

E&E Project Summary Report

Project Name: Knowledge Network

Project Number: 121

Lead Sponsor: Vubiz Ltd.

Total project cost: \$60,500 (plus 10% contingency)

Priority Area: Communications and Education

Completed By: November 2005

E&E fund contribution: \$66,655

Project Overview:

I. Goals

- Task 1: Needs Assessment & Concept Level Design
- Task 2: Real Time Technical Exchange –1 vs 2 Stream Issue
- Task 3: Model Contract Information
- Task 4: Information Sharing on Multi-Family Recycling Challenges
- Task 5: Recommendations for a Long Term Plan

II. Accomplishments

- Needs Analysis identifying level of “readiness” amongst municipalities to use online and interactive products
- Development of a Knowledge Network custom interface and functionality and launch of the web site at the Ontario Recyclers Workshop in November 2005
- Threaded discussion on 1 vs. 2 Stream Recycling and development and launch of a Knowledge Product Primer on the issue
- Pilot testing of Model Contract Knowledge Product and launch of revised product
- Identification of the hardware and software required to support the Knowledge Network as an ASP solution
- Development of a content roll-out strategy and evaluation tools (e.g. online survey, system generated activity reports)

III. Lessons Learned/Best Practice implications

- Threaded discussions should be implemented over the course of a relatively short timeframe.
- There is a need to actively “pull in” users to the site through targeted communications
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IV. Limitations

Approximately 16 municipal programs had made use of either, or both learning products (A Primer on 1 vs 2 Stream Recycling and Model Recycling Tender Tool) in the first 2 months of launching these tools. No on-line user feedback survey has yet been filled out. This highlights the importance of actively promoting the site and its features to targeted municipalities based on their specific needs.

Impacts (including tonnes diverted and cost impacts)

None that can be directly measured at the moment. There is indication nonetheless that at least one municipality (Kingston) used the Model Recycling Tender Tools to develop their latest recycling collection and processing RFP in late 2005. The winning proposal for the city of Kingston came in over \$250,000 less per year than the previous contract, in part due to some of the useful direction provided by the tools.

Resources & Tools

- Knowledge Network and associated tools can be accessed at <http://www.vubiz.com/V5/Stewardship/Home.asp>

