

Circle & Square Global Car Service

Recipient of the
EPA Evergreen Award for Pollution Prevention

Fact Sheet



U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, REGION 10

August 2002

EPA recognizes Circle & Square Global Car Service, Port Hadlock, Washington for environmental excellence and leadership in pollution prevention. Circle & Square has demonstrated a commitment to operate in a manner that protects and respects their workers, their community and the environment. They are also committed to continuously improving their environmental performance and have integrated their concern for the environment into all of their operations.

Circle & Square is a small car service shop located in Port Hadlock, Washington. Over their 14 years of operation, Reto and Jana Filli, owners of Circle & Square, have sought to "set an example of ecological responsibility while running a productive business." They have taken action on many fronts to realize their goal. Their efforts have extended well beyond their repair facility and employees. They have worked with the local community, customers, suppliers and local schools to help them understand and support their goal. They are truly integrated into and concerned about their community and environment.

Pollution Prevention Success

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

At Circle & Square most wastes have been eliminated through reduction, reuse or recycling including paper, transmission fluid, scrap metal, printer cartridges, plastic, cardboard, packing material, antifreeze, oil filters, air conditioning refrigerant (both R12 and R134a), batteries, waste oil, wastewater, brake fluid and 92 percent of parts cleaner solvent. Only some non-recyclable plastic and electronic components remain as waste.

Circle & Square stocks all fluids in bulk to reduce container disposal and reduces the need for aerosol lubricants and cleaners by using refillable, shop

pressurized lubricant cans and water-based brake washer.

Greener by Design - A New Facility.

Circle & Square conceived and built a new, state-of-the-art facility in 1997 with several innovative features to enhance and support their environmental goals:

- Graywater Reuse. The facility was designed with a closed loop graywater collection and reuse system for the car-wash bay. The system dramatically reduces raw water consumption and eliminates graywater disposal in the sewer system.

- Both the hazardous materials room and the shop floor are designed to contain spilled waste so that they can be collected and recycled. Floor drains were not installed in the shop so that spills must be cleaned-up rather than swept into the sewer.

- Used motor oil fires the heating system at Circle & Square. This practice eliminates used oil as a waste and eliminates the need to transport and consume heating oil or other fuels and to transport used oil for disposal.

Commitment to Environmental Quality

Integrated Environmental Management.

Circle & Square has integrated its environmental stewardship into its business planning in many ways. Their environmental ethic is articulated in much of the operation including the business mission statement, advertising, work with suppliers, staff training, job descriptions and customer literature.

Continuous Improvement.

At Circle & Square they annually revisit and revise, if needed, policy on waste prevention, reduction and recycling to incorporate viable suggestions from their staff and industry publications.

Environmental Leadership

Reto and Jana Filli's environmental ethic extends beyond just their business operations. They are involved in many activities in the larger community including:

- Informing customers about environmentally friendly options in their repair work and encouraging the use of these products and services such as re-refined engine oil.

- Providing tours of their facility to customers to, in part, demonstrate and model their pollution prevention practices.

- Working with suppliers to encourage more environmentally friendly practices. One supplier, WorldPac, switched to biodegradable packing materials for much of its operation. The switch was based, in part, on urging from Circle & Square.

- Working to establish an EnviroStars Program in Jefferson County. More information on the program is available on the WEB at www.envirostars.org/jefferson/.

- Distributed trees, and lead other activities such as art contests, to promote Earth Day.

- Participating in organizations to promote their activities such as Automotive Service Association, Rotary, Chamber of Commerce, Habitat for Humanity.

- Working with school and university programs to show their operation and environmental commitment including Olympic College, Washington State University and a mentoring program with the local High School.

For more information about Circle & Square Global Car Service's environmental program call , 360-385-2070.



The Evergreen Award for Pollution Prevention

EPA's Evergreen Award recognizes outstanding pollution prevention efforts within all sectors of the greater Pacific Northwest business community.

For more information about EPA Region 10's Evergreen Award for Pollution Prevention contact:

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on the WEB at www.epa.gov/r10earth/evergreenaward.htm