

Mankato buys factory for recycling startup

By Dan Linehan

dlinehan@ mankatofreepress. com

MANKATO — The city of Mankato closed on a deal Tuesday to acquire the rest of a factory it partially owns and rent the whole building to an agricultural recycling startup.

The purchase of the final one- third of the former home of Spartech Plastics, approved by the City Council in November, cost the city about \$850,000 in economic development money. The city expects its investment to be returned in rent paid by the startup, Genesis Poly Recycling.

The city also learned Tuesday a \$500,000 grant to the company from the state Department of Employment and Economic Development

Please see FACTORY, Page [B2](#)

[See FACTORY on Page B02](#)

FACTORY: Company to recycle agricultural plastic

Continued from Page B1

was approved.

Dan Hauschild, co- founder of Genesis Poly, said he expects the company will start moving in equipment next week.

The company plans to recycle agricultural plastic, like hay tarps and fertilizer bins, which are among the hardest plastics to recycle because they are so dirty and distributed around a large geographical area. Hauschild said in November there has been intense demand among farmers and others who have lots of plastic but no regional recycling options. California and Florida are the current leaders in this industry, he said, but a plant in Mankato will make it the regional focus.

Hauschild said the company plans on recycling within about four weeks - months later than they initially expected. Numerous government regulators and grantors have slowed the process.

Powered by [TECNAVIA](#)

Copyright 2010 Mankato Free Press