

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we find ourselves in the midst of this global pandemic, and with each day passing, hearing new announcements from governments aimed at stopping the spread of the virus, I truly hope that all of you are able to keep yourselves and your families safe from COVID-19. Following the announcement in the middle of March that we had to postpone the 2020 AIP Australasian Packaging Conference and associated events, I would like to sincerely thank all of our members and partners for your support and understanding. We really do appreciate receiving so many supportive messages.

So looking ahead now to normality returning, I am pleased to announce that our conference is planned to take place on 6th & 7th October in Melbourne; current circumstances permitting. We have had many discussions over the last few weeks and at this stage plan to bring you the full cohort of speakers, as per our previous program, together with exhibits and special events from our sponsors and partners.

There is no doubt that the world will change due to this corona virus, and I am trying to focus on how it might change for the better. Travel restrictions are showing us how we can communicate more effectively online and the Australian Institute of Packaging are now committed to providing all our members with access to the same experts and technical content that we have previously delivered face to face. Our education team is busy working towards providing more of our training courses via on-line channels, so stay tuned for more information shortly.

The Fundamentals of Packaging Technology Online course is a great example of an important resource that is already available for our industry. Segmented into 'bite-sized' modules, it enables you to focus on specific knowledge gaps or to study the entire content. With many of us spending more time at home, you may consider that the time is right to enrol in some of our other courses, like the Certificate in Packaging or the Diploma in Packaging Technology, or perhaps you have the time to focus on attaining the Certified Packaging Professional/Certified Packaging Professional in Training Designation. Please reach out to our education team if you would like advice on these options.

The progress that we are making as an industry towards the 2025 National Packaging Targets and the Packaging Projects within the Fight Food Waste Cooperative Research Centre remain as important as ever, so look out for further communications to learn more about how we can all stay engaged in continuing to work towards these milestones. Keep well and keep occupied.



Best regards
Dr Carol Kilcullen-Lawrence PhD, FAIP, CPP
President
Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP)

NEW MEMBERS

The AIP would like to welcome the following new Members...

NAME	STATE	GRADE
Sherween Chew	VIC	Member
Tim Currin	NSW	Associate
Paul Irwin	VIC	Member
Kylie Jones	NSW	Associate
Steven Woollacott	VIC	Member

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AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE
OF PACKAGING

INCREASING PRICES DURING COVID-19

As COVID-19 spreads, prices for some items are increasing across the country. There may be severe consequences for businesses if a price increase is deemed to be unconscionable conduct under the Australian Consumer Law (ACL) or the reason provided for the price increase is misleading. This bulletin focusses on the former.

UNCONSCIONABLE CONDUCT

Unconscionable conduct is a contravention of the ACL. Examples include conduct that fails to measure up to a 'reasonable standard of conscience'. It generally involves a party who has been subject to a particular disadvantage being unconscientiously taken advantage of.

Therefore, a pricing decision during this time that would effectively victimise or exploit consumers may amount to unconscionable conduct. For example, excessively and unjustifiably raising the prices on products that are:

- critical to the health or safety of vulnerable consumers; or
- necessary to help or save consumers.

CONSEQUENCES OF UNCONSCIONABLE CONDUCT

For corporations, the maximum penalty per instance of unconscionable conduct will be the greater of:

- \$10 million;
- 3 times the value of the benefit received; and
- 10% of the corporation's annual turnover in the preceding 12 months.

The ACCC may also issue infringement notices where it has reasonable grounds to believe a corporation has engaged in unconscionable conduct. In most cases, the penalty in an infringement notice will be fixed at \$12,600 for corporations and \$126,000 for listed corporations.

ANY COMPLAINTS SO FAR?

It has been reported that a complaint has recently been made to the ACCC seeking clarification whether unconscionable conduct had occurred after a facemask supplier allegedly marked up its wholesale prices by 1500% following increased demand due to the bushfires and COVID-19 crises. Similar cases may soon follow suit.

NEXT STEPS

If your business is contemplating a significant price increase in relation to essential items during this extraordinary time, it is worth first considering whether such decisions might amount to unconscionable conduct. An informed and considered approach to significant price increases may help avoid damaging enforcement action and reputational damage.

Omid Komeili
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As COVID-19 spreads we are all realising the vast number of businesses, industries and supply chains affected. This includes the actual or potential disruption of many contractual obligations.

Many of our clients have asked us what this means for them in terms of their trading terms and commercial contracts. Our starting point with such queries is to consider whether force majeure will apply to the relevant contractual arrangement and if so, what are the practical next steps.

FORCE MAJEURE PROVISIONS

What is the purpose of a force majeure provision in a contract? These provisions address the consequences where a party is prevented from performing its obligations by events or circumstances and none of the parties are at fault.

The general principles of a force majeure event are that:

1. the event, or circumstances arising from the event, prevents a party from performing some or all of their contractual obligations;
2. they are events or circumstances that are reasonably unforeseeable and beyond the parties' reasonable control; and
3. the relevant party was not in a position, or was unable, to prevent the consequences of the event.

A force majeure clause may outline steps to take in the event of a force majeure. Typical steps may include:

- providing notice to the other party;
- fulfilling ongoing obligations that are unaffected by the event; and
- mitigating the impact of the event.
- If a force majeure event occurs an affected party may seek to utilise the protections offered by a force majeure clause which may include:
- excusing a party from non-performance or breaches where performance is prevented due to force majeure events;
- suspending relevant obligations; or
- terminating the contract.

DOES MY FORCE MAJEURE CLAUSE COVER COVID-19?

Whether a force majeure clause covers the impacts of COVID-19 will depend on its precise wording and any other relevant contractual provisions. A helpful indicator may be determining whether or not the force majeure provision is exhaustive and contemplates a COVID-19 outbreak or associated government directive.

It may be that COVID-19 does not fall under a contract's definition of a force majeure event. Even still, you may be entitled to some protection under the doctrine of frustration. This doctrine provides for instances where contracts become impossible to perform. Establishing frustration involves a high threshold, but if proven, results in that contract automatically ending by operation of law.

WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?

If you think a contractual arrangement is, or will be, affected by COVID-19, you should carefully review its terms to check for any force majeure clauses and understand the parties' rights and obligations in light of those clauses.

Extreme care needs to be exercised as an unfounded attempt to trigger the clause could have other unfortunate consequences under the contract including in certain circumstances amounting to a repudiation.

If you believe your contract may be affected by COVID-19 you should seek legal advice to:

- determine if you are covered by any force majeure clause in your contract;
- understand your rights and responsibilities under the clause;
- ensure you comply with your contract's obligations;
- understand the impact in invoking a force majeure clause and the notification process required in order to do so;
- discuss other relevant options, such as the doctrine of frustration or other provisions which may be triggered by COVID-19 related circumstances eg change of laws; and
- consider contacting counterparties of contract to discuss a possible renegotiation, or postponement of obligations, as appropriate.

Even if COVID-19 is not affecting your current obligations, these recent events should be a useful reminder to reconsider your current contracts and terms of trade to ensure force majeure provisions are appropriately drafted.

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Agriculture Minister David Littleproud says Australia's food production and supply chain will not be affected by coronavirus shutdowns. "The Commonwealth is guaranteeing food production and supply as we deal with the virus's spread," Minister Littleproud said.

"I am in constant dialogue with farming groups, the States, supermarkets and my department to make sure there's food on the table for all Australians. As far as the Commonwealth is concerned, food production and supply is an essential service. Feeding our nation is an essential service."

"That means State-imposed border shutdowns will not affect agricultural supply chains."

"The trucks carrying food and produce will get through to the shops. "Feed, hay, fertiliser and other agriculture products will continue being delivered to farms."

"We've got plenty of supply and the freight lanes across the country are being kept clear."

"Australians can be assured that their farmers will be able to keep producing the great food they're renowned for the world over."

"This food will arrive fresh and on time at their local supermarket the same as it's always done."

"Maintaining food production, access to workers, agricultural supply lines, transportation and logistics is absolutely critical and will not be affected by any of the measures aimed at curbing the virus's spread."

**80% of consumers are more likely
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environmentally sound packaging.**



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**BITE-SIZED
MODULES**

**FOR BUSY
PROFESSIONALS**

**12
LESSON
BUNDLES**

**FILL
KNOWLEDGE
GAPS**

**ON-LINE
LEARNING**

**27
HOURS OF
CONTENT**

**42
MODULES**

**OWN TIME
OWN PACE**

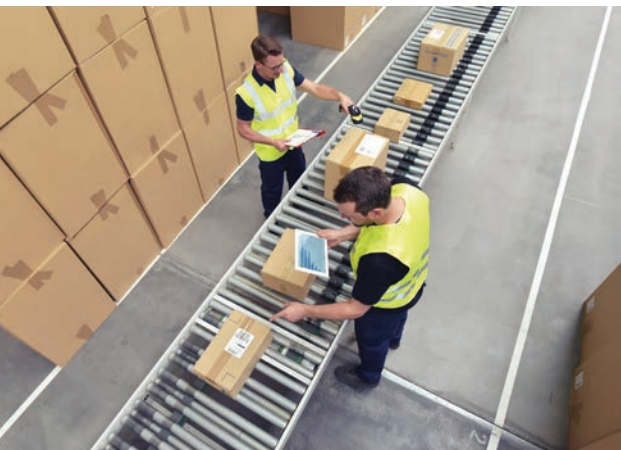
The internationally recognised on-line Fundamentals of Packaging Technology (FPT) bite-sized modules are available exclusively through the AIP in Australasia. The FPT Course is set up for the convenience of busy working professionals, and the training platform is functionally intuitive. The beauty of the FPT course is that you only have to undertake lessons as you need to fill knowledge gaps so you can complete your training when your time allows, and at your own pace. Take the complete course and learn about all the major segments of packaging or customise your packaging training for your specific needs.

Wherever you are, the course goes with you.



Institute of
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PROFESSIONALS

AIP: PEAK PROFESSIONAL BODY FOR PACKAGING EDUCATION & TRAINING IN AUSTRALASIA



As COVID-19 continues to spread across the world, many Australian businesses have felt the dual strain of managing the social and economic potential of where the disease may take the country in the coming months.

Unlike a 'traditional' recession, the coronavirus pandemic threatens economies by its impact on not only consumer demand and expenditure, but also on forecast confidence. Like all unprecedented events and natural disasters, it is hard to forecast the full fallout, and when we can expect things to return to a new kind of normal.

UNDERSTANDING DEMAND RISK AND SUPPLY CHAIN SHOCK

As a concept, supply chain shock is not new. Natural disasters like the Eyjafjallajökull eruption in Iceland, caused a 1.7 billion cost to airlines, as ash grounded flights for weeks. The 2009 H1N1 Swine flu pandemic saw a 0.5 - 1.5% GDP drop to affected countries thanks to the sudden and unexpected changes to supply chains worldwide.

In Australia, we are also seeing the fallout of unmitigated demand risk, or the balance a business must play in order to accommodate for sudden and unexpected increases to demand. A simple trip to the toilet paper aisle at Coles or Woolworths will reveal to you what happens when a retailer is not prepared.

But let's move on from dwelling on the negative, and return to a positive we look to forecast: A return to reliance on Australian-made.

ACCESS TO FOREIGN MADE BRINGS BACK THE LOCAL DEMAND

With restrictions occurring across manufacturing hotspots like China, Vietnam and South Asia, importing goods has become equally challenging and costly. Consumer goods behemoth Procter & Gamble have already experienced the pain of COVID-19 related shut downs, with upsets to 387 China based suppliers due to factory shut-downs, seeing 17,600 finished products grind close to a halt. We are already seeing forward thinking businesses reach out to local manufacturers in a bid to protect the rhythm of supply and demand, or to even pivot their own business to focus on more in-demand areas.

[LIVE WEBINAR]

HOW TO RADICALLY REDUCE YOUR COMPANY'S POWER BILLS IN UNPRECEDENTED TIMES

Tuesday 7 April

11:30 AEDT



*Alan Gill, Co-founder and
COO, Choice Energy*



THE AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR DROP

With the Australian dollar dropping 15%, foreign manufacturing has become instantly 15% more expensive. Where once demand and availability meant brands were content with expensive shipping costs and fees, thanks to lower overseas manufacturing costs to balance, this may be the case no longer. Instead, businesses may need to look to negotiating with other Australian based businesses to find common ground for novel contracts and agreements while we anticipate incoming challenges and a gradual resolution to the virus crisis.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOUR BUSINESS?

If you have been given the opportunity to pivot, restructure or refocus your business, taking control of your expenses and overheads may be the next line on your to-do list. Decisive action can be undertaken today to ensure your energy costs are optimised and designed to suit your business needs. Likewise, the recent federal government stimulus package has created a unique and time-sensitive opportunity for businesses looking to invest in solar and remain cash positive from day one. Just as we are being told as individuals, it is important Australian businesses continue to work together through uncertain times.

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Auspouch Packaging and Processing Solutions sums it up, but there is more to us than just that. We are a team of packaging, plant engineering, artwork and design and food processing specialists working together to bring holistic, world class solutions to Australian and New Zealand companies.

We are passionate about bringing innovative solutions to market, and work across the packaging, filling and manufacturing disciplines to provide a complete solution to our customers. We can work with standard solutions at the highest quality or we can collaborate with you on more complex and bespoke projects.



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PKN

PACKAGING NEWS

PKN Packaging News is partnering with AIP to develop content around the coronavirus pandemic's impact on our industry. PKN is keen to hear from AIP members about how their companies are responding to the Covid-19 crisis, and also to hear your views, as a packaging professional, on the heightened value of packaging in fighting a pandemic. If you would like to share your stories and/or your views for publication in PKN, please contact Lindy Hughson on e:lindyhughson@yaffa.com.au by 18 April.

AIP CENTRAL REGION MEMBERS VISIT ASAHI BEVERAGES



As one of the leading beverage companies in Australia and New Zealand, Asahi Beverages opened up their doors earlier this year for AIP Members in Central Region. With a rich and varied history, Asahi Beverages markets quality alcohol and non-alcohol beverages, boasting a strong portfolio of established household brands and innovative, new-to-market products.

AIP Members had the opportunity to tour the facility observing the end to end manufacturing process of carbonated and non-carbonated drinks, which are established household brands. Attendees saw how raw materials enter the Asahi Beverages site, how they are used, in the processing requirements, through to the making/filling of various vessels and then packaging for outsourcing to their customers. The AIP would like to take this opportunity to thank Michael Carney and the team at Asahi Beverages for organising a great tour for the Members.



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REVOLUTIONISING THE WAY OF
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1 PACKAGING FOR SUSTAINABILITY

The packaging industry is under pressure from regulators, customers and other stakeholders to improve packaging's sustainability by reducing its environmental and societal impacts. This is a considerable challenge because of the complex interactions between products and their packaging, and the many roles that packaging plays in the supply chain. Packaging for Sustainability is a concise and readable handbook for practitioners who are trying to implement sustainability strategies for packaging. Industry case studies are used throughout the book to illustrate possible applications and scenarios. Packaging for Sustainability draws on the expertise of researchers and industry practitioners to provide information on business benefits, environmental issues and priorities, environmental evaluation tools, design for environment, marketing strategies, and challenges for the future. Two of the authors, Dr Karli Verghese and Dr Helen Lewis are Fellows of the Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP).

2 TRANSPORT PACKAGING – THIRD EDITION

The Latest Edition of Transport Packaging has arrived and is now available through the AIP Bookstore. Transport Packaging, Third Edition, provides significant updates and new information from the Second Edition, published in 2004. It was reviewed and updated by packaging industry veteran Robert Meisner, CPP-Fellow, with contributions by subject matter experts-both individuals and organisations-around the transport packaging industry. The book has been revised throughout to reflect new and updated regulations and standards, and best practices, adding to previous editions compiled the late Alfred H. McKinlay, CPP.

3 BETTER PACKAGING BETTER WORLD

The Instituto de Embalagens in Brazil is pleased to announce the release of its 10th publication, Better Packaging Better World. The Book is divided into 6 sections including the Introduction to the Packaging Universe, Packaging Materials, Packaging Types, Packaging Processes, Packaging Machinery and Sustainability and is full of illustrations and case study examples. The book was organised by a multidisciplinary team designed to build a complete and organised work. Each chapter was written by invited authors that are specialised in each field and are respected in the Brazilian and world market.

4 FUNDAMENTALS OF PACKAGING TECHNOLOGY, FIFTH EDITION

Over 748 pages, Fundamentals of Packaging Technology, Fifth Edition gives you the most authoritative, current and comprehensive information available on all the major areas of packaging! Clear and concise, with easy-to-understand explanations from IoPP technical committee members and experts at the industry's leading packaging associations. The FPT textbook is required to undertake the CPP examination.

5 OWNING IT: A CREATIVE'S GUIDE TO COPYRIGHT, CONTRACTS AND THE LAW

Owning It: A Creative's Guide to Copyright, Contracts and the Law is a 560-page full-colour hard cover book written by renowned Melbourne intellectual property lawyer Sharon Givoni. The book aims to demystify copyright, contracts and intellectual property law for Australians working in creative industries and running their own businesses. Comprising expert insight and explanation of intellectual property law in 'plain English', Owning It drives home key legal concepts through enlightening and entertaining real-life case studies. The book also contains user-friendly flowcharts and tables that simplify legal terms, processes and procedures that creatives regularly encounter. The book aims to point Australians in the creative sector in the right direction regarding: the protection of their designs, trade marks, copyright, reputation, confidential information and other intellectual property (IP); how to reduce the risk of inadvertently infringing someone else's rights; contract basics; licensing; how the law applies online and to certain aspects of social media; how to better achieve positive legal outcomes and much more.

6 GLOSSARY OF PACKAGING TERMINOLOGY

The Second Edition of the Illustrated Glossary of Packaging Terminology by Walter Soroka CPP is a comprehensive guide to packaging terminology. More than 4,500 definitions cover the scope of packaging terms with more than 250 illustrations so readers can easily understand packaging concepts. The Illustrated Glossary of Packaging Terminology is a glossary of the packaging community's language that helps you communicate effectively with other packaging professionals. This book brings together all the disparate terms of packaging into one concise, focused edition.

7 PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION

The AIP is pleased to advise that Dr Helen Lewis, who is a Fellow of the Institute, has written a new book Product Stewardship in Action: The Business Case for Lifecycle. Product Stewardship in Action describes how and why leading companies are taking responsibility for the environmental impact of their products and packaging. Product stewardship, often referred to as 'extended producer responsibility' or EPR, is the idea that everyone that benefits commercially from a product, including manufacturers, distributors and retailers, has a shared responsibility to minimise its environmental impacts. Written primarily for a business audience, it draws on the knowledge and experience of industry practitioners and other experts to provide a structured approach to product responsibility within firms. This will help those new to the field, as well as more experienced practitioners, to develop an effective response to stakeholder concerns about the environmental impacts of their products and packaging.

Finalists have been announced for the 2020 Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design Awards (PIDA) which has been designed to recognise companies and individuals who are making a significant difference in their field across Australia and New Zealand. The PIDA Awards are coordinated by the Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP) and are the exclusive feeder program for the prestigious WorldStar Packaging Awards. The 2020 PIDA winners will automatically be eligible for entry into the 2021 WorldStar Packaging Awards competition.

The Packaging Innovation & Design of the Year company awards recognise organisations that have designed innovative packaging within each of these five manufacturing categories:

1. Food
2. Beverage
3. Health, Beauty & Wellness
4. Domestic & Household
5. Labelling & Decoration

The PIDA Awards also sees finalists in a number of special awards including:

1. Sustainable Packaging Design Special Award
2. Accessible Packaging Design Special Award
3. Young Packaging Professional of the Year Award

2020 PACKAGING INNOVATION & DESIGN OF THE YEAR AWARD – FOOD CATEGORY

The Packaging Innovation & Design of the Year Award - Food Category recognises organisations that have designed innovative packaging and/or materials, within food packaging and processing including fresh, frozen or other. All entries were also judged on Sustainable Packaging Design Considerations and what packaging changes they are undertaking to meet the 2025 National Packaging Targets. This is a WorldStar Packaging Awards category.



Finalists are Arnott's Cracker Chips unique split case innovation, BioBag World Australia for compostable cucumber wrap, Disruptive Packaging for Uniqcor for cold chain environments, OF Packaging for Local Legends novelty shaped pouches, Planet Protector Packaging for the Lobster Protector, Platypus Print Packaging for the Youfoodz Meal Kit and Primo Foods for the Red Range Slice Pack.



2020 PACKAGING INNOVATION & DESIGN OF THE YEAR AWARD – BEVERAGE CATEGORY

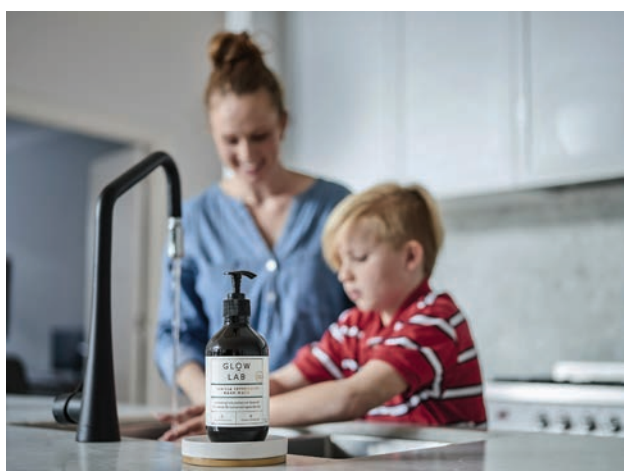
The Packaging Innovation & Design of the Year Award – Beverage Category recognises organisations that have designed innovative packaging and/or materials, within packaging and processing for liquid or dry tea, coffee, water and soft drinks including wine, beer and spirits. All entries were also judged on Sustainable Packaging Design Considerations and what packaging changes they are undertaking to meet the 2025 National Packaging Targets. This is a WorldStar Packaging Awards category.



Finalists are Brownes Dairy for Australia's first renewable gable top milk carton, Coca-Cola Amatil for 100% recyclable rPET bottles, Ecolean for the Bannister Downs Dairy WA chilled pasteurised range, JUST Water plant-based reusable water bottle and O-I Glass ANZ for the Millie fruit juice range.

2020 PACKAGING INNOVATION & DESIGN OF THE YEAR AWARD – HEALTH, BEAUTY & WELLNESS

The Packaging Innovation & Design of the Year Award – Health, Beauty & Wellness Category recognises organisations that have designed innovative packaging and/or materials, within cosmetics, toiletries, personal hygiene, supplements, vitamins, perfumes, hair body and oral care. This award also covers packaging of all medicines including over the counter medicines, medical equipment packaging. All entries were also judged on Sustainable Packaging Design Considerations and what packaging changes they are undertaking to meet the 2025 National Packaging Targets. This is a WorldStar Packaging Awards category.



Finalists are Pact Group for the New Zealand Earthwise Glow Labs brand of PCR 100% rPET bottle range and Kahuku Natural refillable stainless-steel range of cleansers and liquid soaps.

2020 PACKAGING INNOVATION & DESIGN OF THE YEAR AWARD – DOMESTIC & HOUSEHOLD

The Packaging Innovation & Design of the Year Award – Domestic & Household Category recognises organisations that have designed innovative packaging and/or materials, packaging within domestic and household items, toys, stationary, gifts, clothing, garden equipment, decorating. All entries were also judged on Sustainable Packaging Design Considerations and what packaging changes they are undertaking to meet the 2025 National Packaging Targets. This is a WorldStar Packaging Awards category.



Finalists are Birdstone Collective & NCI Packaging for the DuluxGroup Cabot's Ready Bucket, Birdstone Collective & Orora Cartons for the recyclable Telstra Sleeve, Daisy Pool Covers & Sealed Air, Gaprie Ltd for the P.C. Nets which are a re-usable, alternative for pallet containment, Outside the Box Caskets for an ecological solution to the traditional timber and MDF casket, Pact Group for New Zealand's Earthwise brand of PCR 75% rHDPE household cleaning range and Sealed Air Brand Protective Packaging for the Korrvu uncompromised product protection.



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2020 PACKAGING INNOVATION & DESIGN OF THE YEAR AWARD – LABELLING & DECORATION

The Packaging Innovation & Design of the Year Award - Labelling & Decoration Category is designed to recognise 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. All entries were also judged on Sustainable Packaging Design Considerations and what packaging changes they are undertaking to meet the 2025 National Packaging Targets. This is a WorldStar Packaging Award Category.



Finalists are NCI Packaging & DuluxGroup for the Porter's Paints superior crafted paint can range and UPM Raflatrac & Kiwi Labels for the CUSTOM-PAK rPET Cherry Punnet with self-adhesive label, permanent adhesive that is also washable at the PET recycling plant.

2020 ACCESSIBLE PACKAGING DESIGN SPECIAL AWARD

The Accessible Packaging Design Special Award is designed to recognise packaging that is accessible, intuitive, easy-to-open and innovative. Accessible Packaging Design needs to include measuring techniques, understanding injuries caused by packaging and consumer satisfaction levels with packaging accessibility. This award is sponsored by Arthritis Australia and Arthritis New Zealand.



Finalists are Ecolean for the Bannister Downs Dairy WA chilled pasteurised range and Reckitt Benckiser for Gaviscon Dual Action Sachets.

2020 SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING DESIGN SPECIAL AWARD

The Sustainable Packaging Design Special Award is designed to recognise companies that have developed innovative packaging or processing solutions that incorporates sustainability considerations. Elements include Social, Material, Source Reduction, Energy and Recovery. One of the winners will be awarded the custom EcodEX packaging environmental assessment valued at \$10,000. Selerant will implement its acclaimed EcodEX assessment and provide the winner a reputable third-party environmental evaluation of the product package or formulation. This is a WorldStar Packaging Awards Category.



