

**New York State
Environmental Investment Program
Research Project Summary**

ReTread Products Inc. and An-Cor Industrial Plastics Inc.

Project Background

ReTread Products Inc. (RTP) of Great Valley is a start-up company researching the commercial development of a new building material made from recycled tires called the Tire Log™. The Tire Log is a patented innovation made using a unique and energy efficient approach to recycling waste tires. The process helically wraps the steel belted tread of the tire around a core of tire treads to essentially any length or diameter. The net result is a building material with performance benefits that combine the desirable characteristics of tire materials with the structural integrity provided by RTP's patented design. To take the Tire Log from concept to reality, and further demonstrate the product's potential uses, RTP partnered with An-Cor Industrial Plastics Inc., of North Tonawanda, on this EIP project.

Project Description

As a start-up, RTP needed to develop preliminary manufacturing methods for making Tire Log to be used to construct a six-foot-high retaining wall, as well as to conduct performance tests on the building material. Test outcomes would then help demonstrate the effectiveness of the Tire Log as a replacement for chemically treated timbers.

Project Results

RTP worked with An-Cor personnel and several

University of Buffalo engineering students to develop a manual process for helically winding the Tire Log. Several improvements were made to the manual process, which enabled RTP to produce a number of consistently-sized Tire Logs that were then used to build a six-foot-high retaining wall. Subsequent tests were performed on the wall to validate Tire Log's performance.

The Tire Log retaining wall met or exceeded all parameters it was tested for. The retaining wall was dismantled after several months (including an over winter period) and examined by a third-party engineering firm, which did not find any problems or defects.

This project proved the feasibility of using Tire Log products in place of pressure treated lumber for building retaining walls. The next steps for RTP will be to further automate the manufacturing process in order to mass produce the Tire Log. Engineering consultants have prepared preliminary plans and drawings for a more automated manufacturing system, which will be the focus of future development. A complete project report, with photos and test results, can be found at: www.retreaddproducts.com

Contractor:	An-Cor Industrial Plastics Inc.	NYS EIP Investment:	\$199,687.28
County:	Niagara County	Contractor Match:	\$335,031.30
ESD Region:	Western NY	Total:	\$507,152.58
ESD Contact:	518/292-5340	Completion Date:	July, 2007