Recycling Baler Comparison

Baler Model		Pros	Cons	Baler dimension	Baler wt	Bale Size	Bale wt	Power	Cost	Communities that use these balers
GPI M30HD		This is a good baler for ultimate bale mobility - the bale sizes are small and light enough to be moved around by hand with a dolly (wouldn't need a forklift). This size baler will fit in a standard 20' container (a small hole may need to be made for the stack to peek through). Several communities that didn't have immediate access to a building to house their recycling center have purchased this baler, in order to start their recycling program right away in a 20' container. It can also run on a generator, which allows for more flexibility for where it is used. It is also a good option for people with less storage space available because bales can be made frequently, which reduces storage space needed for pre-baled matls. This baler should be used ideally for baling cans and plastics. Also, with this baler you can use wire tie OR heavy duty twine, which is cheaper.	There is no conveyor option with this baler. It's not a good baler for cardboard because the loading door is small (17"x29") - can be a bit labor intensive.	32" deep x 46" wide x 96" high	1475 lbs	24" deep x 30" wide x 30" tall	cardboard 240 lb, paper 280 lb, al cans 125 lb, tin cans 225 lb, PET plastic 150 lb	single phase (diesel generator OK) (0-100 degree operating range)	$8,475 fob seattle	St. Paul, Gustavus, and the Bethel Recycling Center, Akiachak, and King Cove have this baler.
GPI M42HD		Good for cardboard due to it's larger capacity and larger opening size than the 30HD. Operates under an 8 Foot Ceiling. Can run on a generator. Produces bale sizes that are easy to move around with just a dolly (wouldn't need a forklift). As a second baler just used for cardboard, the baler itself could be used to store flattened cardboard.	This baler is not suited well for alum cans and plastic because it is a lower pressure machine compared to the 30HD. May be slightly too high to fit in a 20' container but may fit in a 40' container.	37" deep x 54" wide x 100" high	1760 lbs	22" deepx 42" wide x 30" tall	up to 260 lbs for cardboard	single phase (diesel generator OK) (0-100 degree operating range)	$9,240 fob seattle	King Cove will be purchasing one.
GPI M60 STD		This baler is made for cardboard and has a large opening for ease of stacking the cardboard. Although this is a "mid-size" baler, it is a high end mid-size baler. As a second baler just used for cardboard, the baler itself could be used to store flattened cardboard.	For a mid-size baler, bales are much heavier than the M42HD and require more equipment to move bales around. Too high to fit in a container. Can't run on a generator. Recommended for cardboard only and not even paper (and definitely not cans, plastics etc.).	40" deep x 80 wide x 148 tall	5,100 lbs	30" x 60"x 51"	cardboard 1100 lbs)	3 phase	$12,230 fob seattle	Klawock
Cram a lot DH-60R		This baler is very similar to the GPI 60STD.				60 long x 30 x 48	cardboard 1000 lb, mixed paper 1100 lbs	3 phase	$9,020 fob sac	
Cram a lot DH-42R		This baler is very similar to the GPI M42HD. (mostly a cardboard baler)				42 long x 30 x 48	cardboard 650 lb, mixed paper 750 lbs	3 phase	$8,960 fob sac	Gustavus

Baler Model		Pros	Cons	Baler dimension	Baler wt	Bale Size	Bale wt	Power	Cost	Communities that use these balers
GPI S60XD		This is a good high volume all-around baler and produces better bales (wt and integrity) than the balers listed on the previous page. It will bale everything and you a conveyor attachment can be purchased. Vertical balers have smaller footprints than horizontal balers.	Not quite as powerful a baler for cans and plastics as the Ten Sixty below. Although a conveyor can be purchased to attach to this baler, only containers (cans/plastics) can be placed on the conveyor. Cardboard and paper need to be front loaded.	50"deepx 74"wide x 166" high	6,600 lbs.	30" x 60" x 51"	cardboard: 1200 lbs; al cans: 500 lbs; PET plastic: 600lbs; newspaper 1300 lbs	3 Phase	$24,670 fob seattle. Includes rear chute for conveyor. Conveyor is ~$12,000 extra.	Haines, Unalaska.
GPI Ten Sixty		This baler is twice as powerful as the S60 and will produce a very high quality bale (weight and integrity). It will bale every material and is especially appropriate for plastics and cans (it has the pressure required to pop containers with lids). Might receive more $ for bales than the S60 because of the higher wt/density of the bales and weight can be maximized for shipping. Compared to the horizontal baler below it has a smaller footprint.	Twice as expensive as the S60. Although a conveyor can be purchased to attach to this baler, only containers (cans/plastics) can be placed on the conveyor. Cardboard and paper need to be front loaded.	56" deep x 117" wide x 158" high	17,000 lbs	30" deepx60" wide x 48" tall	cardboard 1500 lb, paper 1500+ lb, al cans 850 lb, tin cans 2000 lb, PET plastic 1000 lb	3 phase	$57,800 fob seattle. Conveyor is ~$11,000 extra.	
Harris Pirahna (horizontal baler)		Horizontal balers are appropriate for larger communities that generate a large amount of recyclable material. They are less labor intensive than vertical balers because the conveyor system can be used for ALL materials (not just containers like the two balers above). This baler will bale all materials and produces good solid bales.	Horizontal balers are more expensive than vertical balers (in purchase price and shipping costs), they take up a larger footprint in the building, and again they are only cost efficient for larger communities.		8 tons	47"W x 31"D x 64"L	Bale wt and integrity are somewhere between the Ten Sixty and the S60XD	3 phase	$90,000 + shipping	
Harris Baracuda (horizontal baler)		Processeses non-ferrous metals steel and aluminum cans paper and plastic, largest chamber opening in it's class, quick-grab tying system.	See above.	60"wide x 30" deep x 92" long	12.5 tons	45"W x 30"D x 60"L	650-2000 lbs depending on material	3 phase	$100,000 + shipping	Valley Communities for Recycling Solutions (VCRS)

Harrris Badger 2-ram (horizontal baler)		This is an even larger horizontal baler to the one listed above - again only efficient for larger communities. To make one bale of aluminum cans, it takes six full 3 cu. yd. dumpsters (assuming 25% crushed cans and 75% uncrushed cans). To make one bale of plastics or cardboard, it takes two full 10 yd bins (uncrushed plastic containers, and flattened cardboard). (The 10 yd bins are 5'x5'x10'). To make one bale of tin, it takes 15 full fish totes.	See above.			5' long x 3'10" wide x 3' thick	cans 1900 lbs, cardboard & plastics 1000-1500 lbs, tin 2000 lbs		$500,000 with conveyor	Thorne Bay, Ketchikan, Petersburg

Recycle Systems in Bellevue, WA sells GPI and Harris balers. Contact: Steve Anderson or John Callahan at 1 888 453 9300 www.recyclesys.com
Cram-A-Lot in Arizona sells the Cram-A-Lot balers Contact: Eric Harris (distributor for Alaska) at 916 203 3999 www.cram-a-lot.com

This document was prepared by Zender Environmental Health and Research Group www.zendergroup.org updated in 2010, and originally funded by the Insititute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) and Alaska Inter-Tribal Council