Finalists are Birdstone Collective & Orora Cartons for the recyclable Telstra Sleeve, Brownes Dairy for Australia's first renewable gable top milk carton, Coca-Cola Amatil for the 100% recyclable post-consumer recycled rPET bottles, ecostore Ltd for New Zealand's first 100% Ocean Waste Plastic (OWP) limited edition hand wash, Nestlé Australia Ltd for the KITKAT Chocolatory recyclable e-commerce solution, Omni Group for the PerformX 100% recyclable stretch wrap, ORORA Fibre Packaging Ltd for the recyclable moulded paper inserts, Pact Group for New Zealand's Earthwise brand of PCR 75% rHDPE household cleaning range, Planet Protector Packaging for the Lobster Protector, Planet Protector Packaging for the home compostable mailer pouch, Sealed Air Brand Protective Packaging for the TempGuard kerbside recyclable packaging for pre-packaged, temperature sensitive goods, UPM Raflatac & Kiwi Labels for the CUSTOM-PAK rPET Cherry Punnet with self-adhesive label, permanent adhesive that is also washable at the PET recycling plant.



2020 YOUNG PACKAGING PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

The purpose of the Young Packaging Professional of the Year Award is to provide incentive and recognition to young professionals who are both currently working in and wish to continue their career path within the Packaging industry.



Christopher Moffatt AAIP



Alison Appleby



Kelly Wade

Finalists are Alison Appleby, Member Resource & Program Coordinator, APCO, Christopher Moffatt AAIP, Quality Control Coordinator & Product Developer, Caspak Products and Kelly Wade, Scientist, Scion (New Zealand).

The 2020 Australasian PIDA winners will be formally announced virtually in April. The AIP acknowledges the following sponsors: Platinum - APCO, Viscotec and Wellman Packaging, Silver – Auspouch, Metalprint, Mosca, Platypus Print Packaging, Verix and Westrock, Bronze – Bio-lutions, Caps and Closures, Cemac, J.Lennard, KHS, Konica Minolta, OF Packaging, Planet Protector, Sealed Air, Taghleef Industries, TetraPak, Vanden Recycling, Zipform Packaging, Esko, Supporters – Aeson Material and Ecolean.

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AIP VIRTUAL EVENTS

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO VIRTUALLY ATTEND ANY EVENTS ACROSS AUSTRALASIA

APRIL 2020

HOW TO RADICALLY REDUCE BUSINESS POWER BILLS DURING UNPRECEDENTED TIMES FREE WEBINAR



WHEN: 7th April

WHERE: On-line

TIME: 11:30 - 12:30 pm AEDT

WHAT: The Coronavirus pandemic is a pressing concern on everyone's minds at the moment. It is triggering vast economic challenges and uncertainty for many businesses as it spreads across every layer of the Australian economy and the global financial system. In light of recent events, Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP) Gold Partner Choice Energy have created a special 60 minute online webinar on how to remove hidden costs in your company's power bill so that you feel empowered to future-proof your energy savings in unprecedented times. It is free - and they feel an urgent need to help Australian businesses stay ahead of the curve, immediately.

Register your interest by clicking here:
www.choiceenergy.com.au/AIP

SUSTAINABILITY IN PACKAGING FREE WEBINAR



Institute of
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WHEN: 16th April

WHERE: On-line

WHAT: As part of the partnership with the IoPP all AIP Members will have access to a 'Sustainability in Packaging: Global Knowledge, Local Solutions' webinar on the 16th of April for Free. Questions about how to address sustainability continue to arise more frequently for brands, particularly when it comes to finding the most sustainable packaging solutions. But the answers are not often clear cut or 'one size fits all' as they are impacted by localised concerns such as consumer behaviour, government regulations, and retailer guidelines. Sustainability challenges are global in nature, and thereby require brands to apply global knowledge and expertise as a method of creating localised solutions.

SGK Business Development Director, Stephen 'Marshy' Marshman and Anthem Brand Design Director, Marcel Verhaaf will explore how packaging professionals can address sustainable packaging challenges by applying a global perspective to local solutions.

PRESENTERS:



Stephen Marshman
Business Development Director
SGK



Marcel Verhaaf
Creative Director
Anthem

Due to the different time zones it would be difficult for AIP Members to attend the live webinar. All AIP Members to email info@aipack.com.au before the 10th of April to register to view the rebroadcast. The AIP will arrange your FREE access to the rebroadcast of this IoPP webinar - a USD \$99 saving and special benefit of your AIP membership.

Non-members: Like what you see?

Email info@aipack.com.au to request details on becoming an AIP Member.

AIP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WHEN: 15th April

WHERE: Via Zoom Virtual Meeting

TIME: 6.00 pm AEST time

WHAT: Virtual Annual General Meeting

PROXIES: Each Financial Member is entitled to appoint a person as a proxy in case there is any voting required on the evening. Proxies may only be appointed by returning the attached Proxy document to the Executive Director at the Institute's registered office no later than 48 hours before the time of the Annual General Meeting. The proxy form must be signed by the Financial Member or an attorney duly authorised in writing.

Please RSVP no later than 8 April 2020 to mark@aipack.com.au should you wish to attend the AGM



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AIP VIRTUAL EVENTS

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO VIRTUALLY ATTEND ANY EVENTS ACROSS AUSTRALASIA



MARCH 2021

INTERPACK: NEW DATES



WHEN: 23rd February to 3rd March 2021

WHERE: Dusseldorf, Germany

WHAT: Internationally the most important event in the packaging sector and the related process industry, interpack will be held at the Düsseldorf Exhibition Centre. Both exhibitors and visitors can look forward not only to an entirely new Hall 1 and a new Entrance Süd but they can also benefit from an overall clearer hall structure with even more sharply focused segments. This means even shorter distances thereby making for more efficient trade fair visits.

Interpack's unique selling point is its distinctive solutions package and coverage of entire value chains. This includes processes and machinery for the packaging and processing of packaged goods plus packaging media and materials and the manufacturing of packaging aids as well as services for the packaging business.

The last edition of interpack attracted 2,866 exhibitors and 170,899 visitors from 168 countries and thanks to busy orders from three-quarters of the decision-makers among them made for significant impulses in the sector.

APRIL 2021

DRUPA: NEW DATES



WHEN: 20th to 30th April 2021

WHERE: Dusseldorf, Germany

WHAT: There is no other industry event that has such great international appeal as the leading trade fair for printing technologies. More than half of its visitors come to drupa with specific investment projects.

drupa provides crucial impulses for print, media, packaging production, and industrial applications – especially in the vertical markets as well. The world's leading trade fair for printing technologies offers outstanding networking opportunities and potential for excellent business dealings. This is where innovations are brought into the market, new business models are developed, and new partnerships are formed.

drupa is an international magnet for visitor target groups from a wide variety of industries. In addition to the printing and packaging industry, there are also groups from vertical markets such as consumer goods, luxury goods, cosmetics, bank and safety technology, and many more. More than half of its visitors come to drupa with specific investment projects.

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The Institute of Materials,
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PGA Laminating has been a supplier of high quality packaging solutions to the food industry since 2000. Recently, the company changed its name to VERIX™. Jeremy Kavnoudias, Managing Director of VERIX™ recognised the need to rebrand the company in a rapidly changing market. "The new branding symbolises a new way of thinking and a company focused on innovation and growth."

"In 2020, we see that the world of packaging is evolving at a rapid rate. Consumers and brand owners are showing more and more interest in sustainability. Waste reduction is now a critical global priority. Our core focus, innovative new technologies with sustainability at the heart of the design. The global packaging trends are changing and so are we. In 2018, we became a signatory to the Australian Packaging Covenant to ensure that our solutions aligned with the 2025 National Packaging Targets. As a company, we see these targets as the critical foundation for the development of our circular economy in Australasia," Mr Kavnoudias said.

"Our latest innovation is FormFresh®, a paper based High Barrier thermoformable product. FormFresh® can be used on conventional thermoforming machines. Trays made from FormFresh® are suitable for Kerbside Recycling in Australia and New Zealand as determined by the Australian Packaging Covenant Organization (APCO) PREP Tool." he said.

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OUR PACKAGING FUTURE

A COLLECTIVE IMPACT
FRAMEWORK TO ACHIEVE
THE 2025 NATIONAL
PACKAGING TARGETS



Our Packaging Future report launches to outline critical steps required to deliver Australia's 2025 National Packaging Targets. Assistant Minister for Waste Reduction and Environment Management, The Hon Trevor Evans MP, and the Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation (APCO), launched 'Our Packaging Future', the new strategic framework outlining how Australia will deliver the 2025 National Packaging Targets. The significant new report was unveiled during an industry webinar, featuring discussion from Minister Evans, Dr Helen Lewis and APCO CEO Brooke Donnelly.

