATE FISH MARKET IS TURNING WASTE INTO REVENUE

- The fish box market is the largest packaging application of expanded polystyrene (EPS) in Europe.
- The material protects the 657,000 tonnes of fish landed at UK ports and fish farms every year.
- On-site recycling of fish boxes at Billingsgate fish market in London has proven to be a viable commercial enterprise for a local waste and recycling company.



DESCRIPTION

Billingsgate fish market in London is the largest inland fish market in the UK. Regent Hill, a waste management and recycling company, takes advantage of the large amount of used fish boxes occurring at the market place.

In Billingsgate market, the compaction element is located centrally and is easily accessible for all fish traders. The compacted material blocks are passed on to companies that convert the recyclable material to a usable compound. The new material is then used for manufacturing new products – in the case of the material sourced in Billingsgate, its insulation boards.

Recycling works because the outlay for the machines is more than covered by the savings in disposal costs and by generated revenue.

CONTRIBUTION TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

On-site recycling at the fish market not only saves resources for collection and transportation of waste material, but also provides a closed-loop system to produce recycled material for the construction industry.

PARTNERS

Regent Hill, London Billingsgate Market

“By introducing innovative and dedicated EPS recycling technology at the source of the waste, we have been able to increase our recycling rates and remove EPS from the landfill route. Developing new sustainable markets for the recyclate has generated increased revenues and, combined with landfill savings, results in a cost-positive and eco-friendly solution.”

Malcom Macleod, Superintendent Billingsgate Market