

# BIN TRIM IS PROCESSING WASTE MORE EFFICIENTLY



## Case Study



**Trim waste assessor has helped this social enterprise to become sustainable for the long term. Yumaro Incorporated has been able to scale up its operations and the results are outstanding for all involved.**

## Recycling with Bin Trim creates more jobs

**"If your business is looking at trying to better process the materials you handle, there is a real opportunity here to get the equipment that will help you do it."**

Mark Brantingham  
CEO, Yumaro

### Yumaro Incorporated

Yumaro Incorporated is a registered charity that supports over 110 people with a permanent disability in the NSW Eurobodalla and Shoalhaven regions. As well as providing a wide range of support services, the organisation has been a pioneer in developing work and training opportunities for people with disabilities. Its enterprises include: collecting and recycling cardboard and plastics; producing cleaning cloths for Bunnings; running a wholesale and retail plant nursery; manufacturing survey pegs; shredding documents; and providing services in grounds maintenance, screen printing and a range of other light manufacturing tasks.

With support from the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Bin Trim Rebate Program, Yumaro has been able to greatly expand its cardboard and plastics recycling service. The enterprise can now service more local businesses, cutting waste transport costs for some businesses and diverting waste from landfill. Greater efficiency has made this enterprise financially viable and able to provide long-term jobs for the Yumaro workforce.



This project is a NSW Environment Protection Authority Waste Less, Recycle More initiative funded from the waste levy.  
[epa.nsw.gov.au/bintrim](http://epa.nsw.gov.au/bintrim)



**“We had the idea and Bin Trim helped make it happen.”**

Mark Brantingham

As well as providing drop-off facilities for waste cardboard and soft plastics, Yumaro offers a collection service that picks up from local businesses. This popular service was not able to keep up with local demand because the processing of the materials was slow and labour-intensive, relying on a handfed baling machine. At this scale the operation was not generating enough income to be viable in the long term. Yumaro realised it needed to process the materials more efficiently. This involved setting up a new site and installing new equipment. A customer had agreed to help out with the purchase of a larger compacting and baling machine, but Yumaro’s resources fell short of being able to provide a vital piece of expensive equipment: an automated conveyor belt system to feed the new baling machine.

## How Bin Trim helped

During this planning stage, while working out how to proceed, Yumaro was contacted by a Bin Trim waste assessor. The assessor visited the site and offered a free waste assessment.

Funded by the NSW EPA, Bin Trim helps businesses identify simple actions to reduce their waste and boost profits. Through Bin Trim, eligible businesses can access a free waste assessment and apply for a financial rebate to help with the cost of purchasing recycling equipment.

The assessor looked in detail at waste handling across the whole organisation and helped by suggesting improvements and discussing ideas with the Yumaro team. Based on the waste assessment, Yumaro applied for a Bin Trim rebate to help with the cost of purchasing the conveyor belt. The application was successful, and Yumaro was awarded a rebate that covered half the cost of the new \$36,000 conveyor belt system.

## The numbers

- Bin Trim rebate: \$16,710
- New equipment: conveyor belt system
- 400% increase in cardboard and clear plastic film recycling
- \$77,000 growth in income for the recycling enterprise, from \$80,000 to \$157,000 a year
- 33 jobs for people with a disability now viable and sustainable for the long term
- 5 new jobs created for people with a disability.

## The benefits



**Less waste going to landfill**



**More re-use and recycling**



**Purchase of recycling equipment**



**Increased achievement of sustainability goals**



**Higher staff morale**



**Better service for customers**



**Job creation**



**Reduction in costs from better processing and ordering**



The enterprise is now financially sustainable, helping to secure jobs for Yumaro Incorporated staff.

## Results

The Bin Trim waste assessment played a pivotal role in helping Yumaro to scale up its operations, and the results are outstanding for all involved:

- The income from this part of Yumaro's operations has nearly doubled, and will continue to grow as the service takes on new customers.
- Jobs for Yumaro's workers – many of them with disabilities – have been secured because the enterprise is now financially sustainable. New jobs for people with disabilities have been created too.
- Local businesses now have a better waste service, send less waste to landfill and are saving on waste costs. For example, Yumaro is now recycling cardboard for the local council. The cardboard previously had to be transported to Nowra.
- The new equipment is easier to use and safer for staff. The staff are proud of what they are doing, and of how their work is creating a benefit for the environment.
- The new recycling process has opened up new skills and opportunities for staff.
- Yumaro has now made some improvements to its nursery operations too, changing its recycling equipment and handling procedures.

## Take action

### Could your business save on waste?

Register your interest to join 22,000 businesses recycling more through the Bin Trim program.

#### Visit

[www.epa.nsw.gov.au/bintrim](http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/bintrim)

#### Email

[Bin.Trim@epa.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Bin.Trim@epa.nsw.gov.au)

#### Call

131 555

(ask for the Business Recycling Unit)

### NSW Environment Protection Authority

Email: [info@epa.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@epa.nsw.gov.au)

Website: [www.epa.nsw.gov.au](http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au)

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