

# SUCCESS STORY

## GEKÅS SUPERSTORE SWEDEN



"We have 5 million customers a year and we aim to minimize the environmental impact of our day-to-day business."

**GEKÅS IN ULLARED** is the biggest store of its kind in Scandinavia and Sweden's most popular visitor attraction. It has about 5 million customers a year, who in total shop for 5 billion SEK.

### One truck delivery every 10 minutes

The store carries about 100,000 different items in the range and it expects a truck delivery every 10 minutes every day of the year. Gekås has more than 40,000 m<sup>2</sup> store space and another 30,000 m<sup>2</sup> warehouse space in immediate proximity to the store.

### Minimizes the environmental impact

Gekås sells a lot of goods and naturally generates a lot of cardboard, empty boxes and empty plastic bags that must be taken care of and recycled in an effective and sustainable way. Through a variety of measures, the aim is to minimize the environmental impact of the business's day-to-day operations.

### Recycles 3000 tons of cardboard

If the boxes were not disposed of quickly, they would block the warehouse and the deliveries of new goods into the store. About 3000 tons of cardboard and 250 tons of plastic are recycled per year. Inge Nilsson, Environmental Coordinator at Gekås, comments:

**"If we would make new boxes of all the cardboard we recycle, we could produce more than 7 million a year! It means that if we clear out the entire store, it would be full of boxes from one end to the other."**



### The first silent Brickman

Mr Nilsson: "When I started here in 2008, we had 4 Brickman briquette presses and now we have 10. We had 2 balers for plastic then and now have 8 units, mainly of Orwak's model 3420."

"The latest addition is the Brickman briquette press of model 2000K - the silent version - from Orwak. It is the first Brickman machine in their range with silent powerpack as an option for low sound emission and it is installed here at Gekås!"

**"You hardly hear it running. What you hear is the rustle from the cardboard, when it is compacted, and the turn of the piston."**

Inge Nilsson, Environmental Coordinator at Gekås



### 9 full containers per day

Gekås uses a duct system to push the briquettes out of the building onto a conveyor belt, where they are dropped into 40 m<sup>3</sup> containers. In the summer, the contractor picks up about 9 containers filled with cardboard briquettes every day.



### Reduces the volume by 20 times

It would be untenable to not be able to dispose of the cardboard quickly and easily and it is very important to have fast and reliable machines on site. Brickman 2000K compacts the cardboard and reduces it by about 20 times. It provides hard and firm briquettes that fit into the duct system.

### Optimal bale dimensions

Orwak's Power baler 3420 is used for plastic and it provides optimal bale dimensions: 120 cm wide and 80 cm high. It means more bales on each truck and fewer transports. Inge Nilsson adds:

**"Everyone benefits from it and it is also good for the environment!"**



**"The responsiveness from Orwak's side to our ideas is great!"**  
 Inge Nilsson, Environmental Coordinator at Gekås



A chute leads the briquettes to a container outdoors.



### Orwak - a responsive partner

Inge Nilsson concludes: "Thanks to the close cooperation with Orwak, we have outlined new solutions, new ideas, new machines. Their design engineers listen, think it through and live by the rule that "it must be feasible."

"We are constantly testing and developing new machines together with Orwak. Machines that are more adapted to us and our flows of material. It must go fast; it must work in a certain way and it must be easy to handle."



### Orwak machines at Gekås

- A total of 8 balers**  
 1 x Orwak 3300  
 1 x Orwak 3410  
 6 x Orwak Power 3420

### A total of 10 briquette presses

- 4 x Brickman 2000K  
 2 x Brickman 1200K  
 3 x Brickman 900K  
 1 x Brickman 300

