



**AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE  
OF PACKAGING**

AUSTRALIAN PACKAGING COVENANT  
2010-2015 ACTION PLAN



**A signatory to the  
Australian Packaging Covenant**

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*The AIP acknowledges and thanks Greenstreets Environmental Resources Ltd for their ongoing support in assisting with the preparation of NPC Action Plans and Annual Reports.*

## Executive Summary

The Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP) has been a signatory to the National Packaging Covenant (NPC) and has been invited to become a signatory to the Australian Packaging Covenant (APC).

The AIP is an institute with a role different to, but intersecting that, of an industry association such as the Packaging Council of Australia (PCA) and as a signatory to the Covenant is required to submit an Action Plan for the period 2010-2015 and ongoing Annual Reports.

The purpose of the Action Plan is to show how the AIP intends to contribute to the achievement of the Covenant's goals and to meet the AIP's obligations under the Covenant. The three main performance goals of the Covenant are:

1. Design - Optimise packaging to use resources efficiently and reduce environmental impact without compromising product quality and safety
2. Recycling - Efficiently collect and recycle packaging
3. Product Stewardship - Demonstrate commitment of all signatories

The AIP has promoted environmentally sustainable practices over a long period of time, and includes modules in the Diploma and Certificate courses. In addition it encourages discussion about this and the role of the APC in National Conferences and Monthly Technical meetings, which are reported in the AIP Monthly Newsletter. The APC is an agenda item and reported on in Board Meeting Minutes to ensure that it continues to be supported and promoted through the AIP's education initiatives.

Earlier in the year the National President and the National Executive Officer met with the AIP's third party external consultant to review the requirements of the APC and the actions arising from this review are summarised in the Action Plan Table.

The person responsible for the implementation, reporting and for information regarding the AIP Australian Packaging Covenant is the National President. The Term of Office for the National President is limited to two years and Mr. Pierre Pienaar was elected as the incoming National President at the AIP AGM on June 15, 2010. Mr Pienaar supports and endorses this Action Plan.

## 1 The Institute

The Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP) was founded in 1963 in response to a need for packaging technologists to interact and to provide a professional identity for individuals within the industry.

The AIP is the professional body for packaging technologists and other individuals involved within the packaging industry throughout Australasia.

The primary function of the Institute is to enable professional development of its members and to disseminate technical knowledge of packaging throughout industry via education and technical training as well as providing cross functional networking opportunities. The AIP is the only association in Australia designed to recognise, educate and assist the individuals who make up the diverse packaging industry.

## 2 AIP Mission Statement

- To serve as an independent professional body of packaging specialists.
- To promote professional standards of competency through education and training.
- To advance and promote the standing of packaging specialists as a profession.
- To serve and establish the confidence of the community in the packaging profession.
- To aim towards professional qualifications for all members.
- To uphold professional integrity and ethics within the profession of packaging.

## 3 Institute Membership

Membership to the Australian Institute of Packaging is open to any persons interested in packaging and the industry in general. Membership levels are graded by a committee of Fellows and peers in industry.

Membership is personal and can be invaluable when seeking employment or promotion as the qualification standards are a clear indication of the level of academic achievement and packaging industry experience. The post nominals as indicated below can be used by all members on their business cards, resumes and portfolios.

**Associate (AAIP):** Those people generally with less than five years experience within the packaging industry, or people in a role where packaging technology is not a core employment activity.

**Member (MAIP):** Those people with at least five years experience in a position involving various aspects of packaging technology, also possibly complemented with some form of relevant academic qualification.

**Fellow (FAIP):** Those people that have made significant contributions to the packaging industry over many years and have considerable knowledge of various aspects of packaging technology. Once again, also complemented with some form of relevant academic qualification.

## 4 National Educational Events

The AIP organises National Conferences, training Conferences, training courses and technical seminars with strong support from the packaging industry, to add value to our members and in the individual branch calendars. National events include our two largest

functions which alternate each year – the Auspack National Technical Forums and the AIP National Conference.

In addition, each Branch runs its own program of site visits, technical functions, seminars and social events throughout the year. These meetings provide excellent opportunities for networking, as well as for informed discussion on current topics of interest to packaging technologists and professionals, and the industry as a whole.

As speakers and events vary within each State, all Members are invited to attend any function in any Branch and many attend interstate functions regularly.

## **5 National Conference**

The AIP's flagship event is the biennial national conference which alternates between Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne.

