

Appendix A: Questionnaire for MRFs

This questionnaire was used to guide the contextual interviews with MRFs for this study. The first half of the questionnaire was designed to be open-ended, allowing MRFs to discuss their top-of-mind issues, while the second half of the questionnaire asked questions about specific packaging types to determine if they cause problems at multiple MRFs.

1. **Date of Interview:** _____
2. **Name of MRF:** _____
3. **Location of MRF:** _____
4. **Operating Company:** _____
5. **People on call:**
 - a. **Name:** _____ **Title:** _____
 - b. **Name:** _____ **Title:** _____
 - c. **Name:** _____ **Title:** _____
6. **Base equipment:** (to help understand MRF sophistication)

	Yes/No/#
OCC Screen	
# of Optical Sorters	
Glass Cleaning Equipment	
# of shifts	
Capacity (or do we want to ask throughput?)	

What other equipment questions to ask? NIR or MIR technology?	
Other	

7. What are your two preferred items/packages by material type and why?

a. Paper

Item/package?	Why?
1.	
2.	

b. Plastic:

Item/package?	Why?
1.	
2.	

c. Aluminum:

Item/package?	Why?
1.	
2.	

d. Steel:

Item/package?	Why?
1.	
2.	

e. Glass:

Item/package?	Why?
1.	

2.	
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8. What are your top two (2?) future concerns for items/packaging & why?

Item/package?	Why?
1.	
2.	

9. “Catch all” questions (to be asked if not addressed by the interviewee already):

Plastics

- a. How small is too small for a plastic to be sorted correctly at your MRF?
- b. Have you had any issues with full body shrink sleeves?
- c. Have you had any issues with mixed plastics?

Paper

- a. What types of items are most likely to contaminate your paper?

Metals

- a. Have you had any issues with full body-shrink sleeves on cans causing sortation issues?
- b. Have you had any issues with aluminum bottles?

10. If you were “Emperor” and could decide, what areas of MRF processing of packaging would you suggest need to be studied?

Notes:
