



# **Winners announced for 2025 Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design (PIDA) Awards**

Winners for the 2025 round of the annual Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design (PIDA) Awards have been announced at a gala awards evening that was held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May at the Sofitel Sydney Wentworth, New South Wales, Australia.

Coordinated by the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP), the PIDA awards are designed to recognise companies and individuals who are making a significant difference in their field across Australia and New Zealand.

The 2025 winners came from the following PIDA categories:

1. Food Packaging Design
2. Beverage Packaging Design
3. Health, Beauty & Wellness Packaging
4. Domestic & Household Packaging
5. Labelling & Decoration
6. Outside of the Box
7. Sustainable Packaging Design
8. 2025 ABA Scholarship Program – Diploma in Packaging Technology & Certificate in Packaging
9. 2025 AIP President's Award – Diploma in Packaging Technology
10. 2025 Industry Packaging Professional of the Year
11. 2025 AIP Distinguished Service Award

The PIDA Awards are also the exclusive feeder program for Australia and New Zealand for the prestigious WorldStar Packaging Awards run by the World Packaging Organisation. All 2025 PIDA winners will be automatically eligible for entry into the 2026 WorldStar Packaging Awards competition.

## **2025 Food Packaging Design**

The 2025 Food Packaging Design Award recognises organisations that have designed innovative packaging materials, packaging within food packaging including fresh, frozen or other.

**The Gold winner of the 2025 Food Packaging Design award is Macro Health Food Box-Bottom Paper Bags (Woolworths Food Co).**

Macro, a Woolworths brand offering high-quality foods, is committed to sustainable packaging solutions that align with consumer expectations for reduced plastic and recyclability. Their innovative response is the introduction of a flat box-bottom stand up paper bag for dried fruits and nuts, which is a first in the Australian market.

Macro's shift to paper-based packaging delivers significant benefits for both consumers and the environment including replacing existing soft plastic packaging with a kerbside recyclable paper-based alternative, incorporating advanced barrier technology for product freshness.

Kerbside recyclability of the box-bottom paper bags allows for easy disposal at home. Consumers can simply place the pack in their kerbside recycling bin without needing to make a special trip to a drop-off point.

The design also offers advanced barrier technology ensuring product freshness and protection, without compromising on quality.

The flat box-bottom stand up bag format optimises shelf presentation and transport efficiency. This efficient design helps to reduce waste and transportation costs.

The transition to paper results in an 86% reduction in plastic usage, saving 96 tonnes of plastic annually across 12 million packs.

By prioritising both functionality and environmental responsibility, Macro are setting a positive example for industry.

The Silver award went to Australian Organic Food Co. Vanilla Custard Mono Material Retort Pouch (Flavour Makers + Cheer Pack Asia Pacific).

The Bronze award went to Opal paper-based food & fresh produce punnet.

Two High Commendations were awarded to 1. Gippsland Dairy Crafted Range 150g (Chobani) and 2. KFC Go Bucket Paper Lid (KFC Australia + Detpak).

## **2025 Beverage Packaging Design**

The 2025 Beverage Packaging Design award recognises organisations have designed innovative packaging materials, packaging within packaging for liquid or dry tea, coffee, water and soft drinks including wine, beer and spirits.

**The Gold winner of the 2025 Beverage Packaging Design award is FSC Certified Home Compostable PHA Cups (BioPak).**

For decades, food packaging manufacturers have grappled with the question: how can we make a cup with a leak-proof lining that doesn't require the use of fossil-based plastic? Finally, there is a game-changing solution to this composting challenge. After years of innovation and development, PHA has arrived and BioPak are the first packaging company to commercialise it in the Australian market.

PHA is made through an industrial microbial fermentation process, which is more similar to brewing beer than the chemical methods used to produce other bioplastics. The fermentation process begins with renewable resources like plant sugars and vegetable oils. By putting these renewable materials through a fermentation process the result is 'polyester granules' made entirely from renewable resources. These polyester granules can then be used and moulded to produce a wide range of bioplastic products – a PHA coffee cup lining is one of them.

BioPak PHA cups are made using FSC Mix paper, sourced from FSC certified forests. The cups are newly certified home compostable to Australian and European standards (AS5810 and NF T51-800) which means the BioPak PHA Cups can be disposed of in your backyard compost bin.

The Silver award went to TetherSafe (Caps & Closures).

The Bronze award went to Smooth moulded fibre cup lids (Huhtamaki).

A High Commendation was awarded to Hidden Story Pinot Grigio Bagnum (Victorian Alps Wine Co. + Auspouch Australia).

## **2025 Domestic & Household Packaging Design**

The 2025 Domestic & Household Packaging Design award recognises organisations that have designed innovative packaging materials, packaging within domestic and household items, toys, stationary, gifts, clothing, garden equipment, decorating and pets.

### **The Gold winner of the 2025 Domestic & Household Packaging Design Award is FibreCycle Breeder's Choice Tasty Treats (FibreCycle + Zipform Packaging).**

The Breeder's Choice pack for cat treats is a first of its kind and a new product for FibreCycle.

With 'People, Pet, Planet' as their guiding principle, Fibrecycle recognises that environmental sustainability is rapidly becoming the number one issue for many companies globally and it was clear that a sustainable packaging solution was required for this new product.

Zipform Packaging's kerbside recyclable rigid composite pack provides not only a sustainable solution, but also an innovative storage medium for cat treats. With over 90% fibre content, and over 60% recycled locally sourced post-consumer recycled content, the pack was a perfect choice for FibreCycle. This is the first time a linear formed composite pack has been used in this category in the region.

The pack utilises the Australasian Recycling Label (ARL) on pack to communicate easily to the consumer the recyclability credentials of the pack.

The stackable overcap facilitates packs being able to be stacked in the cupboard/pantry.

The Silver winner went to TetherSafe (Caps & Closures).

The Bronze award went to Tui range of Child-Resistant Bags (Evergreen Garden Care Group NZ + Close the Loop).

## **2025 Health, Beauty & Wellness Packaging Design**

The 2025 Health, Beauty & Wellness Packaging Design award recognises organisations that have designed innovative packaging materials, packaging within cosmetics, toiletries, personal hygiene, supplements, vitamins, perfumes, hair body and oralcare and covers packaging of all medicines including OTC and medical equipment packaging.

**The Gold winner of the 2025 Health, Beauty & Wellness Packaging Design award is InsulCap Thermal Pallet Covers + Insulated Bubble Cushioning (Wilpak Group International & Sealed Air Australia).**

InsulCap thermal pallet covers are designed to safeguard temperature-sensitive goods like pharmaceuticals from temperature spikes at various risk points throughout the supply chain such as on the tarmac, during warehousing or cross-docking.

Conforming to US Military standards, which stipulates no compromise to a material's insulating properties across a range of airplane cabin pressures, InsulCap's reliable performance has driven its growth in the global pharmaceutical market.

InsulCap utilises Sealed Air's insulated bubble cushioning to deliver the right temperature assurance and compliance required across the supply chain. Comprising seven layers, InsulCap maintains temperature assurance by slowing the transfer of all heat sources, radiant, convective, and conductive heat.

InsulCap thermal pallet covers can reduce fuel and transport costs as they are lightweight and, in some instances, such as for short-haul transportation by road, they can replace the need for refrigerated trucks. InsulCap weights up to 5 x less than similar thermal pallet covers.

Insulcap is flat packed and efficient for transportation and warehousing and is optimised for double pallet stacking to improve freight efficiencies.

The Silver award went to Evo Fabuloso tube 220ml range (Evo Labs + Impact International).

The Bronze award went to TetherSafe (Caps & Closures).

## **2025 Labelling & Decoration Design**

The 2025 Labelling & Decoration Design Award recognises the addition of content to a pack which creates a unique or innovative appearance, function or

communication. This may include labels, sleeves, tags, coding/markings, etching, directly applied inks or by any other similar process.

**The Gold winner of the 2025 Labelling & Decoration Packaging award is Carman's Gourmet Snack Mix (Carman's Fine Foods + Zipform Packaging).**

The packaging chosen for Carman's new gourmet snack mix is a linear formed composite pack that is kerbside recyclable in Australia and is a first for this type of product in the region. The unique Australian manufactured packaging is over 90% fibre content, and 60% locally sourced post-consumer recycled content.

The packaging is designed to sit perfectly on shelf in the retail stores and stands out versus the competition due to the nature of the pack.

The Gourmet Snack Mix graphics are all different and the packs are sealed with a clear film and have a generic clear PET stackable overcap.

As this is a snacking product the 73mm diameter x 80mm high pack size is a perfect fit for a car console. The stackable overcap facilitates packs being able to be stacked in the cupboard/pantry and if needed a positive engagement for reclose.

The Australasian Recycling Label (ARL) is on the packaging and ensures that consumers understand how to dispose of the pack at end of life.

The Silver award went to Certified Compostable FSC Paper Beer BioCups (BioPak).

The Bronze award went to Jiffy Padded Lite mailer (Amazon Australia + Sealed Air Australia).

## **2025 Outside of the Box Design**

The 2025 Outside of the Box category has been established for miscellaneous packs and materials that are not included in any other category.

**The Gold winner of the 2025 Outside of the Box award is Reusable eCom Tote (Woolworths Reuse co + Viscount Reuse).**

Woolworths' eCom Tote is a sustainable, reusable tote designed to promote circular economy principles. It is now locally manufactured in Australia using approximately 90% recycled material, primarily sourced from end-of-life Woolworths totes. This closed-loop system minimises waste, reduces reliance on virgin plastic, and maximises resource conservation.

Woolworths have 400k+ totes that have been used 167+ million times to deliver 1.7 billion items in over 40 million orders to 2.59 million customers over a 12-month period.

Of the ~150k new totes now manufactured in Australia, it is estimated that 270 tonnes of virgin material have so far been saved. As the old totes reach their end of life, they are collected, shredded & reproduced back into new totes.

The tote boasts a stronger and more durable construction compared to its predecessor, ensuring a longer lifespan and reducing waste from breakages. The new design is also 300g lighter than the previous model, improving handling and reducing transport related emissions.

The tote is equipped with RFID tags, enabling efficient tracking and management throughout the supply chain.

The eCom Tote represents an innovative and sustainable packaging solution that is reusable across Woolworths' eCommerce operations, including in-store picking, packing, click-and-collect, and home delivery.

The Silver award went to Veeco rFlex Recycled Plastic Pallets (Veeco Pallets + Close the Loop).

The Bronze award went to Advantage 9um Pallet Wrap (Bunzl Australia and New Zealand).

## 2025 Sustainable Packaging Design

The Sustainable Packaging Design Special Award is designed to recognise companies that have developed innovative packaging solutions that incorporates sustainability considerations. Elements would include Social, Material, Source Reduction, Energy and Recovery. The award also considers all environmental impacts across the pack including meeting the 2025 National Packaging Targets, embedding the Australasian Recycling Label on pack, adhering to as many of the Sustainable Packaging Design Guidelines as possible and more...

Due to the high number of entries across varying Sustainable Packaging Design principles the judges separated the winners into eight subset activities. This year there are nine gold Sustainable Packaging Design winners and six bronze and silver awardees.

The subset categories awarded are:

1. Sustainable - Certified Compostable
2. Sustainable Display Ready Packaging
3. Sustainable Minimise Litter
4. Sustainable Mono Material Advancements
5. Sustainable PFAS Reduction
6. Sustainable Plastics Alternative
7. Sustainable Recycled Content
8. Sustainable Reuse & Refill

### **The 2025 Sustainable - Certified Compostable Gold winner is FSC Certified Home Compostable PHA Cups (BioPak).**

This unique game-changing certified home compostable solution not only offers a leak-proof lining but doesn't require fossil-based materials as PHA is produced through a fermentation process using renewable resources, like plant sugars and vegetable oils.