Of the 5.5 million tonnes of packaging material placed on the market annually, 88% is currently recyclable, yet just 49% is recovered for use in future applications, with the remainder ending up as landfill, or litter on land and in our oceans. 'Our Packaging Future' combines data and insights from more than 200 authors and contributors, to identify the current critical challenges contributing to this gap. It then maps the strategies required to move away from our current take, make and waste approach to managing packaging. The strategies address issues of packaging design, improved collection and recycling systems and expanded markets for used packaging, and provides a systemic, whole of environment approach to building Australia's sustainable packaging future.

Key recommendations and approaches addressed in the plan include:

- A change to the 2025 National Packaging Target for recycled content levels in packaging. The Target for the average recycled content in all packaging will increase from 30% to 50%.
- The launch of a National Consumer Education Campaign for sustainable packaging in 2020
- APCO to convene a CDS National Working Group as a collaborative forum aiming to facilitate consistency and alignment of future closed-loop schemes
- APCO to explore and facilitate waste collection partnerships in regional and remote areas including potential collaboration with other product stewardship schemes where kerbside collection is not feasible
- Voluntary code of practice for shopping bags with key stakeholders
- New reuse models for both consumer and B2B packaging
- For compostable packaging, develop a national strategy with industry and government partners.
- Explore extending the Australasian Recycling Label to include B2B packaging and recycled content.
- Develop a traceability and verification program for recycled content in packaging and products

Minister Evans commented: "Governments around Australia are relying on APCO and its members to bring about a more sustainable approach to packaging. This report shows that about half of all packaging in Australia is not currently being recovered, and that is the gap we need to bridge to achieve the National Packaging Targets by 2025".

Brooke Donnelly, CEO, APCO commented: "Our planet has finite resources to meet our ever-increasing consumption. Business as usual is simply not going to sustain our communities into the future. We will not accept a future defined by waste stockpiles, inefficient waste recovery economies, self-interest and fragmented regulation and policy approaches."

"The vision for this report is clear: building a packaging value chain that collaborates to keep packaging materials out of landfill and maximise the circular value of the materials, energy and labour within the local economy. Thank you to everyone who took part in the process, it has taken over two years, however we now have a clear vision for a whole of system approach to delivering the 2025 Targets."

The new report has been welcomed by representatives from across the packaging value chain, including major brands, retailers and business associations, the waste and recycling industry, and the environmental community (see commentary below):

Justin Frank, Chief Customer Officer, SUEZ Australia & New Zealand: "SUEZ welcomes the release of the Our Packaging Future report. By mapping the challenges faced by all impacted waste streams, the collective impact framework focuses industry and government on the strategies that will drive the critical growth and sustainable end markets that are necessary to drive the system forward and achieve the waste reduction and recycling outcomes the Australian public expects."

Jeff Maguire, Group Head of CDS Development & Implementation, Coca-Cola Amatil: *"Coca-Cola Amatil is committed to building a circular economy for packaging here in Australia - evidenced by the fact that 7 out of 10 of our bottles are now made from 100% recycled material. But there is still a lot more work to be done, and a lot more to our product range than just PET, cans and glass bottles. 'Our Packaging Future' provides the guidance and direction that industry needs to build this circular approach across all material types and to practically deliver the 2025 National Packaging Targets within their organisation. We are continuing to work closely with each of the states and territories on their Container Deposit Schemes, so it's really positive to see the report include the establishment of the CDS National Working Group to drive greater consistency and alignment for the programs."*

Andrew Smith, EGM Sustainability, Pact Group: *"Pact Group is committed to building the local circular economy and playing our part to deliver the 2025 National Packaging Targets. We applaud the key recommendations of Our Packaging Future, in particular increasing the inclusion rate of recycled content in packaging, new re-use models for consumer and B2B packaging and, developing a traceability and verification program for recycled content in packaging. It is incumbent on us to build infrastructure and capability and we have committed to significant investment to enable this. Now is the time for brand owners to act boldly and demand recycled content to achieve these targets."*

Chris Foley, Head of Energy and Environment, Kmart Group: *"As the first integrated and holistic perspective of Australia's packaging ecosystem, 'Our Packaging Future' is a significant milestone for packaging sustainability here in Australia. At Kmart Group, we are committed to reducing the environmental impacts of Kmart, Target and Catch's own brand products and packaging, delivered through our Better Together sustainable development program. This new roadmap will allow Australian industry to really harmonise and focus our efforts and resources to have the most impact within Australia's packaging ecosystem. As a signatory to the Ellen MacArthur Foundation's New Plastics Economy Commitment and the United Nation's Fashion Industry Climate Action Charter, it also is great to see the principles and foundations underlying 'Our Packaging Future' are so strongly aligned and provide an Australian perspective and pathway for us to all work together to keep packaging materials out of landfill and maximise the circular value of the materials."*

Margaret Stuart, Head of Corporate and External Relations, Nestlé Oceania: *"Nestlé was one of the first organisations to publicly support the 2025 Targets in 2018, and we have since gone on to deliver significant progress on this commitment - both in our organisation and in collaboration with the wider supply chain. Soft plastics recyclability is a particular focus for us and in March we announced a partnership with IQ Renew of a trial of kerbside recycling which will see soft plastics collected from over 100,000 homes in Australia. Globally, we have sent a strong signal to the packaging industry that we want to buy food grade recycled plastic packaging by committing \$2.5bn to purchase these materials. As well, our Institute of Packaging Sciences, the first of its kind in the food industry, is dedicated to discovering and developing functional, safe and environmentally friendly packaging solutions."*

"Australia will require a whole of supply chain approach to packaging recyclability to make these Targets a reality, and 'Our Packaging Future' provides this all important, holistic perspective and framework that's critical for driving circular solutions, both in the Australian market and across global supply chains."

Andrew Petersen, CEO, Business Council for Sustainable Development Australia: *"Globally there is a diverse network of organisations, including the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, that are working to deliver science-based guidance for businesses to better manage their environmental impact. The 'Our Packaging Future' project is firmly part of this network, providing an evidence-based foundation for businesses to map, measure and forecast the reduction and, ultimately the elimination, of packaging leakage across their value chains. The recommendations and strategies outlined in the report will provide Australian businesses with a strong foundation to deliver effective action on eliminating pollution and building a circular approach across our economy."*

Paul Klymenko CEO, Planet Ark Environmental Foundation: *"The transformation to a circular economy will require one of the greatest collaboration efforts ever undertaken by humanity. The work done to create 'Our Packaging Future', as well as the framework outlined in it, is an excellent example of the type of collaboration needed - specifically to deliver Australia's world leading 2025 National Packaging Targets. "The report highlights the very real need for national consumer education particularly the use of standardised on-pack recycling information via the Australasian Recycling Label, itself a highly productive collaboration between APCO, Planet Ark and PREP Design."*

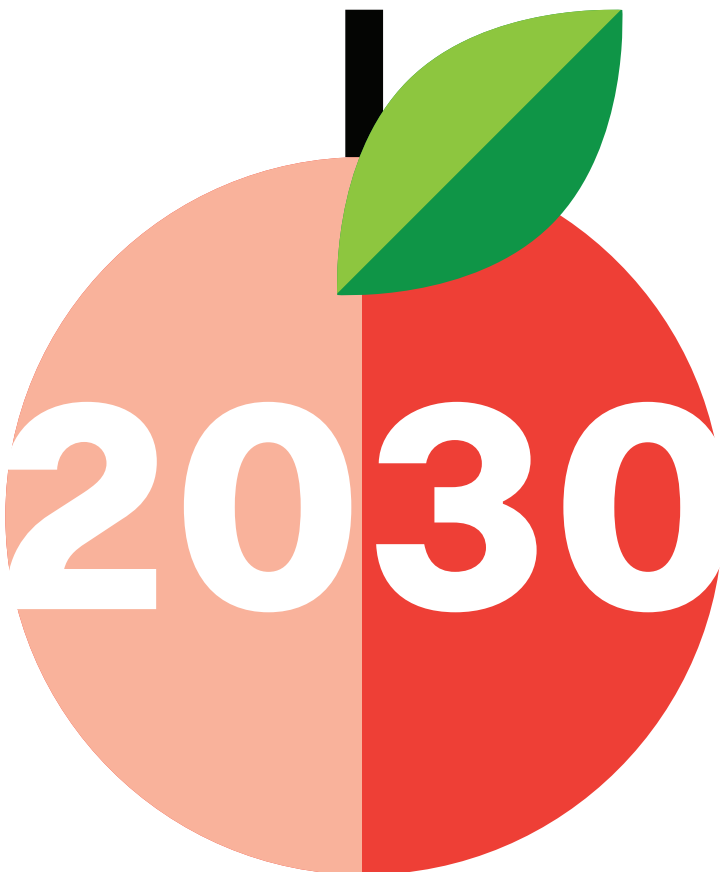
To download the full report <https://www.packagingcovenant.org.au/documents/item/3214>

AUSTRALIA'S ROADMAP TO HALVE FOOD WASTE BY 2030 HAS BEEN RELEASED



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A Roadmap for
reducing Australia's
food waste by half by 2030



Each year, over seven million tonnes of food are wasted in Australia, costing the economy an estimated \$20 billion. At the same time, more than 1 in 5 Australians have experienced some form of food insecurity. In 2017, the Australian Government released the National Food Waste Strategy, which included a national target to halve Australia's food waste by 2030. This commitment received the support of all of Australia's environment ministers. Food Innovation Australia Limited (FIAL) was engaged as the independent organisation to support the implementation of the National Food Waste Strategy.

