



# FTR NEWS

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## FTR'S COUNTDOWN TO QUALITY NEARS



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DEPT OF ENV PROTECTION  
WEST PALM BEACH  
"cracker

mill" (see photo right) used to grind the rubber to a consistency finer than sand.



Volume One

### FINAL STAGES

Florida Tire Recycling is in the final stages of a \$3 million plant expansion to recycle waste tires into high quality crumb rubber products. Established in 1987, FTR is already the largest rubber recycler in Florida handling over four million waste tires annually. The new facility will produce fine grind materials called "crumb

rubber" which is used in a variety of applications. These applications include molded rubber goods, "poured-in-place" playgrounds and running tracks and asphalt additives.

### BUILDING COMPLETED

Construction of a 10,000 square foot stand alone building has been completed and all

primary processing equipment has been delivered. The equipment includes a massive 80,000 pound

In the picture shown below, John Vasquez, FTR production manager, inspects the Foresburg



Gravity Separator. The separator is the equivalent of a giant vacuum cleaner. The largest unit

built by the Foresburg company, the separator will clean the powdered rubber and extract 100% of the fiber used in tire construction.

Two dust collectors (one of which is pictured to the right) will collect the tire cord fabric to be recycled as supplemental boiler fuel. A series of extremely powerful magnets will remove 100% of the steel belting which can also be recycled.





## Countdown, continued

The rubber will be screened into several different sizes to meet individual customer specifications. A triple deck roto shaker screen (pictured below) will be used in this step of the processing.

Manufactured by the Sprouts Bauer company of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the roto shaker screen is the



largest sized unit made. The large surface area of the roto shaker screens assures the product size is precisely controlled.

### QUALITY ASSURANCE

At each step exceptional care is being taken to assure the highest level of quality control. For example, a computerized control system is being installed that will constantly monitor everything from rate of flow to equipment operating temperatures to product sizing. An in-house laboratory will test finished product prior to shipment at part of FTR's ongoing commitment to quality.

When completed in June, the new facility will process 750,000 waste tires per year into 15 million pounds of high quality crumb rubber.



### PRODUCT LINE

#### CONTINUALLY EXPANDING

Powered rubber represents the latest step by FTR in a continually expanding range of products. FTR pioneered the use of waste tire chips as a supplemental boiler fuel in Florida. Today the company is the largest supplier of TDF (tire derived fuel) in Florida. By taking the place of oil or natural gas in industrial and utility boilers, TDF conserves non-renewable natural resources.

In 1997 FTR obtained approvals from the Florida Departments of Health and Environmental Protection to use waste tire chips as a direct replacement for mineral aggregate in civil engineering and drainage applications. Marketed under the trade name **RubberRock**, this product has gained wide acceptance from engineers and contractors around the state.

In 1998 FTR began production of **Safety+Play** playground surfacing. **Safety+Play** is

granulated, recycled rubber that protects children from injuries caused by



falls from playground equipment. **Safety+Play** is becoming the standard for playground safety.

**TerraFlex** is a product aimed at Florida's large equestrian industry. **TerraFlex** is used as a soil



amendment in arenas. Its primary benefit is to protect the horse's delicate leg bones by providing a cushion-like, skid

free surface. **TerraFlex** is also used as a surfacing in horse stalls as shown above.

**TurfFlex** is used in several ways to extend and improve turf life in high wear environments such as golf courses and athletic fields. **TurfFlex** protects the grass blades from breakage while reducing soil compaction.



For more information about FTR products call us at 800/869-9115 or email [ftri@earthlink.net](mailto:ftri@earthlink.net).

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