

News Release

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Tyrannosaurus Ready To Rumble

The world's largest tyre-shredding machine, the Tyrannosaurus is en route to Credential Environmental's Wednesbury site in the West Midlands to play a major role in dealing with this important waste stream in the UK.



Made in Finland and the first to arrive in the UK, the monster machine is capable of processing 3,000 tyres an hour into 50-60mm chips and represents a significant part of Credential's £2m investment in the Wednesbury processing operation. A substantial proportion of the plant's output will feed a new £4.1m cryogenic plant at Baglan in South Wales, where the chips will be further reduced to tyre crumb as small as 2mm.

Using new, emission-free technology, the Baglan factory is a joint venture between Credential, BOC Gases and Canadian-based FieldTurf Inc – the leading manufacturer of sports surfaces. FieldTurf has already provided playing surfaces at Barcelona's Nou Camp and training grounds, including Chelsea and Leeds.

Divisional director of Newton Aycliffe based Credential, Steve Patterson said: "This is as near as you can get to a closed loop solution for the recycling of used tyres and it marks an important milestone for the UK industry. While we have the stability of a five-year supply agreement with FieldTurf, we are also excited about exploring other markets for this new end product and confident of success in that search.

“The cryogenic plant has huge advantages over the industry’s current “ambient process” practice of tyre-shredding, which uses a lot of energy and can present fire risks. At Baglan, the rubber will be frozen, then shattered and easily broken down into fine pieces.

“The investment is also good news for our centres in Durham and Brighton, near Selby – they will also be providing tyres for the new operation.”

Ends

Photography: The Tyrannosaurus tyre-shredding machine