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Entrepreneur has shredder, will travel

Service saves time, client says

By Arnold Lindsay
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Carolyn Cockrell has long realized that trash is cash when you're in the hauling business.

So she's taking the concept to corporate Mississippi, joining other traveling document shredding companies that send large trucks to office buildings to shred internal documents and other sensitive materials on-site.

"You just can't throw information into the garbage. It can come back to hold a company liable," Cockrell said.

Cockrell's company, Premiere Shredding Inc., recently started to a complement to her son's garbage disposal business, Metro Waste Systems Inc., a Waste Management subcontractor.

Cockrell had worked with her son and recently saw the opportunity to enter the local market, where other similar services already exist.

"Shredders have been out there for many, many years. But I would say there has been a greater demand in the past 10 years because of the fraud that's out there. And people have such access to information," said Don Ross, owner of Ross Financial Products in Jackson, which sells and services shredders, among other items.

Arlene King, human resources assistant for MMC Materials Inc. in



Premiere Shredding Inc., President and CEO Carolyn Cockrell holds documents in the storage area of her

mobile shredding truck. The automated truck shreds and pulverizes 8,000 pounds of documents per hour.



Christopher E. Cockrell, vice president of Premiere Shredding Inc., in Jackson, uses a new automated truck to shred a bin of documents.

Ridgeland, said the company recently signed on with Premiere for various reasons, including convenience. Prior to that

MMC had used an in-office shredder that required an employee to stand there, remove paper clips and feed doc-

uments into the machine.

"You don't have to take the time for someone to stand there for hours," King said. "This

takes about five minutes."

Documents are dumped into a large, locked container to which the customer holds the key. At assigned intervals, the 45-foot vehicle arrives, dumps sensitive documents into the truck and shreds them in the customer's presence.

Sticking to her original reason for entering the business, Cockrell said the future of sanitizing corporate trash can only get better.

"The possibilities are unlimited, the opportunities are there, the industry is growing," Cockrell said. "There is garbage and there is always going to be paper, and we're just going to go for it."

Greg Jensen/The Clarion-Ledger

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