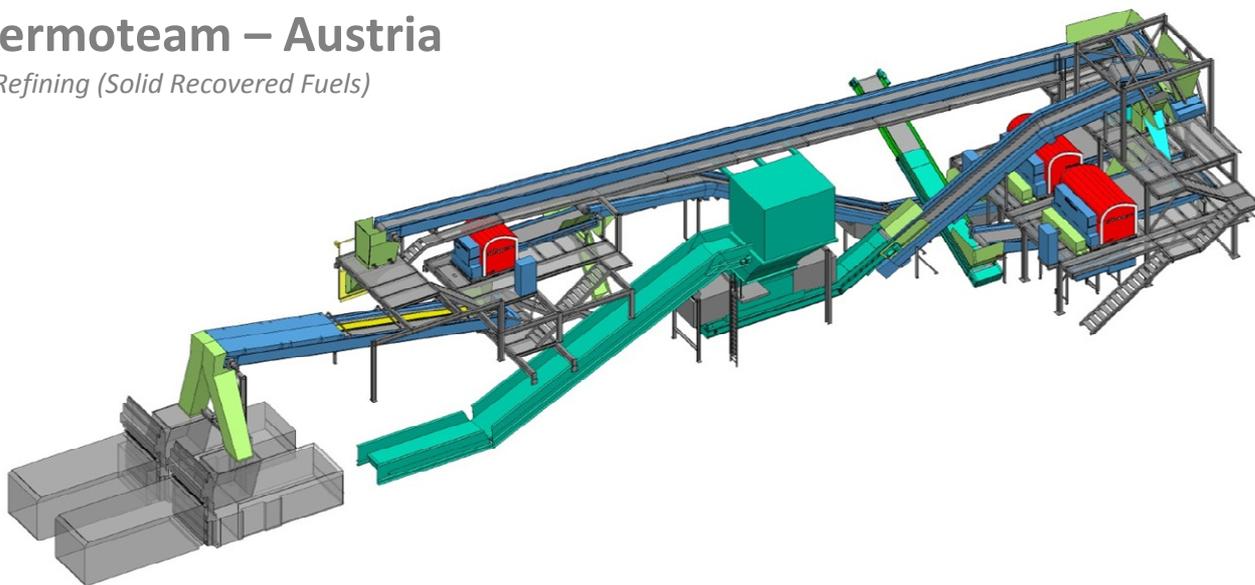




Thermoteam – Austria

SRF Refining (Solid Recovered Fuels)



CUSTOMER

Thermoteam is a joint venture of Lafarge and Saubermacher. The business objective is the production of Solid Recovered Fuels (SRF) at the location of Retznei (South of Styria) close to the cement works of Lafarge in Austria.

Thermoteam has capacity and permission to process 99,500 tonnes of waste per year.

The input material varies between pre-treated mixed trade wastes and MRF residual wastes, targeting valuable plastic polymers not otherwise viable to collect separately.

SITUATION

Demand from users of the solid recovered fuel after removal of chlorine from the SRF led Thermoteam to decide at the end of 2011 to invest in the process plant.

The key focus was to use REDWAVE Near Infrared sorting machines to remove PVC as the main source of chlorine in the SRF stream.

In addition, Thermoteam found out that there is still a very high amount of PET-drink bottles in the input material, which is high in value and worth removing in the new plant.

SOLUTION

The two REDWAVE 2800 NIR units are located directly behind the shredding machine and separate PVC and PET from the SRF stream.

An additional REDWAVE 1200 NIR separates the PVC and PET streams, to extract the valuable PET bottles, whilst still maintaining good calorific value in the SRF.

The plant has been successfully operating since May 2012.





TECHNICAL DATAS

Type of machine	2 x REDWAVE 2800 NIR 64 sensor 2-Way, 1 x REDWAVE 1200 NIR 64 2W
In-feed material	Solid Recovered Fuels (SRF) after shredding
Capacity	12-15 tonne/hr depending on the bulk density of the in-feed material
Sensor system	Near Infrared (NIR) Sensors
Size	40-300mm (typical SRF specification)



TESTIMONIAL

With the help of the new Near-Infrared (NIR) device the PVC and PET plastics are recognised and eliminated using compressed air control jets. By removing PVC a higher quality fuel is produced, by removing PET more recycling is achieved and the life span of the equipment is increased. The chairman of Saubermacher, Mr Roth, also said, "With these REDWAVE units another essential step is achieved for the circular economy. I am glad that we have done this, creating more raw materials which are otherwise imported and expensive to separately collect."

