Here in North America, where it seems blue bins are ubiquitous in the lane-ways of suburbia, recycling has long been a part of our daily life. But have you ever been to Mexico and had to throw out your aluminum pop can, because they have no recycling plan in place whatsoever? Didn’t it just feel, wrong?

While most nations are still playing catch-up to our recycling programs, we share the same global blame when it comes to one of the biggest polluters this century will ever know.

LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES.

Can you guess what we’re doing with them now?

If you said “burning them”, you’d be right. Horrifically right.

And if you said, “Whoever figures out how to recycle those things is going to be rich,” well you’d probably be right too.

“There are a lot of offers out there that the company could possibly be entering into agreements with,” Larry told The Prospector, “but we haven’t locked ourselves into any one just yet.”

Reaugh is concentrating first on the immediate next steps for American Manganese.

“The big thing that’s right on the horizon and could happen any day is the granting of the US Patent,” he says. The US Patent Office has published it and there seem to be nothing in there that would stop or slow down the patent application for any significant time, so I would expect no more than 60 days from now we should have a patent granted.”

“That’s one of the big situations that’s happening. Another one is we’ve got a ton of scrap material that we will be pushing through the pilot plant as soon as it’s all assembled.”

Independent laboratory Kemetco Research confirmed that American Manganese has

By Christian Granholm
indeed demonstrated their proprietary process is capable of recovering 100% of the lithium, cobalt, nickel, manganese and aluminum from cathode materials used in lithium-ion batteries.

“What this allows us to do is offer a solution to battery manufacturers and the car manufacturers to actually recycle their batteries,” explains Larry. “Hydro-metallurgically we’ve been getting 100% of the cathode materials such as lithium, cobalt, nickel, manganese and aluminum so we’re very confident that we will have a cradle-to-grave solution here for the industry.”

One of the challenges the company had to overcome was the separation of the active material from the cathode foils.

“We’ve been highly successful with the separation technology and in fact we’ll be filing a patent for that process as well,” states Reaugh.

“So those things are really coming together quickly, we will have a pilot plant up and running in Richmond at Kemetco’s lab shortly.”

“And remember, Kemetco is arm's length to our company, of course. They don’t own any shares and they don’t have any ownership in the patents. So when they say that they’re getting something out of a product, that’s what they’re getting. Their reputation is on the line.”

**SO ONCE THE PATENT IS FINAL?**

“Well, that’ll be an intellectual property that can produce billions of dollars worth of cathode material down the road.”

“On our first demonstration commercial plant capable of processing 3 tonnes of scrap per day, this could produce over $20 million in revenue. So if you went up to 30 tons that would be $200 million. If you went up to 60 tons, that would be $400 million. That’s a lot of money in a very small area.”

How soon does Larry expect to be producing good production numbers?

“On a commercial plant, in a couple of years we could be processing up to 50 tonnes a day of cathode scrap,” he says.

**OTHER THAN THE PATENT, WHAT ARE THEY WAITING FOR?**

“We’ve got to raise another one and a half million dollars here shortly to help complete Pilot Plant construction and testing.”

“We may get some grants that the government’s offer and we’re in a position now where we can actually fully apply for those grants. We’re working on something now that would require a grant but we’re not ready to release specific information about that yet.”

“I can say that from the general discussions that we’ve had with these battery companies, they would like to partner with us. China, Japan, South Korea, North America and Europe have all shown great interest.”

“The market looks like it’s starting to develop some legs again and I think this is a great buying opportunity that shareholders should look at. This is a really good inroad, it could be a really big cash cow.”

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**AMERICAN MANGANESE INC.**

*A Critical Metal Company Focused on Recycling Lithium Ion Electric Vehicle Batteries*

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OTC-US: AMYZF
FSE: 2AM