In March the Roadmap was released for Reducing Australia's Food Waste by Half by 2030 which marks a key milestone in the implementation of the National Food Waste Strategy. The Roadmap provides a clear path forward for achieving the 50% reduction in food waste, acknowledging the current challenges and efforts.

The Roadmap sets out the short, medium to long-term actions needed to support reductions in food waste, including a Voluntary Commitment Program. This Target, Measure, Act approach has been successful all over the world in helping agri-food businesses to better understand and reduce their food waste. FIAL will now be focusing on finalising the Voluntary Commitment Program to engage business in food waste reduction activities.

This Roadmap establishes a vision for moving forward, recognising the challenges of our current situation across the nation and along the food value chain. While work is

already underway in many sectors, there are opportunities to improve coordination through robust governance, reporting against a balanced scorecard and better understanding the overall feasibility of achieving a 50% reduction by 2030.

Assistant Minister for Waste Reduction and Environmental Management, Trevor Evans MP, welcomed the release of the Roadmap, setting the direction for all levels of government, industry and other key stakeholders to reduce Australia's food waste.

"The Roadmap is a positive step forward as we work to achieve our national goal of halving the amount of food going to landfill by 2030 – this is undoubtedly an ambitious goal and to achieve it, we need everyone to play their part," he said.

"The food rescue sector plays an important role in ensuring food that's perfectly edible doesn't go to landfill, and instead is diverted to Australians experiencing food shortages. So I am very pleased to see the four major food rescue and relief organisations working collaboratively together to achieve these objectives".

Over the past 2 years, FIAL has been working closely with multiple stakeholders to identify the steps required to make the food waste reduction target a reality. These stakeholders include food rescue and relief organisations, agri-food industry peak bodies, the Fight Food Waste CRC, the National Food Waste Strategy Steering Committee, the States and Territory Government Reference Group, and various national and international food waste experts. These consultations show there is real promise in increasing awareness and changing behaviour through communication, engagement and working together across the food value chain.

AUSTRALIA'S ROADMAP TO HALVE FOOD WASTE BY 2030 HAS BEEN RELEASED

The National Food Waste Steering Committee members have contributed to this roadmap and include:

- AgriFutures Australia
- Australian Food and Grocery Council
- Australian Hotels Association
- Australian Institute of Packaging
- Australian Retailers Association
- Centre for Supply Chain and Logistics, Deakin University
- CSIRO
- Fight Food Waste Cooperative Research Centre
- OzHarvest
- National Farmers' Federation
- National Waste and Recycling Industry Council
- Australian Food Cold Chain Council
- Council of Rural Research and Development Corporations

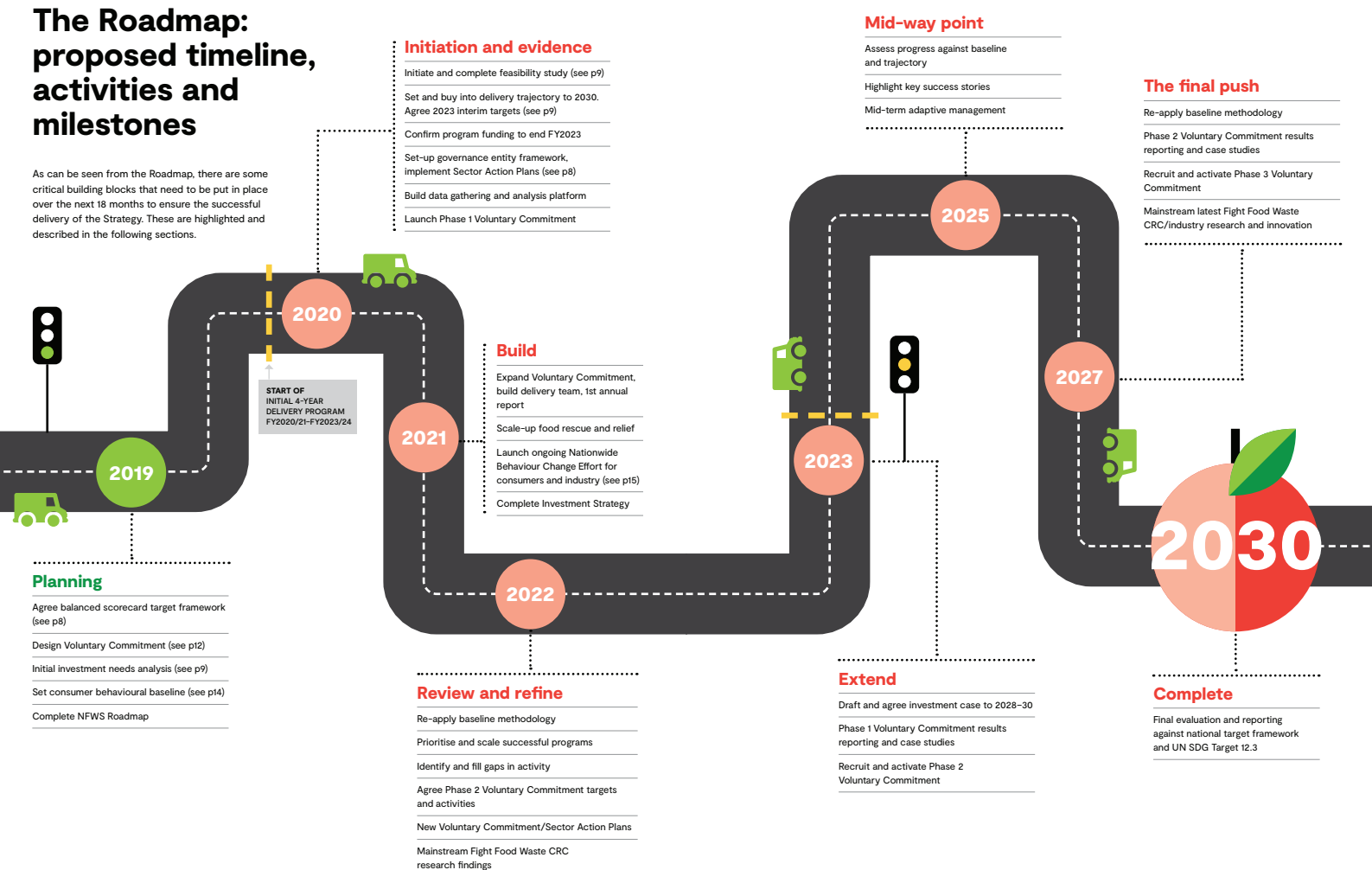
These consultations show there is real promise in increasing awareness and changing behaviour through communication, engagement and working together across the food value chain.

A Voluntary Commitment Program is a powerful vehicle for reducing food waste across the supply chain; from retail, hospitality, food service organisations, to suppliers. An effective Voluntary Commitment Program that has been implemented internationally has been found to reduce food waste by up to 28%. FIAL is currently developing a Voluntary Commitment Program for Australia.

The first of a number of targeted sector action plans has been drafted with more scheduled in 2020. These plans take a 'whole-of-sector' systems perspective to identify opportunities and target interventions that maximise food recovery, reduce waste and create multiple benefits. **To download the Roadmap click here**

The Roadmap: proposed timeline, activities and milestones

As can be seen from the Roadmap, there are some critical building blocks that need to be put in place over the next 18 months to ensure the successful delivery of the Strategy. These are highlighted and described in the following sections.



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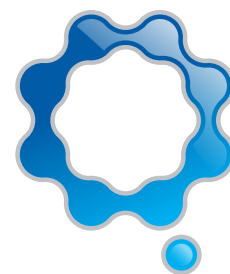
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Giving Shape to Ideas

Qenos



EXsource - Qenos' specialty distribution arm, is the new distributor of LyondellBasell polypropylene (PP) in Australia and New Zealand. It means that Qenos eXsource is the only distributor that can offer the full range of locally produced polyolefins to the market.

The relationship between Qenos eXsource and LyondellBasell has grown through the successful distribution of polyethylene and specialty polymers. LyondellBasell is a pioneer in the development of polypropylene and eXsource is excited to be able to partner with a market leader to offer PP to our customers.

