Visy Recycling’s personnel, now part of Build Run Repair (BRR), oversaw the EPCM of a state-of-the-art MRF, nicknamed ‘Super MRF’, in Smithfield near Sydney in NSW.

The recyclable materials collected from many of Sydney’s households are processed here. It is currently the largest MRF in Australia with a capacity of 900 tonnes per day. It applies a number of innovative sorting technologies, including optical sorting to separate glass, plastics, cartons, steel cans, aluminum cans and foil and paper from each other and from the contaminating materials that shouldn’t have been put into recycling bins in the first instance.

The plastic sorting technologies used are a major advance. Four optical sorting machines use near-infrared light to identify and accurately sort plastics by polymer type. In the case of recovered paper, some of it continues its journey without leaving the Smithfield site. Instead of being baled, it passes on a conveyor belt directly from the Super MRF building to Visy’s paper mill facility that shares the address.

BRR’s scope included the following:

- Conceptual design
- Procurement
- Construction management
- Start up and commissioning