

# SUCCESS STORY

## HEMKÖP SUPERMARKET

### SWEDEN



Hemköp Supermarket in Sweden is putting efforts into in sorting and recycling waste

**THE LOCAL SUPERMARKET** in the small town Vrigstad on the countryside in Sweden has been run by the Thor family since the 70s and is now the only food retailer in town. Magnus Thor is the store manager and heads a team of around ten employees. They have a loyal customers and the business has an annual turnover of approximately 40 million SEK. The store has grown over the years and so has the amount of waste to handle. The store sorts and recycles as much of its waste as possible, with cardboard accounting for the main part of the volume.

**Waste management became more time-consuming when the business expanded**  
To compact the cardboard, the store is now using the baler POWER 3420 from Orwak. Mr Thor explains the importance of this for the business:

**“Without the baler, the whole stockroom would have been full of empty packaging. Waste management is so much easier when cardboard is compacted this way.”**

Magnus Thor, Store Manager at Hemköp

The store had a Orwak baler before and the previous machine did its job in the beginning, but it struggled to cope as the store grew. The work became time-consuming as the baler’s capacity was insufficient relative to the amount of material it had to process. The staff had to make several bales a day.



#### From six bales to one per day

Busy delivery days, it could be as much as six emptyings in one day. The need for a new baler with more capacity increased as the store grew. The quantity of cardboard eventually became so big that using the old baler became problematic.



Apart from the capacity limitations, the staff was very happy with the baler, so it was an easy decision to invest in another Orwak product. No other supplier was ever on the table. The delivery and installation process went very smoothly. Mr Thor is very satisfied with the new equipment:

**“It has proved to be a very simple and user-friendly solution and, despite offering more capacity, it does not take up any more space than the old baler.”**

#### Saving time and space

The new baler needs to be emptied less frequently, which saves staff time and makes waste management more convenient. Mr Thor continues:

“If we make a bale in the morning, we don’t need to empty the baler at all during the day anymore. It works like clockwork and it has hardly been any interruptions since it was installed. It is also easier for the waste collectors, as they can now collect the waste on pallets.”



**“I would recommend that all store managers consider purchasing a baler.”**

Mr Thor mentions in particular the tangible savings in terms of time and space in the stockroom and on the loading dock.

