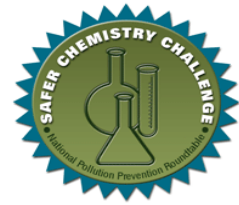


# National Pollution Prevention Roundtable 2025 Safer Chemistry Challenge Program



## Member Profiles

### **Gougeon Brothers, Inc.**

Gougeon Brothers, Inc., also known as West System Inc., is an employee-owned company located at the heart of the Great Lakes, on the banks of the Saginaw River in Bay City, MI. Their shop opened in 1969 building ice boats and light, fast sailboats with wood and their proprietary epoxy formula. By 1971, they were selling their West SystemR epoxy to other boat builders and individuals who wanted to construct or repair their own boats with it. Epoxy was new in the boating world at that time, and the Gougeon Brothers found themselves disseminating a lot of how-to advice along with their cans of resin and hardeners.

West System products are now distributed worldwide and sold through retailers. These epoxy products meet the demand for performance, cost-effectiveness, and a safer and healthier environment. They are pursuing product design opportunities that can help customers reduce or eliminate waste, improve the end user's safety, and minimize the cost of compliance with environmental regulations. Gougeon Brothers focuses on innovative design opportunities, including safer and greener chemistries, and can assist their customers in achieving environmental goals, while at the same time, maintaining competitiveness and creating new market opportunities.

Gougeon Brothers continues to work towards completely eliminating hexavalent chromium in a metal surface preparation product that aids the adhesion of the epoxy to a substrate. Strategies toward this goal involve working with their supply chain to research alternatives.

[www.westsystem.com](http://www.westsystem.com)