"By expanding our eXsource product range to include PP, we are able to offer a wider range of products to our injection moulding customers and complement the polyethylene and specialty products that we offer to all customers. We look forward to working with our partners in LyondellBasell to bring the same reliable and accountable supply that our customers' expect." said Ged Beckton, eXsource Business Manager.

About eXsource: A specialist group within Qenos, eXsource supplies a wide range of polymers manufactured by Qenos, Bluestar, LyondellBasell and others. These polymers and additives are used in flexible packaging films, injection moulding, blow-moulding, hot-melt adhesive applications, polymer and wax modification, pipe and cable, bitumen modification and other polymer conversion processes. More at www.exsource.com.

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WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

The Certificate in Packaging provides a level of insight and understanding of the packaging industry that adds real and measurable value to careers and businesses.



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Progressive Packaging Solutions

Drive your brand with Zipform Packaging's rigid composite packs for cost efficient, lightweight packaging.

Zipform Packaging's unique manufacturing process utilises linear draw technology to create rigid shelf ready packaging with a higher degree of recyclability and recycled material to aid brand owners in the global push for more sustainable packaging.

Integrated graphics across the entire pack ensure optimum shelf presence presenting opportunities for greater brand recognition and promotion.



AIP Member, WorldStar Packaging Award winner and Planet Protector packaging's social entrepreneur/founder Jo Howarth learned today that she has been announced as a finalist in the 2020 Cartier Women's Initiative representing the South Asia and Oceania region. *"I am very humbled, it's an absolute honour for me to be recognised in this way"* said Jo.

PLANET PROTECTOR PACKAGING USES SHEEP WASTE

wool to produce an environmentally responsible and sustainable alternative to polystyrene. Wool is naturally biodegradable and a renewable resource. *"This ingenious solution is a game changer"* says Jo. *"We are on an exciting journey of transforming supply chains across the globe"* The Woolpack product is used in cold chain transport for the fast growing e-commerce, seafood and pharmaceutical industries. *"We are on a mission to eliminate polystyrene from the planet."*

The Cartier Women's Initiative is designed to promote gender equality and to support women entrepreneurs, who are heading up social impact businesses with the potential to grow significantly. The businesses must have at their core, a vision to create an impact which is aligned with one or more of the United Nations Sustainable Development goals. It is a unique opportunity to take their businesses to the next level.

Cartier have announced 21 finalists, representing the top three businesses from seven regions globally. As a finalist, Jo will receive one on one personalised business and financial coaching, access to a series of workshops and the opportunity to engage and network with the esteemed Cartier circle and alumni. There are also local and international press opportunities and a scholarship to attend a six day INSEAD Social Entrepreneurship Educator programme. All of this in addition to US \$100,000 in take home prize money for each laureate from each region or \$US 30,000 for second and third place runner ups. This support will contribute to the growth of her business.

As a finalist, the next step is for Jo to present in front of a jury during the Cartier Awards Week to be held in Boston in June 2020. Based on the quality of her presentation she may be selected as the Laureate for South Asia and Oceania. Jo encourages other women to apply for Cartier's 2021 Women's Initiative. *"This is an outstanding initiative, not only will you learn, grow and evolve as a business leader and individual, you will meet the most inspiring and incredible women along the way; women doing amazing things across so many diverse sectors."* Planet Protector have essentially borrowed from nature. Made from waste wool that until now, had nominal commercial value, Joanne is proud that her products have unrivalled green credentials. The wool is sustainable, biodegradable, recyclable and compostable and it increases the yield to the sheep farmers in drought stricken rural areas.

Planet Protector has manufactured more than 1,000 tonnes of waste wool and has 102 clients across Australia and New Zealand who have chosen not to use polystyrene. The business has to date replaced 5.2 million polystyrene bins from supply chains and diverted 2,600 tonnes of compressed polystyrene from landfill. Jo enthusiastically adds "this equates to 44 Olympic sized swimming pools each year". Planet Protector Packaging, with the support, generosity and vision of Cartier is well on its way to winning the race and becoming the market leader in insulated packaging that doesn't harm the planet.

<https://www.cartierwomensinitiative.com/candidate/joanne-howarth>

now there is an alternative to polystyrene.
WOOLPACK insulated packaging.

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AIP adds weight to dialogue on

The Australian Institute of Packaging joined industry leaders and stakeholders at the National Plastics Summit in Canberra in early March. Delegates shared their take-aways with PKN.

“ONE of the main themes that pervaded the summit was the vital role that consumer education plays in not only meeting our 2025 National Packaging Targets but, more importantly, to ensure that consumers are included in the sustainable journey the industry is currently undertaking,” says AIP executive director, Nerida Kelton.

“Communication is key to educate consumers on everything from the use of the ARL [Australian Recycling Label] on-pack to understanding why a brand is using recycled content in their packaging.

“We all have a role to play, and I walked away from the summit enthused that all parts of the value chain are wanting the same outcomes for the industry. A starting point is continuing the collaboration and open dialogue that we had at the summit.”

The AIP was also invited by the federal government to participate in the Children’s Summit that was held alongside the event. The AIP was tasked with spending the day with the children and helping them to understand the important role that packaging plays in society, and each of the

different materials used, particularly soft plastics. The AIP representative was education director Prof Pierre Pienaar who also had the opportunity to represent the World Packaging Organisation, in his capacity as president, at the significant event.

CHILDREN ASK THE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

The Children’s Summit, which took place in Old Parliament House, saw 22 children in grades 5 and 6 from across the country – who had submitted the top summaries of action they have taken to reduce plastic waste in our environment – invited to air their views and learn more about packaging.

Fielding their questions were Pierre Pienaar, education director of AIP; Barry Cosier, Australian Food and Grocery Council (AFGC) director of sustainability; and Ryan Lungu, executive director at Canberra Environment Centre.

“The children’s questions were detailed, thought provoking, challenging at times, and well researched,” Pienaar told PKN.

Asked what their chief concerns were, Pienaar responded: “That they would come to Canberra and not be heard by the adults; how

long it will take to fix the plastic issue; how it can be fixed; and why the adult generation has left this mess for the children to fix.”

“The students would have gone back to their schools and communities having experienced that the adults had heard their voices, and they would be more informed of what can and should be done about plastics into the future to make our environment a better place,” he said.

STAKEHOLDER REFLECTIONS ON THE SUMMIT

Barry Cosier, AFGC director of sustainability, said the National Plastics Summit presented a unique opportunity for government, industry and the community to collaborate and discuss waste and recycling issues.

“The AFGC was encouraged by Prime Minister Scott Morrison’s announcement of planned government investment in new recycling infrastructure across Australia and a move towards incentivisation and co-investment to support industry,” Cosier said.

Stephen Webster, GM of Integrated Recycling, said the summit was “a great initiative with valuable contributions from industry and academia of the many different ways to create a circular economy in plastics”.

“The PM’s commitment to help fund Australia’s capacity upgrade to recycle plastic was welcomed as was the PM’s recognition of Integrated Recycling’s Duratrack recycled plastic railway sleeper project for use in large scale infrastructure projects,” Webster said.

The PM’s announcement was also welcomed by recycled plastics company Rep-las. Joint MD Mark Jacobsen said: “Replas was honoured to be invited to the National Plastics Summit, and proud to have our [recycled plastics] seat on centre stage and



LEFT: Among the leaders attending this landmark event was WPO president Pierre Pienaar (left) pictured here with James Dorsey, CEO TOMRA/Cleanaway JV and Joshua Holmes of Vanden Recycling.

ABOVE: Fielding questions at the Children’s Summit were (from left), Ryan Lungu, executive director of Canberra Environment Centre; Pierre Pienaar, AIP education director and WPO president; and Barry Cosier, director sustainability at AFGC.

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plastics at summit

CREDIT: ALL IMAGES SUPPLIED BY NERIDA KELTON



used by government ministers and speakers. We welcome Prime Minister Scott Morrison's announcement and the strengthening of Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines, where government agencies will now consider the use of recycled content wherever possible.

"As successful recipients of the Resource Recovery Infrastructure Fund grant from Sustainability Victoria, we have invested in state-of-the-art machinery which will almost double our output of recycled plastic products, and we're employing new staff and gearing up for increased production.

"The National Plastics Summit was a fantastic platform for the circular economy discussion, and while mandating minimum quantities for procurement would create a stronger framework to address the waste crisis, Replas is in an excellent position with leading-edge technology to support the circular economy."

...we need to develop projects that are scalable and capable of being driven to large scale and with that become economically sustainable."

— Alan Adams
(MAIP) Sealed Air

TIME FOR ACTION HAS COME

For packaging industry professional, Alan Adams, the APAC sustainability director for packaging company Sealed Air, the summit was timely and reflected an industry that is "moving past pledges and commitments to real actions".

