

GreenDot was founded in Germany in 1990 under the name Der Grüne Punkt (The Green Dot) as a non-profit, industry owned Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO). Der Grüne Punkt continues to design and operate the complete process of EPR management, collection, sorting and recycling in Germany. This German model is considered the forerunner of the European Union's current regulatory structure and inspired the foundation for more than 30 producer responsibility organizations in Europe over the last 30 years.

We created the world's first nationwide EPR program for household packaging, including hard-to-recycle plastics like flexible films, servicing more than 80 million inhabitants.

- The focus of our organization has always been to be a partner for obliged industry in fulfilling their producer responsibility in a sustainable and performance-driven manner.
- The system in Germany is based on a "full responsibility" model – that means that obliged industry is 100% responsible for the cost and operation of household packaging recycling.
- From 1990 to 2005, Der Grüne Punkt operated as a single provider PRO. In this position, we were instrumental in
 - o optimizing household collection of packaging,
 - o providing consumer information and education on recycling,
 - o developing fee-setting methodologies and collaborating with industry representatives and associations in ensuring balanced pricing and reporting mechanisms,
 - o developing IT solutions for packaging data management and reporting,
 - o guiding investments in sorting and recycling infrastructure in Germany,
 - o developing internationally accepted standards and processes for materials tracing, and
 - o setting industry standards e.g. for sorting specifications for plastics,

This experience is still part of our company DNA and builds the basis for our good name and reputation in Germany, Europe, and beyond.

As a result of increasing pressure from industry to introduce competition among PROs, Der Grüne Punkt GmbH was privatized in 2005 – industry shareholders were paid out as a result.

- Since then, the organization has remained successful in an increasingly competitive market.
- As a result of privatization, Der Grüne Punkt has extended its service portfolio to clients – including investment in its own recycling plants for hard-to-recycle plastics.
- Today, we are proud to consider ourselves circularity partners of our customers- be it global brands who work with us on integrating post-consumer plastics in their own packaging, or thousands of small and medium companies looking for a convenient and reliable way to comply with German packaging regulation.

In August of 2022, Der Grüne Punkt was purchased by Circular Resources, which is now named Green Dot Global. Green Dot Global oversees both the European and North American operations. The company will expand operations into additional countries and

affiliates around the world to increase global recycling rates and advance multi-national brands toward their goals.

In summary, GreenDot offers the following expertise:

- 30 years of experience
- Comprehensive services, e.g.
 - EPR management services & assessments, including:
 - Guidance on EPR obligations, North America and Europe
 - Convenient data reporting for over 100.000 clients globally,
 - Design-for-Recycling support and recyclability assessments,
 - Transparent tracking of collection, sorting, and recycling volumes,
 - Chain of custody for recycled materials,
 - Documentation of CO₂-equivalent reduction through recycling, and
 - Certification of recycled content in plastic packaging.
 - Deposit fee systems for beverage packaging (data and cost clearing)
 - Infrastructure planning
 - Collection and sortation optimization
 - Mechanical and advanced recycling facilities
 - Supply of recycled plastics
 - Respected expert for government and academic studies on EPR, regulation, plastics recycling, etc.
- Best-in-class results in Europe:
 - 100,000 plus customers globally
 - 1 million tons of household packaging waste recovered annually
 - 70,000+ tons of post-consumer PP and LDPE processed annually in Germany
 - 600,000+ tons of CO₂ equivalents saved annually via recycling

Our comprehensive approach has helped drive Germany's plastic packaging recycling rate from 3% in 1991 to currently over 65%. Now, we are leveraging this experience in other regions, like the U.S., where the plastics recycling rate lingers under 10%.

The presentation will highlight some of our latest investments in Germany and other countries to make plastic packaging truly circular.