Recycler's Challenge
A full-service company has been providing recycling services throughout Northern California for the last 20 years. As a standard maintenance practice, the recycling services company historically procured standard hydraulic oil 46 for use in their balers and compactors. However, they had trouble with unexpected downtime due to failures of the hydraulic systems on their large baler and were required to repair and overhaul these units at a much higher rate than OEM guidelines.

Investigation and Site Assessment
A Chevron Lubrication Marketer began discussions with the Maintenance Manager and Owner of the company to research the problem. Utilizing the Chevron RBL® site assessment tool, the LM’s technical team identified that the particle count on the hydraulic fluid did not meet the OEM’s cleanliness requirement. The current hydraulic fluid in use had an ISO Cleanliness code of 19/18/15 compared to the required ISO Cleanliness code of 17/15/14. When calculating this information in the Chevron RBL Cleanliness tool it was identified that this elevated level of contamination could have been a contributing factor to the reduced component life and lost production. By improving the cleanliness of the hydraulic fluid and system, the analysis identified there is a possible opportunity to increase the current component life by up to a factor of 2 times.

Solution – Start Clean & Stay Clean
To minimize the negative effects of contamination wear, the Lubrication Marketer implemented the Chevron ISOCLEAN® Certified Lubricants Program. The recycling services company is now starting with a hydraulic oil that meets their OEM requirements for both performance and cleanliness. The LM is providing Chevron Rando® HD 46 – ISOCLEAN® Certified to an ISO Cleanliness level of 16/14/13 on every delivery. The LM’s technical team is also assisting in improving lubrication and handling procedures to help isolate and control contamination ingress into their systems.

Results – Increased Production & Reduced Maintenance
After the LM implemented the ISOCLEAN® Certified Lubricants program, the recycling company has seen a marked increase in the life of their hydraulic pumps and systems as well as improved productivity due to decreased downtime and better hydraulic efficiency. In just a few months, they are experiencing a 15% increase in baler/compactor hydraulic system life and a decrease of 5% in the overall maintenance budget in regards to lubricants and overhauls. The maintenance budget is projected to decrease another 3-5% with the increased baler/compactor system life.