The BioPak PHA cups are newly certified home compostable to Australian standards (AS5810) and can be disposed of in your backyard compost bin.

The PHA cups are made from sustainably sourced FSC Mix certified heavy-duty, premium quality board giving the paper cups superior stability, better lid fit, and insulation. The PHA products are made in a factory that is BRC food safety certified, and all cups can be customised with your own unique design, creating a seamless and personalised brand experience.

### **The 2025 Sustainable - Display Ready Packaging Gold winner is M&M's Display Ready Packaging (Mars + Birdstone Collective).**

Mars identified an opportunity to make significant sustainability and commercial improvements to their in-store Point-of-Sale (POS) displays and engaged Birdstone to design a new generation of POS.

The design strategy was to extend the functionality of the existing mono-material Shelf Ready Packaging (SRP) to reduce the need for traditional single-use, multi-material POS components.

In store, the design needed to be adaptable, stacking effectively as part of a larger display and also converting into the current SRP format to perform as a Shelf Ready Tray in a regular aisle.

Features that make it a great shipper include that the new design has the same top load and filling performance as the previous SRP and uses no more material.

Features that make it a great display unit include vertical columns to provide top-load strength for full pack weights to be stacked and locking tabs and slots allowing cartons to lock together as a stable column.

The new Display Ready Packaging reduces multi-material, non-separable, single-use POS display components by 50% and will save around 60 tonnes of material annually at saturation.

The new DRP represents a 28% reduction in the cost of a POS display and an additional benefit is that the intuitive opening instructions enable all staff to convert the cartons and build display units, which saves as many as 6000 labour-hours annually at saturation by reducing hand packing of display units and simplifying assembly of POS displays.

### **The 2025 Sustainable - Minimise Litter Gold winner is TetherSafe (Caps & Closures).**

The TetherSafe cap by Caps & Closures is an innovative, sustainable packaging solution that combines functionality with regulatory compliance. It features a tethered cap mechanism and advanced materials, making it ideal for diverse industries.

TetherSafe includes an integrated tether that keeps the cap attached to the bottle after opening, reducing litter and meeting global environmental standards, such

as the EU Directive 2019/904. This design prevents cap loss and ensures easy resealing.

The tether features a tamper-evident band that protects product integrity and gives consumers visible safety assurance.

Designed for full recyclability, TetherSafe allows the cap and bottle to be recycled together, supporting a circular economy. Its lightweight, mono-material construction improves recycling recovery rates.

Ribbed textures on the cap enhance grip, making it easy for consumers of all abilities to open and close, ensuring a user-friendly experience without compromising design.

**The 2025 Sustainable - Mono Material Advancements Gold winner is Australian Organic Food Co. Vanilla Custard Mono Material Retort Pouch (Flavour Makers + Cheer Pack Asia Pacific).**

The Australian Organic Food Co. Vanilla Custard is a delicious, single-serve, on-the-go snack made with certified organic ingredients. Thanks to the retort cooking process, the custard inside is commercially sterile, while the high-barrier packaging ensures sterility throughout its shelf life. This innovative approach means their custard requires no refrigeration, making it perfect for lunch boxes, desk drawers, or vending machines, and ideal for distribution through ambient supply chains.

The new mono material retort pouch is a recyclable mono-material pouch that maintains a low oxygen transmission rate after retorting and offers sufficient durability to withstand the rigours of the supply chain.

By inserting a spout into the new pouches created a new set of technical challenges to overcome as bonding soft plastics to rigid plastic components at high speed has typically required temperatures too high for mono material structures, often leading to material shrinkage or damage to the barrier layer. This was overcome with the new design.

