

# WAGGA WAGGA BUSINESS PROFILE - RECYCLING



## RMT RENEWED METAL TECHNOLOGIES

*The New Growth Industry –  
Mining Above the Ground!*

*Renewed Metal Technologies (RMT) has chosen Wagga Wagga as its base to establish a lead recovery plant using the world's best technology. The \$55 million plant, which provides 55 jobs, will go into production in May, 2010 and will produce 25,000 tonnes of lead a year by processing 42,000 tonnes of used lead acid batteries – the batteries used in cars and other applications.*

### *The Wagga Wagga Advantage*

Wayne Richardson aims to make Wagga Wagga the centre of excellence in resource recovery.

“Wagga Wagga has a number of factors which make it stand out as a location for our business. It is perfectly situated as a transport hub, being midway between Sydney and Melbourne, and having excellent links to other major centres such as Brisbane and Adelaide.”

“The availability of industrial land and infrastructure at the Bomen Industrial Estate is exceptional. There are few, if any, major centres that have a dedicated industrial estate only 12 kilometres from the CBD, and with potential for major long term expansion. There is no congestion here which makes for efficient operations - our competitors have trucks lined up in the streets!”

“We have found the depth and breadth of the workforce in Wagga Wagga and the surrounding catchment to be exceptional. This applies for



positions in senior management through to plant operators. People have a great work ethic and they value their jobs.”

“There are also many businesses with the technical capabilities we require to support our operations. This importantly includes Charles Sturt University which provides us with expertise to support our testing.”

“Living in Wagga Wagga has genuinely been great. The level of sporting and cultural activity in the city is amazing, and the pleasures of a big city can be found amongst the shops and cafes.”

“Because of this central location, our aggregation partner Orbitas Resource Recovery has also based itself in Wagga Wagga – to more easily supply us the used batteries they have collected from all over the country.” Wayne Richardson, RMT's Managing Director and CEO.



## Business Profile

A critical part of RMT's business model is ensuring a reliable supply of feedstock for the lead recovery plant. ORBITAS Pty Ltd has been established as a sister company to meet this need.

ORBITAS has also chosen Wagga Wagga as its base from which it runs a national network of agents and service providers to collect recyclables and provide them to processing companies such as RMT.

With world demand for lead forecast to be strong driven by growth in developing economies, particularly China and India, RMT expects half its sales to be to export markets.

RMT's Managing Director and CEO, Wayne Richardson, says " Every battery is a source of valuable materials – and a potential pollutant. Anecdotal evidence suggests that Australia

"At RMT we see resource recovery as one of the most important routes to a sustainable business and planet – and I believe Wagga Wagga is ideally situated to become a leading centre for this industry." Wayne Richardson, RMT's Managing Director and CEO.

illegally exports up to 20,000 tonnes a year of used lead acid batteries which can have limited or very poor pollution and OH&S controls. And here in Australia, tonnes of used batteries are dumped into rubbish tips and the marine environment".

RMT will also produce 3,000 tonnes per annum of broken plastic which will be reused in the manufacture of new batteries, and 7,000 tonnes per annum of sodium sulphate which is used in a range of products including washing powders, glass and paper. The removal of sulphur in the form of a salt cake avoids releasing it as a toxic gas.