

CHALLENGE

Optimize solid waste hauls to reduce emissions and save money

The world's biggest retailer wanted to optimize its solid waste hauling process to minimize costs and improve its sustainability performance. With more than 4,500 locations managed by Rubicon, there was an opportunity to deliver significant savings for the customer while enhancing their reputation as an environmentally responsible and forward-thinking organization.



4,500+
locations

SOLUTION

Use compactors to right-size service frequency

We audited all Rubicon-managed locations and found that the retailer was being over-serviced by its former provider. Each location's open-top containers were being picked up on an established, rigid schedule regardless of how full they were. We helped the customer transition to using existing, on-site compactors and trained their staff so they could move away from the use of open-top containers. This change enabled the materials to be efficiently compacted and allowed for on-site waste sorting. We then limited each store's service frequency to occur only when their compactor was full.

RESULTS

Emissions reduced

The optimization of compactor trash pick-ups led to a significant drop in emissions, with the reduced service frequency decreasing the overall carbon footprint of waste transportation. Customers recognized and appreciated these efforts, enhancing the retailer's reputation as an environmentally responsible and forward-thinking organization.

Money saved

Direct cost savings were among the most compelling advantages of optimizing compactor trash pick-ups. This process effectively lowered labor, fuel, and vehicle maintenance expenses, which improved the big-box retail chain's operational efficiency and increased its profitability.