Effects of Glass Recycling in the Glass Container Industry

Pam Baylor, Director of Purchasing and Customer Service
November 2015
Anchor Glass Container Locations

Locations

Map Legend
- Corporate Headquarters
- Glass Manufacturing Facility
- Support Facility
Cullet Impact By Location

- **Elmira, NY**
  - Bottle Bill cullet excellent quality excess suppliers in the region

- **Shakopee, MN**
  - Processed cullet and local bottle return we have our own processor
  - Issues exist with purchased processed cullet

- **Jacksonville, FL**
  - Brewery return cullet very clean
  - Processed cullet – major quality issues

- **Henryetta, OK**
  - Processed cullet – quality issues
  - Local cullet processors no quality issues

- **Warner Robins, GA**
  - Good clean cullet from the East Coast BB region
  - Processed cullet – quality issues

- **Lawrenceburg, IN**
  - Produces own cullet purchases very little from industry
Benefits of Using More Cullet

- **Positives**
  - Requires less energy to melt than raw material
  - 100% recyclability (no wasted material) in the melting & forming process
  - Lower furnace emissions and temperatures
  - Reduces material going to landfills

- **Obstacles**
  - Contamination in recycled glass (cullet) supply causes imperfections in glass containers
    - Container rejects due to “stones”
    - Lost production efficiency
    - Increased accident potential from glass-related injury
    - Difficult to identify & reject incoming cullet supply
    - Difficult to prevent all contamination related defects from reaching our customer.
Cullet Contamination

• **Types of Contamination**
  - Ceramics (Coffee Cups, Dinner Plates)
  - Opal Borosilicate
    - Hi temp cookware/Corelle, Visionware
  - Non-Ferrous Metal
    - Copper, Stainless Steel, Aluminum
    - Bottle Crowns (caps)
  - Medical Waste
    - Spent needles

Stones can be very small and hard to detect due to size and location in the container.

• **Cullet Specifications**
  - ½ inch in size or larger
  - No ceramics/Opal Borosilicates
  - No plastic
  - No metals
  - No medical waste
  - Properly color sorted cannot exceed specs in other colors