To further enhance the design, the new cap shape uses 20% less plastic compared to the previous version without compromising functionality or accessibility. This thoughtful improvement underscores a commitment to material reduction.

While the finished product may look like a typical spout pouch to consumers, it represents a significant leap forward in mono-material innovation. This achievement was made possible through the creation of two highly specialised, state-of-the-art films and an augmented converting process developed specifically for this application. That is why the pack is the first of its kind to be launched, world-wide.

The 2025 Sustainable - Mono Material Advancements Silver award went to AmPrima Recycle-ready packaging for shredded cheese (Ampcor Flexibles).

The 2025 Sustainable - Mono Material Advancements Bronze award went to Hidden Story Pinot Grigio Bagnum (Victorian Alps Wine Co. + Auspouch Australia).



## **The 2025 Sustainable - PFAS Reduction Gold Winner is ADAMA Plasma Coating Technology (Pact Group).**

AgricChem packaging needs to provide product safety and integrity, retain its shape and performance throughout the supply chain and prevent leakage.

Prior to 2024, agrichem packaging solutions manufactured in Australia typically included co-extruded/multi-layer packaging which is difficult to manufacture because of the complexity of the multiple layers, and fluorination. Perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) occurs during fluorination. In fluorination, agchem packaging is treated with fluorine gas to reinforce the package.

ADAMA transitioned its entire range (5, 10, 15, 20 litre containers) of Australian manufactured agrichemical packaging from fluorination to PACT Groups plasma coating as it is a globally proven technology that applies an inert coating inside the plastic container providing single solvent resistant barrier suitable for chemicals.

The barrier is produced in single stage production that removes the need for fluorination and as it is a one stage process, has the additional advantage of reducing manufacturing lead times, emissions from transport and supply chain risks.

The major benefit of Pact Group's plasma coating technology is that it is a more sustainable solution to fluorination which causes PFAS. With the Chemicals of Concern and no added PFAS regulations the technology offers a fit for purpose alternative to fluorination that is suitable for the agrichem packaging.

In addition to negating the need for fluorination, Pact's plasma coating is resistant to solvent permeation as chemicals are unable to permeate the walls of the container and evaporate or discolour the pack.

The innovative Australia-forest solution is also fully recyclable through the relevant recycling programs such as DrumMuster in Australia or AgRecovery Program in New Zealand.

## **The 2025 Sustainable - Plastics Alternative Gold winner is Macro Health Food Box-Bottom Paper Bags (Woolworths Food Co.).**

Macro's introduction of a flat box-bottom stand up paper bag for dried fruits and nuts is a first in the Australian market and replaces existing soft plastic packaging with a kerbside recyclable paper-based alternative, incorporates advanced barrier technology for product freshness and is easy for consumers to recycle in their homes.

This initiative aligns with their broader commitment to sustainable packaging, which includes collaborating with suppliers to promote recycling and following the 'remove, reduce, reuse, recycle' principles in their operations.

Macro's paper-based packaging offers a compelling alternative to traditional plastic packaging with several key advantages including effortless recycling. As

the Box-Bottom Paper Bags has been strategically designed for kerbside recycling, it seamlessly integrates with existing Australian collection programs. Consumers, already familiar with paper recycling, are more likely to recycle these bags correctly.

The new packaging offers significant plastic reduction with the shift reducing plastic usage by an average of 86% across various bag sizes, resulting in a 96-tonne annual reduction in plastic waste.

The flat box-bottom design maximises product volume and enhances shelf presence while improving transport efficiency. This format offers advantages over other paper-based options often limited to stand-up pouches or pillow packs.

Macro's paper-based packaging is a market leader, demonstrating a commitment to sustainability and responsible consumerism. It offers a practical and environmentally friendly solution without compromising product quality or convenience.

The 2025 Sustainable - Plastics Alternative Silver award went to SCA Globes and Bulbs (Supercheap Auto).

