

Solution

To develop a system-level solution for the lubricant industry, the NLCRC collaborated with Interchange Recycling, British Columbia's Used Oil Management Association, to help create the Lubricant Packaging Management Association (LPMA), also referred to as "Interchange 360", a US-based Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO). Interchange 360 is the lubricant industry's approach for meeting EPR obligations for lubricant products and packaging, including oil, antifreeze, HHW products, and associated containers in the US.

Since 2003, Interchange Recycling has operated an EPR collection and recycling program in British Columbia, Canada, for used oil, oil filters, and used oil containers; and for used antifreeze and used antifreeze containers since 2011. This program allows all residents and businesses to participate, including the do-it-yourself market as well as the commercial and industrial markets. As a non-profit, Interchange Recycling is governed by a Board of Directors with representatives from various sectors, including manufacturing, automotive, retail, and government. Interchange's approach to EPR is to provide incentives for the collection and recycling network to ensure that oil, filters, antifreeze, and containers throughout the province are collected and managed responsibly. The collectors pick up the materials from product collection sites and deliver the used materials to registered processors (or disposal locations), where they are processed to a high-quality standard that allows them to be reused or sold as raw material inputs for manufacturing or energy products.

Performance

Since 2003, Interchange Recycling has managed a highly successful awareness program with consistently impressive recovery rates. Key performance metrics in British Columbia include:

- 64% awareness by the general public that the program exists (based on a 2024 survey)
- 99.4% of citizens have reasonable access to a registered return facility (based on population density standards)
- 2024 collection performance (based on what is sold v. what is available for collection)
 - 111% of used oil
 - 89% of containers
 - 62% of antifreeze

U.S. Expansion

Given the success of the Interchange program in Canada, the NLCRC and LPMA are working to expand the implementation of Interchange 360 in the United States for lubricant products and packaging. The NLCRC specifically focuses on developing technical solutions with member engagement from across the lubricant value chain and advocates for legislative approval of Interchange 360 in current (and future) packaging and HHW EPR states. To date, the Interchange 360 program has been approved as an independent compliance solution for packaging EPR in Colorado, where collection activities began in the spring of 2026. Interchange 360 has also been accepted as an alternative collection program for Washington's packaging EPR program.

How the Program Works

1. **Producer Participation.** Companies that make or sell lubricant and automotive products join Interchange 360 to meet EPR requirements.
2. **Collection Network.** Interchange 360 works with return collection facilities and service providers to accept covered products safely.
3. **Recycling and Processing.** Collected materials are transported and processed so they can be recycled or responsibly managed.
4. **Environmental Results.** These programs help keep lubricant products from improper disposal and packaging out of landfills and support stronger recycling infrastructure.