"I think the average Australian wants to hear that we are making real differences, real changes. This mirrors what we are hearing from our industry partners, so Sealed Air developments like recycled content in mailers and courier bags, recyclable meat trays and alternatives to black pigments now have real traction," he said.

"The three key themes I took away are that first, the problem is ours, we have to own it collectively and work to make real change. Second, we have to collaborate up and down the plastics lifecycle to create viable projects, and third, we need to develop projects that are scalable and capable of being driven to large scale and with that become economically sustainable.

During the summit it became clear how important total alignment is, Adams told PKN. "Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced a three-point plan including growing demand for recycled content through government procurement. We need materials like recycled plastic content in building materials, sound barriers and asphalt included in specifications so that procurement can act. We have work to do in getting all of society, government and business aware of and working towards the same goals," Adams said.

From all accounts, the National Plastics Summit was a significant and timely step for all stakeholders. ■



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Sustainability in service

A professional consultant who has made the quest for sustainable packaging an integral part of her life's work, Dr Carol Kilcullen-Lawrence has served as national president of the Australian Institute of Packaging for the past three years. Lindy Hughson asked her to share some career highlights.

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE A CAREER IN PACKAGING, WHAT HAVE BEEN KEY MILESTONES, AND WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT ROLE?

Arriving in Australia from the UK almost exactly 28 years ago, I found myself as an adhesive chemist testing the most suitable label for an array of packaging formats. They say you can't get away from sticky labels and they may be right, as I have been working in this field ever since. As a polymer chemist, my PhD enabled me to fully understand plastics and what makes them such a diverse and evolving packaging medium. A key milestone for me was taking a role as a sustainability specialist in 2011, as for so many years the aspects of waste and recycling had not been at the forefront of the self-adhesive label industry. However, the changes around that time gave me a significant challenge to achieve big steps in waste reduction and resource recovery.

My current role focuses on sustainable sourcing, bioplastics and life cycle analysis (LCA), as labels are crucial to package recyclability. This supports the Australian Recycling Label (ARL), together with APCO and PREP, to make a significant difference in cleaning up recycling streams.

AS PRESIDENT OF THE PEAK BODY FOR PACKAGING PROFESSIONALS IN AUSTRALIA, WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PROJECT YOU HAVE OVERSEEN?

The AIP plays an important role in educating packaging professionals about our rapidly changing industry. I am really pleased that during the past year we have broken many records regarding the number of training courses delivered. The



courses range from half day training to diplomas and degrees, all delivered by our members who are experts in their fields. Great also that industry has embraced the CPP programme showing that participants know their stuff and are keeping abreast of professional development.

YOU HAVE WITNESSED MUCH INNOVATION COME TO MARKET OVER YOUR CAREER, WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IS THE MOST INTERESTING/SIGNIFICANT?

My packaging focus is on recycling and resource minimisation, so it has been very rewarding to work with UPM Raflatac on two novel products.

Firstly, improving the yield of rPET flake has made it possible for labels to be removed during recycling and, using a 'switchable' adhesive RW85C, it's possible for a permanent label supporting high-end graphics, to be cleanly removed from the container under specific conditions during recycling.

A second remarkable achievement is using forest waste – pulp bi-products – to manufacture bioplastics. This involves UPM Bioverno naphtha as a drop-in chemical enabling a 'forest film' bioplastic without any fossil fuels.

Dr Carol Kilcullen-Lawrence is a fellow of the Australian Institute of Packaging and has served as national president since 2017.

I'm also looking forward to reducing industry waste by continuing to enable label liner recycling, and forging partnerships so label waste continues to be reused in novel markets.

WHAT'S YOUR VIEW ON RESPONSE FROM THE FMCG INDUSTRY AND PACKAGING CONVERTERS WHEN IT COMES TO GLOBAL CALLS FOR MEETING PACKAGING SUSTAINABILITY GOALS?

We have taken major steps as an industry in the last couple of years and I applaud brands that are achieving and exceeding sustainability goals. More steps are required for significant global impact, however. It is fantastic to work with many passionate professionals leading the way with new materials or reusing waste. Packaging sustainability is exciting – even when identifying a cost to choose a more sustainable option, many are recognising that it's truly a small cost if it benefits the planet. Consumers are more connected, brands have ongoing dialogue with customers, and research shows that many are happy paying a premium for a sustainable solution.

WHAT PACKAGING/ENVIRONMENTAL CONUNDRUM KEEPS YOU AWAKE AT NIGHT?

I do often wonder why many consumers complain about having too much packaging. As an industry, we know that packaging has been light weighted and minimised for years and what is left is essential to preserve products in transit. In my opinion, if consumers want less packaging, they actually need to buy less! If we are really serious about our environment, we need to recognise that we are using up resources, often manufacturing products that are simply junk – and often with short lives – that soon end up in landfill. I look forward to a world where we consider if we really need that product, or, do we simply just want it – then perhaps all of our lives could be less cluttered. ■

If consumers want less packaging, they actually need to buy less!"



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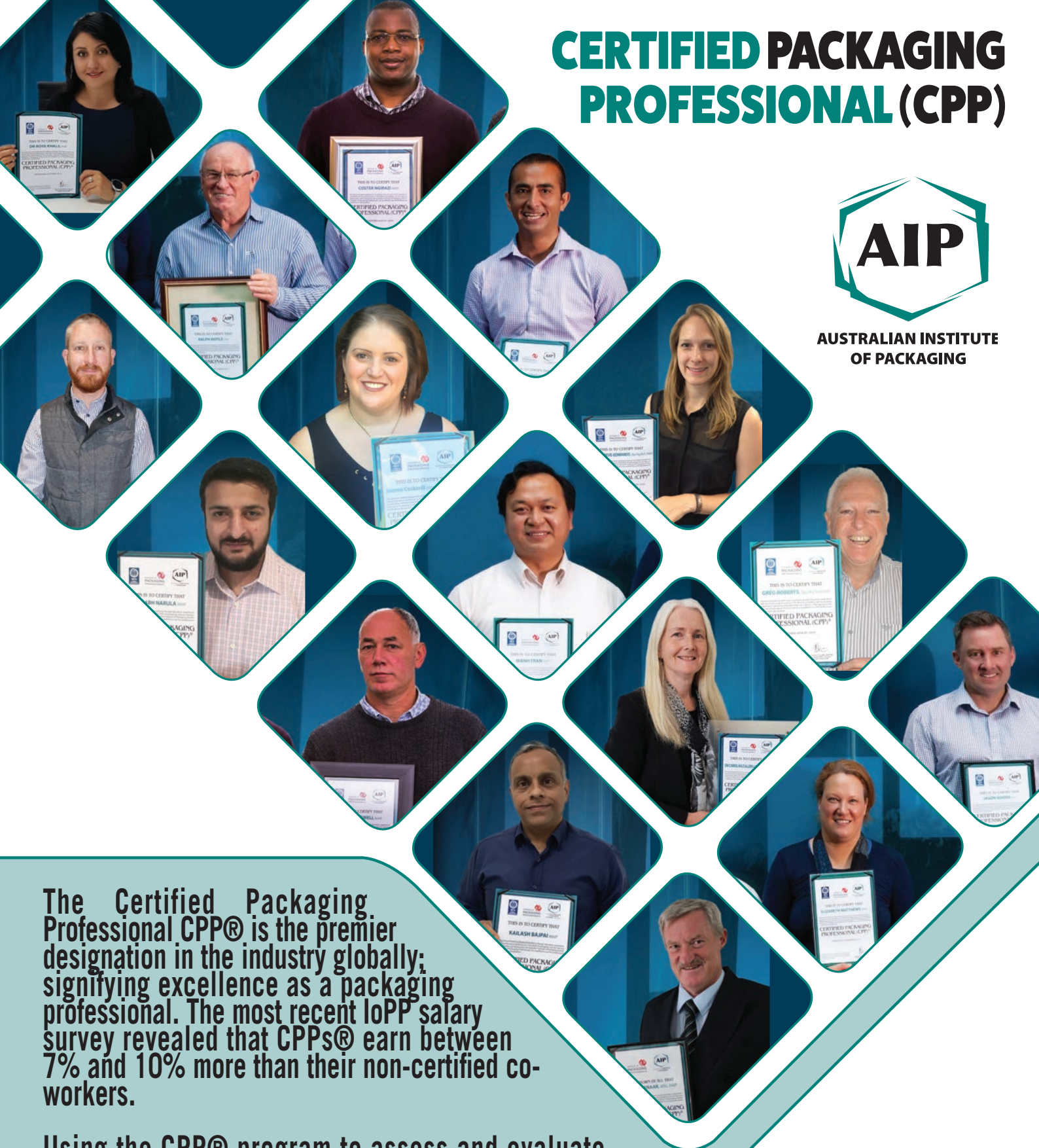
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