If you own or operate equipment that generates used oil, you are considered an industrial generator of used oil. If you become registered industrial generators or registered curbside collection programs.

The Industrial Generator Registration Program is administered by the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB). For more information and a registration application, visit http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/UsedOil/CertsRegs/registr.htm or call the Used Oil Recycling Program at (916) 341-6457.

Get paid for recycling

Get paid for recycling Get paid for recycling

What is re-refined oil?

Used motor oil is treated to remove contaminants, such as dirt, fuel, and water and distilled to separate light and heavy oils. Three products are made, asphalt flux (roofing materials), gas oil (refinery fuel) and base oil. The base oil is sold to blenders, who combine the base oils with additives to make finished lubricants like motor oil, transmission fluid and grease. Re-refined oil is the finished blend of base oils with additives and may be 100% re-refined content or blended with virgin base oil. Used oil can be re-refined over and over again, it never wears out - it just gets dirty.

Are re-refined lubricants safe to use?

- Re-refined oil is subject to the same stringent refining, compounding, and performance standards as virgin oil.
- Lubricants made from re-refined base stocks must meet the same standards as virgin lubricants in order to receive the American Petroleum Institute’s (API) certification.
- Major auto and engine manufacturers, Mercedes Benz, Ford, General Motors, Chrysler and Detroit Diesel warranties allow the use of re-refined oils as long as they are API certified.

Where Can I Buy Re-Refrined Oil Products?

To find distributors in California, check the used oil web pages on the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) web site:
http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/UsedOil/Rerefined/Distributors.htm

You can also find distributors of other recycled content products at the CIWMB recycled content products database:
http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/RCP/
Why Sample Oil?
To maximize the benefits of a by-pass oil filter you need to begin an oil sampling and testing program to ensure oil quality. Some oil distributors and filter vendors provide this service. Besides allowing longer oil change intervals, performing oil testing can provide early warning signs of engine problems. This also works if you want to test oil from transmission, differential, power steering, or other hydraulic systems. Your oil testing program can serve as a “window” into your vehicles’ components to warn you before it is too late. You can find problems early and perform the preventative maintenance that your fleet vehicles need to keep them running their best, which will help to save long term operational costs.

See the fact sheet “Oil Life Extension” to learn how to begin oil sampling and testing for your vehicles. With a by-pass filtration system end-users have reported cost savings up to 90% on both oil purchases and oil disposal. By-pass filters can save thousands of dollars and reduce used oil.

Advantages of By-pass Filters
Operational
Protect engine against: abrasive particles such as dirt and soot; liquid such as antifreeze and water; and oxidation by-products gum and varnish; maintain proper oil viscosity for cooling properties; extended oil life; save on costs of oil purchases, and used oil disposal.

Environmental
Conservation of a non-renewable natural resource - oil. Reduce potential for oil contamination of: groundwater, soil, and surface water.

The California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) certified the puraDYN™ Oil Filtration System in 1994 as “A Pollution Preventing Technology.” In 1998, DTSC re-certified the puraDYN™ By-Pass Oil Filtration System. DTSC stated: “an effective means of extending engine oil change intervals through the removal of particulates, water, and dissolved fuel. Extension of drain intervals reduce: 1) use of new oil, 2) generation of used oil, and 3) potential of spills while draining and transporting used oil.” They went on to say that, “If properly operated, monitored and maintained, the puraDYN™ By-Pass Oil Filtration System maintains the following engine oil properties within acceptable limits for continued use: viscosity and solids content, water, coolant, fuel, wear metals, and oil additives.”

Vendor Contact Information
puraDYN Filter Technologies Inc.
(800) 488-0577
http://www.puradyn.com/
Racor Division - Parker
(800) 344-3286
http://www.parker.com/racor

Does Re-refined Oil Cost More?
There is no real price difference between re-refined and virgin oils. In fact, re-refined oil may sometimes be a few cents per quart cheaper. The final cost is dependent on factors such as blend, quantity and supplier. Group procurement agreements can also save money. If you are a California state or local government agency you may buy re-refined oil, as well as other products, through the statewide commodity contract. Visit the Department of General Services web site for information on their recycled products contract:
http://www.pd.dgs.ca.gov/contracts/recycled

Re-Refined Oil Facts
- 2.5 quarts of lube oil can be produced from one gallon of used oil.
- Re-refining is energy efficient – it takes less energy to produce a gallon of re-refined base stock than to produce a base stock from crude oil.
- Re-refined oil prices are competitive with virgin oil products.
- Re-refined oils that are API certified meet warranty requirements for new cars and trucks.
- Mercedes-Benz installs oil with re-refined content in their new cars at the factory.

Why Buy Re-refined Oil?
- Conserve a natural resource
- Increase market demand for high end uses of used oil
- Reduce dependence on foreign oil and trade deficit
- Provide jobs

Your state or local government environmental agencies have additional information about compliance and pollution prevention opportunities for auto repair shops and fleet maintenance operations in your state or area. For information on California regulatory compliance issues contact your nearest Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) Regional Office by calling 1-800-728-6942. You may also access the CAL EPA website at www.calepa.ca.gov for links to California Regulatory Agencies. To obtain additional copies “The Pollution Prevention Tool Kit, Best Environmental Practices for Auto Repair” (Document number 626)” or “The Pollution Prevention Tool Kit, Best Environmental Practices for Fleet Maintenance” (Document number 625) contact “DTSC’s Office of Pollution Prevention and Technology Development (OPPTD)” at 1-800-700-5854. Accompanying videos, “Profit Through Prevention” are available at the same phone number for either auto repair (Document number 1504) or fleet maintenance (Document number 1504). DTSC’s OPPTD also provides technical assistance and pollution prevention resources to businesses and government agencies. Electronic versions of the fact sheets can be found at www.dtsc.ca.gov/PollutionPrevention/Vehicle_Service_Repair.html.

Mention of trade names, products, or services does not convey, and should not be interpreted as conveying, U.S. EPA, California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) or any local government approval, endorsement, or recommendation.

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