

Leveraging Screening Methods for Cost Savings and Quality Control

2025 MSC Annual Meeting

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Viably At A Glance



- North American Master Distributor of Komptech equipment and Harp Renewables food waste recyclers
- U.S. Distributor of Turbo Separator depackagers and GypStream drywall recycling systems
- North American distributor of MGL conveying systems, mulch coloring machines, and picking stations

Screen Types



Trommel
Screen



Shaker/
Vibratory
Screen



Star Screen



Which one is right for you?

	Good for mulch	Good for compost	Handles wet materials	High throughput	Lowest cost
Star screens	●	●	●	●	
Trommel screens		●			●
Shaker/vibratory screens	●	●			●

/ Screen Type 1

Trommel Screen

Pros

- Economical/cost-effective option
- Good for a wide range of materials (especially soils)
- Low maintenance
- Simple, proven technology
- Effective at separating fines from finished product
- Bag Rippers



/ Screen Type 1

Trommel Screen

Cons

- Lower production capacity compared to other screen types ***Operating Costs.
- Produces fines / finished product only (limited flexibility)
- Struggles with wet or sticky materials
- Difficult to change product sizing once set
- Can't grind into



/ Screen Type 2

Shaker/Vibratory Screens

Pros

- Economical and produces a high-quality end product
- Good for a wide range of materials (including soils)
- Handles heavy contaminants (rocks, boulders) reliably
- Can remove fines as well as produce mulch
- Low maintenance



/ Screen Type 2

Shaker/Vibratory Screens

Cons

- Slower throughput than star screens (lower production)
- Not well suited for wet materials
- Difficult to change product sizing once set
- Can't grind directly into



/ Screen Type 3

Star Screens

Pros

- Very high production capacity (can grind directly into screen)
- Adjustable to achieve multiple output sizes in one pass
- Efficient even with wet material year-round
- Makes high-quality double and triple grind while controlling fines
- Low maintenance compared to other screening technologies



/ Screen Type 3

Star Screens

Cons

- Higher capital cost
- Limited to certain material types (best for mulch & compost only)
- Less versatile than trommel or shaker screens





Choosing the Right Screen

- **Not all screens are the same.** Test, demo, or rent to ensure that it makes *your* product.
- **Look beyond purchase price.** Factor in operating costs and overall efficiency.
- **Do your homework.** Ask for referrals to validate screen performance and longevity.
- **Buy results, not promises.** Invest when the screen delivers the end product you need.
- **Know the economics.** Understand how fines removal and mulch production impact savings and revenue

About Us: Smith Creek



- Family-owned wood and organics recycling company started (est. 1975)
- 145+ team members
- Strategic Business Units (SBUs):
 - Landscape Products
 - Animal Beddings
 - Biomass
 - Transportation Services
- Products & Operations
 - Bagged & bulk products, including fuel & bedding pellets
 - **Fleet:** 400 semi-trailers, 50 company drivers, 10 dedicated contract carriers
 - **Equipment:** Five diesel and two electric horizontal grinders; two Komptech XL3s
- Locations:
 - HQ: Indiana (15 miles outside Louisville, KY)
 - Plants: Evansville, IN & Louisville, KY
 - Additional: 2 yard waste drop lots (Louisville, KY)



Real Results with the Star Screen

- **Lower Operating Costs**
 - Reduced fuel and labor costs through fewer grinding passes
- **Production Increased**
 - Less re-grind required = more throughput with the same equipment
- **Less Material Handling**
 - Ability to grind and screen at the same time streamlines operations
- **Reduced Maintenance Needs**
 - Star screen requires minimal upkeep
 - Grinder experiences less wear, fewer repairs, and longer service life
- **Higher-Value Product**
 - Finished product comes directly off the screen, ready for sale
 - More consistent quality, greater marketability

Scan the QR Code
to **Download**



Improve Your Organics Processing:

A Practical Guide to Choosing the Right Screening Equipment

Thank You!

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