

## **HAZARDOUS WASTES IN COLOMBIA**

Most governments around the world have enacted laws to promote actions towards hazardous wastes as the used oil. “Used oil is a valuable resource! Managing it properly reduces regulatory burden and preserves these fluids for recycling. Every day, American companies use oil to cool parts, help engines run smoothly, lubricate molds and perform many other vital functions. This consumption adds up to roughly 1.3 billion gallons of used oil per year. Of this, about 800 million gallons is recycled.” (New Pig)

Within Latin American Countries, Colombia in South America has had great performance focusing on new implementations, developing new good practices to prevent and to improve damages to the environment, by hazardous wastes. Two decades ago environmental entities in Colombia, started focusing on how would be necessary to educate people and making an aware society for our nature’s future. Colombian government, began detecting environmental effects from industry, and initiated improving local policies for better performance from industries, which could generate hazardous wastes; therefore, environmental regulations were applied to small and bigger businesses to be enforced by law and make them to comply specific requirements. These standards cover used oil generators, transporters, processors, re-refiners, burners and marketers, these standards go into effect for instance for gas station, dealers who collect used oil from do it themselves, and small oil changers businesses. Thus, National Government in Colombia developed and demanded some procedures and technical methods about handling hazardous wastes. Recycling processes took place as well for filters, and other materials coming from these hazardous chemicals. The purpose was to get new recycled products (as recycled oil used on furnaces), and thus to cooperate with industry economy, helping

and improving natural resources. The process also promoted simultaneously an educational challenge which involved training to employees, regarding internal procedures, fulfill regulations, and keeping aware of natural resources avoiding lack of interest and inconsistency. (Aguilar)

### **References**

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