The AIP National Conference brings together some 40 leading international and national experts in a variety of fields to cater for everyone in the food, beverage, manufacturing and packaging industries. Keynote speakers are world-renowned experts in their fields and the program provides an extensive array of educational and technical opportunities for everyone in the industry.

The AIP National Conference is open to both Members and non-members and is the largest educational conference of its kind in the packaging industry.

## **6 National Technical Forum**

The Australian Packaging and Machinery Association (APPMA) provides the opportunity for the AIP to run the only National Technical Forum available for industry during AUSPACK PLUS; the largest trade show for packaging, processing, plastics and associated equipment and machinery in Australasia.

With AUSPACK PLUS held every two years and alternating between Melbourne and Sydney, the AIP ensures that the National Technical Forum is relevant, informative and provide leading-edge education. International speakers and leading industry experts are key draw-cards of the two-day National Technical Forum.

The AIP also exhibits at AUSPACK PLUS and the stand provides an additional opportunity to meet with industry peers during the four-day trade show.

## **7 Technical Seminars & Dinners**

Whilst each Branch varies in their style of events, the monthly technical seminar series is run across Australia as lunches, breakfasts and dinner functions.

Bringing together two to three speakers on a nominated topic each month, the technical seminar events are open to both AIP Members and non-members on a regular basis.

Each seminar is themed around a popular topic of debate in industry and the topics are sourced from our Members each year. This series of events is not only an additional way to gain insight into relevant topics, but are also designed as a networking opportunity for Branch Members to get to know each other.

## **8 Site Visits**

All Branches of the AIP run a program of site visits that are designed to show Members real-life applications of technology in production environments.

Site visits are run across the country throughout the year and are one of the most popular events on the AIP calendar. Site visits are also a means of industry showing their support to the AIP.

## 9 Monthly Newsletters

The AIP has a monthly on-line newsletter which is designed to keep Members and industry contacts abreast of all AIP events across the country.

The newsletter also provides a technical corner for presentations, partner news, articles and case studies from industry. The newsletter is available via email and on-line eleven times a year.

## 10 AIP Web Site

The AIP has developed a website that ensures all Members have access to the calendar of events across the country, archived newsletters, technical presentations, partners information and regular news.

## 11 Education

The AIP offers a range of educational opportunities to individuals and packaging departments seeking to expand their knowledge and commercial opportunities across the breadth of the packaging industry. These courses are internationally accredited by the PIABC in the UK and are the benchmark for training worldwide. Graduates of AIP courses are recognised internationally, expanding their global employment opportunities. The AIP also offers a program of half-day training courses that provide key up-to-date information on specific areas within the packaging industry.

The AIP's flagship course is the **Diploma in Packaging Technology**; a course developed to provide in-depth understanding of the packaging industry, aimed at technologists and managers whose jobs have a packaging focus.

The **Certificate in Packaging** has a broad appeal, from people who are embarking on a career in packaging, to more established delegates who may be working in fields such as marketing, purchasing or logistics, for whom a more detailed understanding of packaging will help them to develop their role.

Businesses can opt for a tailored training program that focuses on their specific requirements and provides a bespoke learning experience for a specific group of employees or an entire workforce. Training programs can be designed to lead into a qualification if required or to provide a set of information specific to a business or market area.

The **Corporate Program** is available for individual companies who wish to select specific components from the Certificate or Diploma programs for the purpose of in-company training. This type of training is important not only for technologists, engineers, quality assurance personnel, but also buyers, sales and marketing staff. The individual components are available in assessable or non-assessable format enabling participants to progress towards the complete qualification. The programs can be tailored to meet company requirements in conjunction with a flexible delivery. This allows the program to be delivered with minimal interruption to company operations.

## 12 Half Day Training Courses

The AIP runs a broad range of half day training courses across both Australia and New Zealand. Half Day Training courses can also be run in-house at your site. All of these half day training courses are written and presented by qualified experts within their respective fields and are people who are currently working in the packaging industry.

