



## **SAMURAI™, MACHINEX SORTING ROBOT GET SUCCESS IN THE RECYCLING INDUSTRY**

**Plessisville, QC – January 7th, 2019** — Last spring, Machinex introduced its new sorting robot which has generated a lot of industry interest. Nearly six months after its launch, the response of the market is very positive and nine robots have been sold to date. The first two SamurAI™ in Canada have just been installed in Quebec while six more robots will be installed next year in Canadian sorting centers. Moreover, the company continues to have regular requests from customers who are greatly interested in this cutting-edge technology.

The first Machinex robot was installed last May in Chicago, at Lakeshore Recycling Systems (LRS). Located on the containers line, after an optical sorter ejecting PET and a ferrous magnet. The robot picks three types of products: colored HDPE, natural HDPE and aseptics. Furthermore, the robot offers the flexibility to remove other products such as PET and foil. The SamurAI™ technology reduces LRS' reliance on manual labor in its single-stream recycling facility, which decreases the operating costs while improving the plant's productivity.

"We are satisfied with this market response since the use of artificial intelligence is still very recent in the industry," says Jonathan Ménard, Vice President of Sales and Strategic Positioning at Machinex. Our customers that have decided to install a SamurAI™ robot have all done their homework analysis, with the objective of guaranteeing a satisfactory return on investment while ensuring a familiarization with the sorting technologies of the future. "

In the last few years, Machinex developed sorting technologies to achieve extremely high recovery and purity rates for recycled materials. The SamurAI™ is a complementary piece of equipment that naturally converged with this development philosophy.

According to Ghislain Thivierge, Specialist in robot cells integration at Machinex, the SamurAI™ stands out from the competition with the power of its gripping tool: "We pushed its development to obtain a very powerful suction tool that offers therefore an excellent rate of success in gripping. The force of the suction lifts the containers while minimizing the movement of the surrounding material on the belt. The combination of this phenomenon and a success rate of 60 to 70 manipulations per minute give the equipment very satisfactory results. It must be understood that no matter how artificial intelligence performs, the robot must be able to capture the desired products despite their shapes, weight, and so on. Our current experience shows us that the SamurAI™ performs very well in grabbing the most difficult containers like large HDPE that have irregular shapes. There is no doubt that this is giving us a strong competitive edge. "

"Now that our SamurAI™ robot performs well on sorting containers, the next step is to tackle fiber sorting as it is an important issue for our customers. We also firmly believe that the future of the industry, or that at least the next logical step in optimizing the overall performance of sorting plants, will have to go through big data management. The robot thus becomes one of the tools for collecting, processing and providing feedback for some of this data. " Concludes Mr. Ménard.

Machinex continues its partnership with AMP Robotics, whose role is to provide the artificial intelligence of the robot, while Machinex provides all the robotic components required and ensures its complete integration into sorting systems.

[Watch the new video of SamurAI™ at Lakeshore Recycling Systems](https://www.machinexrecycling.com/video/samurai-sorting-robot-lakeshore-recycling-systems/)

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**About Machinex**

In the early 1980s, Machinex became the first company in Canada to design machinery for material recycling facilities. The company immediately established itself as a leader in designing profitable and high-quality recycling sorting systems. Today, Machinex is still a world leader in the industry, developing cutting edge sorting, waste management, and recycling technology. Over the years, their experts have designed and installed over 350 turnkey facilities in partnership with leading MRFs in Canada, the United States, Europe and Oceania. For more information, visit the Machinex web site [www.machinextechnologies.com](http://www.machinextechnologies.com).

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