The 2025 Sustainable - Plastics Alternative Bronze winner went to Advantage 9um Pallet Wrap (Bunzl Australia and New Zealand).

### **The 2025 Sustainable - Recycled Content Gold winner is SULO Circular Mobile Rubbish Bins (Pact Group).**

In an Australian first in 2024, Pact Group commenced producing its 120L and 240L SULO kerbside household mobile garbage bins from Australian sourced, post-consumer, kerbside collected recycled resin from shampoo, detergent and sauce bottles, and lids from jars and bottles.

Making SULO garbage bins using recycled plastic reduces the need to use virgin resin sourced from fossil fuels and diverts thousands of tonnes of plastic waste from landfill each year. Using recycled resin to make new bins can also significantly reduce carbon emissions and water usage from the manufacturing process.

The packaging waste is sourced from Australian kerbside collected recycling bins and recycled at the Pact-operated Circular Plastics Australia (CPA) recycling facility in Melbourne, where it is sorted, shredded and washed in the state-of-the-art facility and turned into a high-quality recycled resin.

Pact manufactures its SULO bins using the latest fully automated injection moulding, blending and material handling machinery. The only difference is that bins are manufactured in dark colours such as black and dark green which enables them to be made with up to the highest quantity of locally sourced, post-consumer recycled plastic.

The 2025 Sustainable - Recycled Content Silver award went to Woolworths Poultry Trays (Inghams Enterprises + Woolworths Food co).

The 2025 Sustainable - Recycled Content Bronze award went to Weed n Feed On Hose 4L (Yates).

**The 2025 Sustainable - Reuse & Refill Gold winner is Katermaster Regen reusable food container (Bunzl Australia and New Zealand).**

Katermaster is Bunzl Australia & New Zealand's exclusive reusable and refillable food service solution brand that is a locally made mono material pack with locally sourced resins.

Katermaster offers reliable, high-quality kitchen and food service durable products to catering customers who want choice and quality guaranteed and are looking for a solution with a lower environmental footprint.

Bunzl and Genfac Plastic have a strategic partnership and have been collaborating for many years on different projects. Genfac Plastics is a 100% Australian-owned family business and the leading manufacturer of plastic food packaging in Australia. Operating from a state-of-the-art, highly automated Melbourne facility and with over 30 years of industry experience, Genfac Plastics is committed to sustainability through manufacturing recyclable products and a low carbon footprint.

Katermaster's Regen is a locally made Polypropylene (PP) reusable food container that can be used in a microwave and refrigerator, plus lasts 700 commercial dishwashing rounds. It is specifically designed to address the food packaging needs of customers, especially those who cater in remote locations and want to provide practical and reliable alternatives to single-used food container for their workforce. Katermaster's Regen can be easily recycled by kerbside recycling at its end of life.

By making Regen a mono material, they are not only addressing circular economy principles, but also reducing cost and streamlining the supply chain, making it a cost-effective option for their customers.

**2025 Industry Packaging Professional of the Year Award**

The Industry Packaging Professional of the Year Award is designed to recognise and acknowledge the outstanding achievements and contribution by an individual currently working within the Packaging in both Australia and New Zealand. The judges look for individuals who have demonstrated vision and leadership, shows innovation and not afraid to take risks over a long and sustained period.

The 2025 Industry Packaging Professional of the Year is a prominent figure in the global packaging industry, recognised for their extensive contributions and leadership, and has become one of the most prolific and recognisable packaging educators in the world.

**The winner is the Industry Packaging Professional of the Year Awards is Prof. Pierre Pienaar FAIP, CPPL, Education Director, AIP and immediate past President, World Packaging Organisation.**

To describe the contribution Pierre Pienaar has made to the field of packaging science and technology, one must take a multi-dimensional approach.

Is it through the dimension of packaging training and education where he has helped train and educate tens of thousands of people around the world?