Topics include:

- Introduction to plastics
- Packaging for transport
- Packaging specifications
- Introduction to corrugated boxes
- Introduction to packaging materials
- Packaging for product life extension
- Introduction to packaging economics
- Introduction to life cycle inventory & carbon foot printing
- Introduction to pharmaceutical & cosmetic packaging

## 13 Industry Collaboration

The Australian Institute of Packaging has for many years worked in collaboration with a number of kindred associations in delivering technical functions across a broad spectrum of industries. Some of these include:

- Australian Food & Grocery Council (AFGC)
- **[www.afgc.org.au](http://www.afgc.org.au)**
- Australian Management Academy (AMA)
- **[www.ama.edu.au](http://www.ama.edu.au)**
- The Australian Institute of Food Science and Technology (AIFST)
- **[www.aifst.asn.au](http://www.aifst.asn.au)**
- Australian Packaging Covenant (APC)
- **[www.packagingcovenant.org.au](http://www.packagingcovenant.org.au)**
- Australian Packaging & Processing Machinery Association (APPMA)
- **[www.appma.com.au](http://www.appma.com.au)**
- IGD
- **[www.igd.com](http://www.igd.com)**
- IOP The Packaging Society
- **[www.iop.co.uk](http://www.iop.co.uk)**
- Packaging Council of Australia (PCA)
- **[www.pca.org.au](http://www.pca.org.au)**
- Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE)
- **[www.4spe.org](http://www.4spe.org)**
- Supply Chain & Logistics Association of Australia (SCLAA)
- **[www.sclaa.com.au](http://www.sclaa.com.au)**
- World Packaging Organisation (WPO)
- **[www.worldpackaging.org](http://www.worldpackaging.org)**

## 14 Covenant Contact

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The National President can be contacted via the AIP National Office at:

Australian Institute of Packaging  
34 Lawson Street  
Oxley QLD 4075  
Ph: 07 3278 4490  
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[www.aipack.com.au](http://www.aipack.com.au)

## **15 The AIP Australian Packaging Covenant Action Plan**

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## 16 Action Plan Table

Covenant Performance Goals	Actions	Responsibility	Timeframe	Targets	Evidence
<p>1. Design - optimise packaging to achieve resource efficiency and reduction in quantity required. The design efforts should reduce environmental impact without compromising product quality and safety.</p> <p>KPI 1. Proportion of signatories in the supply chain implementing the Sustainable Packaging Guidelines for design or procurement of packaging.</p>	<p>Incorporate Sustainable Packaging Guidelines design strategies in AIP activities.</p> <p>The sustainability strategies are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maximise water and energy efficiency</li> <li>2. Minimise materials (source reduction)</li> <li>3. Use recycled materials</li> <li>4. Use renewable materials</li> <li>5. Minimise risks associated with potentially toxic and hazardous materials</li> <li>6. Use materials from responsible suppliers</li> <li>7. Design for transport</li> <li>8. Design for reuse</li> <li>9. Design for recovery</li> <li>10. Design for litter reduction</li> <li>11. Design for consumer accessibility</li> <li>12. Provide consumer information</li> </ol> <p>Newsletter and Articles</p> <p>Technical Meetings</p> <p>Technical and National Conferences</p>	<p>Newsletter Editor</p> <p>State Committees</p> <p>Technical and National Conference Committees</p>	<p>June 2011 – December 2015</p> <p>June 2011 – December 2015</p> <p>June 2011 – December 2015</p>	<p>A minimum of three articles per year</p> <p>A minimum of one per State per year</p> <p>Annual Technical and National Conferences</p>	<p>Newsletters and articles</p> <p>Technical Meetings</p> <p>Technical and National Conference programs</p>
<p>2. Recycling – efficiently collect and recycle packaging</p> <p>KPI 2. Not required by individual signatories.</p> <p>KPI 3. Proportion of signatories with on-site recovery systems for recycling used packaging.</p> <p>KPI 4. Proportion of signatories with a policy to</p>	<p>Plan Plant Visits to companies demonstrating best practice recycling initiatives</p>	<p>State Committees</p>	<p>June 2011 – December 2015</p>	<p>A minimum of one per State per year</p>	<p>Plant Visits</p>

<p>buy products made from recycled packaging.</p> <p>KPI 5. Not required by individual signatories.</p>					
<p>3. Product Stewardship – demonstrate commitment of all signatories</p> <p>KPI 6. Proportion of signatories that have formal processes for working with others to improve packaging design and recycling.</p> <p>KPI 7. Proportion of signatories demonstrating other product stewardship outcomes for packaging.</p> <p>KPI 8. Reduction in the number of packaging items in litter.</p>	<p>Plan joint meetings with other associations in the packaging supply chain, e.g. Supply Chain &amp; Logistics of Australia (SCLAA), and/or associations involved in litter reduction, e.g. Keep Australia Beautiful (KAB).</p>	<p>State Committees</p>	<p>June 2011 – December 2015</p>	<p>A minimum of one per State per year</p>	<p>Joint Meetings</p>