# Spartanburg, S.C.-E-Z Pack Job Study 751

## EZ PACK JOB STUDY NUMBER 751

# Spartanburg, South Carolina

E-Z PACK FL AND ECONOTRAIN







One of the E-Z Pack FLs unloads at a landfill outside Spartanburg. A simple, maintenance-free, double-acting telescopic cylinder provides the "big squeeze" compaction and total ejection. Tailgate is hydraulically operated.

A three man crew with E-Z Pack EconoT. serves 450 residences daily. An International Scout tows the EconoTrain. Both Scout and packer are equipped with two-way radio for communicating with each other and the base station at the sanitation yard.

# E-Z Pack Front Loaders and EconoTrains save Spartanburg an estimated \$16,000 in 8 month operation.

Incredible? Read what Marion Bryson, Director of Public Works, Spartanburg, S.C., had to say about the E-Z Pack Front Loader and EconoTrain System: "For fiscal year 1963-64, our operating expenses were \$46,036. For the first eight months of 1964-65, operating expenses of our new E-Z Pack FLs and EconoTrains will be around \$29,710. The difference . . . an approximate \$16,000 saving. And this figure takes into consideration everything except labor and capital expenditure. Next fiscal year will be the first full year's operation and we expect the savings to be even greater."

Labor cost hasn't increased for the city of Spartanburg and Bryson anticipates an additional \$2,300 saving here next year due to a reduction in their work force. For example, the old method of residential pickup required the services of 20 employees. With the new E-Z Pack FL and EconoTrain system, the work force has been reduced by four.

What about public reaction? According to Lott T. Rogers, City Manager, "Public reaction to the new system has been excellent because people are getting better service, therefore, they feel they'er getting more for their tax dollar."

## RESIDENTIAL PICKUP

The city of Spartanburg has a population of about 48,000. There are approximately 19,000 residential pickups. Presently, the stops are divided among 13 routes. Materials picked up by the E-Z Pack FLs and EconoTrains include garbage, trash, cardboard containers, etc. Larger items are picked up in open trucks.

One 25-yard E-Z Pack FL with five accompanying EconoTrains replaced two E-Z Pack 16-yard units, two Garwood 16-yard units and one Leach 16-yard unit. It

took five crews of four men each, working nine hours a day, five and one-half days a week to make the two scheduled pickups. The second pickup was irregular and made only when time permitted. Each of the five packers averaged around 400 pickups. Three hours a day (60 man hours) were wasted, traveling to and from the landfill twice a day.

With the E-Z Pack FL and five Econo-Trains, they now have a much more efficient operation. Each EconoTrain has a crew of three men. The man driving the "Scout" tow truck is the crew foreman. Another man operates the E-Z Pack FL. Two-way radios on the packer and Scout and a base unit at the sanitation yard shop keep the EconoTrains in touch with the mother unit so a convenient rendezvous can be arranged for unloading the cars. Each EconoTrain serves 450 residences a day. Very little time is wasted. The four-yard trains dump about four times daily, making 100 to 110 stops per train load. The five-yard train holds one-fourth more material and will usually dump three times a day. The E-Z Pack FL makes just four trips to the landfill, averaging only 80 miles in a day's work.

An E-Z Pack FL rendezvous with one of the EconoTrains. One of the cars is being emptied into the packer. E-Z Pack FLs are available in 20, 25 and 30 cu. yd. capacities with Containers in 1 to 8 cu. yd. sizes and EconoTrain Containers in 4 and 5 cu. yd. capacities.





Mr. Joel D. Box, Superintendent of Sanitation, Spartanburg, S.C.: "The outstanding feature about an E-Z Pack Front Loader is that one driver, operating a single lever, can keep a container car level while dumping the contents into the packer. Some competitive makes have too many controls. Our E-Z Pack FLs and EconoTrains give us a smooth, clean operation."

Joel D. Box, Superintendent of Sanitation, commented, "We feel we are definitely saving a lot of time and effort with this new method. We're using 16 men instead of 20, operating one packer instead of five. We do have Scouts and trains to operate. However, they're not as nearly expensive to operate and maintain as the large packing units. One of the biggest advantages is that our crews are busy all the time. They don't waste hours traveling to and from the landfill. This means we're getting more pickups, more work done each day, and we're getting around regularly twice a week."

## **COMMERCIAL PICKUP**

A single 20-yard E-Z Pack FL and operator handle the commercial pickups for the city of Spartanburg. The unit replaced three Dempster Dumpster Hoists and 123 containers with 2 to 12 yard capacities. The three trucks traveled about 340 miles a day — nine hour days, five and one-half days a week. Each of the units averaged about 38 full containers a day and had to make a trip to the landfill each time a container was full. This old system involved a lot of mileage and wasted time.

With the E-Z Pack FL and 138 containers of 3 to 8-yard capacities, one operator is giving better service and cutting expenses. The unit handles an average of 70 containers a day, works the same nine-hour day, and travels only 85 miles a day, making just two trips to the land-fill. You can readily see how the new E-Z Pack system is cutting labor cost and operating expense because there are fewer employees, less equipment and fewer miles traveled.

As Joel Box put it, "Commercial pickups were costing us 53c per mile with the Dempster Dumpsters. We've turned in a figure of 58c per mile with the E-Z Pack FL. It costs us 5c a mile more, but we're averaging 250 miles less a day with the E-Z Pack. This is a savings of \$135 daily on operational cost. We also have two less drivers and this means additional savings."

## 3 E-Z PACK FLS & 5 TRAINS

Spartanburg's first E-Z Pack FLs were put into service in October, 1964. The city purchased two FL 20-yard packer bodies mounted on Ford F950 CT chassis and 138 containers of 3, 4, 6, and 8-yard capacities for commercial use. In the same month, they also acquired four 3-unit EconoTrains and four International Scout trucks to do the towing. A third 25-yard FL body mounted on a tandemaxle International 190 chassis was purchased in March, 1965. They also added a

fifth EconoTrain of three 5-yard units and a Scout truck. The two E-Z Pack FLs and EconoTrain systems are used for residential pickup, except for serving a limited number of small businesses.

Joel Box commented, "The outstanding feature about an E-Z Pack is that one driver, operating a single lever, can keep the container level while dumping into the packer. Some competitive units have too many controls. Unless a driver is very careful, he can spill or drop one of the containers. We like the EconoTrain system real well. They're capable of traveling about 35 miles per hour, either loaded or empty, without whipping. This is important because our crews can move quickly to the next location."

"Based on our experience, I'd say E-Z Pack has one of the best front loader and train combinations on the market today. This new concept in refuse handling is saving us a lot of money and provides Spartanburg residents with better service."

Here an E-Z Pack FL prepares to empty a container at one of the small businesses which Spartanburg serves. Individual containers are also available in 1 to 8 cu. yd. capacities, with or without casters.



## PICK OF THE PACKERS

E-Z PACK COMPANY, Div. of Hercules Galion Products, Inc., Galion, Ohio

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