Is it through his leadership to develop and sustain the Master of Food Innovation and Packaging with the University of Melbourne; which is now in its 10th year with over 500 hundred students from across Australasia having completed the degree.

Is it leading the AIP away from being domestic based to now providing packaging leadership across the Asian region?

Is it strengthening industry recognition for Packaging Technologists through the Certified Packaging Professional certification now being run exclusively run in Asia by the AIP?

Is it spending his valuable time with any person, in any country, who has expressed an intention to learn more about good packaging choices? We have all viewed this dimension of Pierre on many occasions and seen the results on the lucky people who receive his guidance.

Pierre Pienaar is the only person in the world who has been President of three organisations. 1. IPSA in South Africa 2. The Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) and 3. The World Packaging Organisation. He is also the only person that has been Education Director in the three countries and three different organisations.

His contribution to the packaging industry far exceeds that of mere mortals and his dedication and passion as a volunteer to improve the access to packaging training and education across the globe is unparalleled.

Pierre continues to be instrumental in advancing packaging education and sustainability initiatives worldwide.

His passion for training other packaging professionals is what drives him, and he has personally trained 10's of thousands of people – on-line, in Australia and New Zealand and in all corners of the world. The AIP does not believe that anyone else has trained as many packaging professionals in the world.

Looking after students is what drives Pierre and the AIP sees it every day when he lectures, tutors or is standing in front of a classroom or primary school students. Being in a classroom with students makes Pierre light up.

Pierre believes that you can never, ever stop learning about packaging and the advancements to materials and technologies.

## 2025 AIP Distinguished Service Award

The AIP Distinguished Service Award has been designed to recognise long-standing and significant contribution to the AIP and the wider industry.

**There was no question that the 2025 AIP Distinguished Service Award would be presented to Keith Chessell FAIP, 50-year veteran of the packaging industry and one of the key members of the AIP Education Team.**

Keith was awarded the 2025 Distinguished Service award for his continued support of the packaging industry through excellence in technical advice, in particular through the 12 months of work that he undertook as a volunteer supporting the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) on the 8-person working group to develop the draft National Packaging Design Standard.

Keith took the reins of the design standard development on behalf of the working group and invested over 200 hours as a volunteer to create a document that would be the start of current consultations within industry.

Keith wanted to ensure that all stakeholders across the entire value chain had the opportunity to contribute to the design standard, and he invested significant hours of time meeting with as many stakeholders across the value chain during the development process; all as a volunteer.

For anyone that has worked with Keith you know that he is detail oriented, thoughtful and mindful and determined to achieve the best outcomes for the wider industry.

Keith is supposed to be retired and yet he continues to be instrumental in the packaging industry and the AIP wanted this DSA to recognise the outstanding work he undertook on the National Packaging Design Standard document and the work with DCCEEW.

Keith the AIP would like to know that you are noticed, we are grateful for your service to the industry and the Institute could not be who we are today without your significant and invaluable contribution to the industry. THANK YOU.

## 2025 ABA Scholarships

The ABA Scholarship program will enable one eligible candidate from either Australia or New Zealand the opportunity to undertake a Diploma in Packaging Technology and a second person the opportunity to undertake a Certificate in Packaging.

### 2025 ABA Scholarship Certificate in Packaging scholarship

The Certificate in Packaging is the ideal first qualification for those working in the packaging industry and is an introduction to the industry for those starting out on an exciting career in packaging.

**The 2025 ABA Scholarship Certificate in Packaging scholarship winner is Pippa Corry MAIP, Founder & Director, philo & co.**

Pippa Corry is the Founder of philo & co, a one-woman consultancy at the sustainability intersection of packaging design, strategy and communication that supports FMCG brands and packaging design agencies.

Pippa's interests lie in the transformative potential of packaging to help lead Australia's transition to a circular economy. By bridging the complex intersection of packaging design and sustainability, Pippa is deeply invested in exploring future opportunities for innovation in packaging technology, material science, and data-driven decision-making. These areas are critical for designing packaging that not only meets current standards but anticipates the future, aligning with National packaging regulation reforms and the National Circular Economy Framework.

