

# **Waste incinerator In Namche Bazar, Sagarmatha National Park**

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As part of “Saving Mount Everest – Waste Management Project”, a customized waste incinerator produced in Europe was transported to Namche Bazar in Sagarmatha National Park. This particular system designed and tested by Ev-K2-CNR Committee, forces air feeding to compensate the low oxygen pressure for combustion in high altitude.

This Incinerator has up to 200 kg capacity and will burn around 45-50 kgs per hour, which operates at over 1100 deg C in the primary chamber to ensure complete combustion. This model also benefits from a heavy-duty secondary chamber and burner that ensures a complete re-burn of any smoke and emissions and a 0.5-second gas retention time. These chambers are constructed with heavy-duty steel casing with high quality refractory lining and insulation. This is a full size top loading system powered by diesel.

The system is equipped with a chimney made of heavy-duty stainless steel casing, control panel to control the burner, timer control 0- 12 hours, integral fan timer control, automatic control and cycle time set up. A 200-litter fuel storage and pressure tank came together with the system. The total weight of the machine is over 1.5 tons.

Due to its massive weight, the machine was airlifted to Syangboche via MI17 helicopter, where more than 20 people were waiting to off-load the machine from helicopter and carry down to Namche. The people had to use heavy-duty iron pipes, woods, ropes and their physical strength to transport the machine. Due to difficult geographical terrain between Syangboche to Namche and having narrow trail, it was very difficult to carry the machine by many people at once. It took whole day, as the people were able to carry the machine few feet at a time. The machine and parts are kept in Namche Police station for protection with proper shelter. A permanent shelter for the machine and a waste storage is under construction in Nyerse, Namche Bazar, which is planned to complete by October 2012.

Eco Himal, a non-profit organization, Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee (SPCC) a local organization and Ev-K2-CNR Committee, an autonomous non-profit association worked in collaboration to set up this waste management system and to develop a waste management plan in Khumbu Region.

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