

Recycling plant opens

By Cathy Proctor

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Alpine Waste & Recycling Inc. on Wednesday announced its new \$5.5 million recycling plant -- capable of handling 10,000 tons of recyclable material a month -- is ready to begin operations.

Alpine is based in Commerce City.

The 31,000-square-foot plant at 645 53rd Place in Denver will compete with a similar plant Waste Management opened about two years ago in north Denver.

Both plants are open to third-party waste haulers and can handle materials such as glass, aluminum and plastic that's all mixed together, called "single stream" recycling. Customers don't have to separate their materials, but can dump them into a single container.

Alpine plans to market the plant under an "Altogether Recycling" tag line. The plant can recycle glass, plastic, aluminum, steel and virtually any kind of paper, including cardboard.

"Prior to the opening of this plant, Alpine and its customers had been at the mercy of a single operator in the Denver area," John Griffith, president of Alpine, said in a statement "Today, with Altogether Recycling, we begin to enjoy the benefits of the American system of market competition."