Pippa wants to deepen her understanding of the packaging lifecycle to further integrate sustainability into designs, gain technical expertise to address inefficiencies in packaging development and drive circular solutions and advance sustainability across major materials, formats and emerging technologies.

Within the next five years, Pippa aspires to become a Certified Packaging Professional, continue to support Australian SMEs in adopting sustainable and circular packaging practices and lead innovative reuse and refill projects for FMCG brands, aligning designs with circular economy principles. Pippa believes that undertaking the scholarship will further equip her with knowledge to deliver transformative strategies that advance the circular economy in Australia.

**2025 ABA Scholarship Diploma in Packaging Technology Scholarship**

The Diploma in Packaging Technology is Internationally recognised as the premier qualification in the packaging industry. The degree prepares students to take responsibility for packaging operations at any level through the supply chain and can also lead to higher level study.

**The winner of the 2025 ABA Scholarship Diploma in Packaging Technology Scholarship is Ransheema Rita AAIP, Packaging Technologist, Synlait Milk Limited.**

Working for Synlait Milk Limited based in North Island, New Zealand and having undertaken a bachelor's in environmental science and a Master's in Business Management, Ransheema has a unique blend of expertise that makes her ideal to undertake the Diploma in Packaging Technology as she will be able to bridge the gap between technical sustainability knowledge and practical business strategies.

Ransheema's career aspiration for the next 5 years, is to become a Senior Packaging Technologist and be able to effectively lead the Packaging R & D, while being the sustainability expert. Through the scholarship program she is seeking

more in-depth knowledge, on the different aspects of Packaging, its properties and the processes involved in its making.

Ransheema believes that this scholarship will allow her to do more end-to-end Packaging technical work independently and to explore new sustainability approaches to make better choices. The knowledge gained will enable her to make informed decisions for a win – win situation for the business and the planet at large.

## **2025 AIP President Award**

The AIP President's Scholarship has been designed to work in collaboration with the ABA program to help one additional person undertake either a Certificate in Packaging or a Diploma in Packaging Technology each year.

This year the AIP have decided that the Institute will be providing one additional Diploma in Packaging Technology scholarship under the AIP President's awards as the candidates once again were all so remarkable. Every finalist here deserves a scholarship.

### **The 2025 AIP President Award for a Diploma in Packaging Technology Scholarship goes to Joel Wells, Managing Director, Circular.**

Joel is a product design engineer with a degree in Industrial Design from RMIT and a deep-seated passion for sustainable innovation. His career spans over two decades, starting at the age of 19 when he founded his first company, which rapidly grew and merged with two others, forming a business that is still operational today. During this time, Joel honed his skills in diverse fields, from consumer electronics to automotive design.

Joel is deeply committed to advancing sustainable packaging solutions, and this scholarship would be instrumental in furthering his mission. Whilst he has over 20 years of experience in product design and manufacturing, he recognises his gaps in numerous packaging substrates and the science behind packaging technology. Joel believes that his unwavering dedication to the circular economy and his passion to influence consumer behaviour to drive truly circular packaging solutions is what sets him apart.

Undertaking the Diploma in Packaging Technology will enhance his technical expertise, providing a framework to refine existing solutions and develop new ones. The scholarship will enable Joel to collaborate more effectively with organisations and policymakers, ensuring sustainability becomes the norm in packaging design. In the next five years, Joel would like to shift consumers and brands toward circular solutions, redefining industry standards to create a sustainable future.

All of the 2025 Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design (PIDA) Award winners are eligible to enter the 2026 round of the WorldStar Packaging Awards that are run by the World Packaging Organisation. The 2025 WorldStar Packaging Awards will be held alongside of Ipack Ima tradeshow in Milan, Italy in May where a

number of Australian companies will be collecting trophies from the 2025 edition of the awards program.

**...ENDS...**