





hree Australian companies and one New Zealand company have achieved international recognition for their innovative and unique packaging designs in the prestigious WorldStar Packaging Awards for 2019. The winning companies include Caps and Closures for Precise Pour, ILNAM Estate for 8 Kangaroos, Lactote for POLATOTE and Radix Nutrition for their Foil Packaging Breakfast Pouch and were across three categories, Beverage, Food and Domestic & Household. Radix Nutrition is the first New Zealand company to be awarded a WorldStar Packaging Award for the Food Category. A delegation from both Australia and New Zealand that included Radix Nutrition and Caps and Closures proudly attended the 2019 WorldStar Packaging Awards in Prague, Czech Republic .

This international recognition follows on from wins in the 2018 Packaging Innovation & Design (PIDA) Awards, which are run by the Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP) and Packaging New Zealand. The PIDA Awards are the exclusive feeder program for Australia and New Zealand into the WorldStar Packaging Awards.



Company:	<b>Caps and Closures</b>
Country:	Australia
Category:	Domestic & Household

The Precise Pour takes a leap forward in the functionality of the simple tap, both for the consumer and the packer. It is simple to apply, intuitive to use, hard to damage and performs unlike any other tap on the market. The Precise Pour has features in all areas of the cap which create a user experience like no other. It is tamper evident, anti-surge, variable flow, 180 degree opening action, 360 degree pour, it has anti-binding lugs and has an anti-drip lip.

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





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WPO

WORLD PACKAGING

ORGANISATION

2019 Award for Packaging

Excellence

Honouring

Lactote Pty Ltd

For

Polatote

Company:Radix NutritionCountry:New ZealandCategory:Food

The Radix Nutrition foil breakfast packaging is simple to use, accessible in any situation, preserves nutrients and there is no food waste. The packaging needed to be durable, yet lightweight as they didn't want to create problems for their users as a lot of their consumers are marathon runners, athletes, rugby players, endurance long distance runners, cyclists, campers and many other outdoor loving people. These people want to enjoy their athletic and outdoor endeavours and to avoid increases in the weight of their kit so their pouch had to be highly functional, yet add no additional weight.

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF PACKAGING

Company:	ILNAM Estate
Country:	Australia
Category:	Beverage

8Kangaroos by ILNAM Estate have been awarded the win for a unique and innovative wine bottle shaped like a Kangaroo. In addition, all raw materials were chosen for their ability to be recycled and there was extensive thought and consideration in the development of transport packaging to suit the shape of the bottle. The bottles unique shape makes it unlikely that it will be thrown away after initial use. It is envisaged that the bottle will be retained and used as a decanter, water bottle or just a curious item on a shelf. The bottle being embossed at the base with the brand name means that the brand will live on after the label has gone and the wine has been consumed. Destined to be extremely successful in the international duty-free market the family-owned business has developed an outstanding and innovative packaging design.

Company:	Lactote
Country:	Australia
Category:	Beverage

Polatote is both an off-the-shelf supermarket/liquor shop beverage multipack and a portable ice cooler. No longer do you need an Esky style ice container and/or the traditional ice bucket to keep your drinks cold. Polatote has been fully redesigned as a highly functional shrinkfilm multi-pack with global influence and appeal. It is an ice cooler, or more accurately, a method for controlling the temperature of beverages in and outdoors. It is a comfortable, convenient and sturdy parcel/package for personal carrying and an easily and safely palletised multipack for general transportation and distribution. Polatote is a container to ensure original contents once consumed are recycled and do not become litter. Polatote replaces the standard type of beverage packaging presently used to deliver bottles of all types, metal cans and Tetra type cardboard packs to the marketplace.







### AUSTRALIAN PACKAGING EXPERT IS AWARDED WPO LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Also in attendance at the 2019 WorldStar Packaging Awards was Keith Chessell FAIP, who was recognised for his significant contribution to the packaging industry over the last 50 years with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the World Packaging Organisation (WPO). Only three people from across the globe received this recognition.





























For more information please contact Mrs. Kanphipack, T +66.2.036.0518, E kanphipack.p@ubm.com
Open to trade visitors only • Minor aged below 18 will not be allowed admission • All visitors must be in proper attire





# AIP CONTINUES TO SUPPORT ASEAN REGION WITH TRAINING AND FORUMS

he Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP) will not only be exhibiting for the third consecutive year in the Australian Pavilion at ProPak Asia 2019 but will also be launching the inaugural Global Packaging Forum and running a Sustainable Packaging Design Training course alongside the show for all of industry to attend.

### **PROPAK ASIA**





#### WHAT: **INAUGURAL GLOBAL PACKAGING FORUM – 12 JUNE**

The Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP), in conjunction with UBM Allworld, will be running the inaugural Global Packaging Forum on the 12th of June @ ProPak Asia 2019.

21 speakers will be heading to Thailand from 12 countries to discuss regional and global trends in Sustainable Packaging, Biodegradable and Compostable Packaging, 2025 Sustainable Packaging Targets, how the industry can help minimise Food Waste, Save Food Packaging Design, Regional and Global Trends in packaging, innovation, digital printing, robotics & automation and more. The speakers will come from both key global packaging associations, including a number of World Packaging Organisation (WPO) Members and leading international companies such as HP, Tetrapak, Sealed Air, Plantic Technologies and ABB. All of industry is invited to attend and tickets will be free. With limited places available for this event please register today

https://www.propakasia.com/ppka/2019/en/global packaging.asp

WHEN: 12 June WHERE: BITEC, Bangkok, Thailand



JUST SOME OF THE SPEAKERS:

Yoav Lotan Business Manager, Asia Pacific & Japan **HP** Indigo Labels





**Supanat Ratanadib** Marketing Director -Thailand Tetra Pak



THAILAND



Tom Egan Vice President, Industry Services PMMI

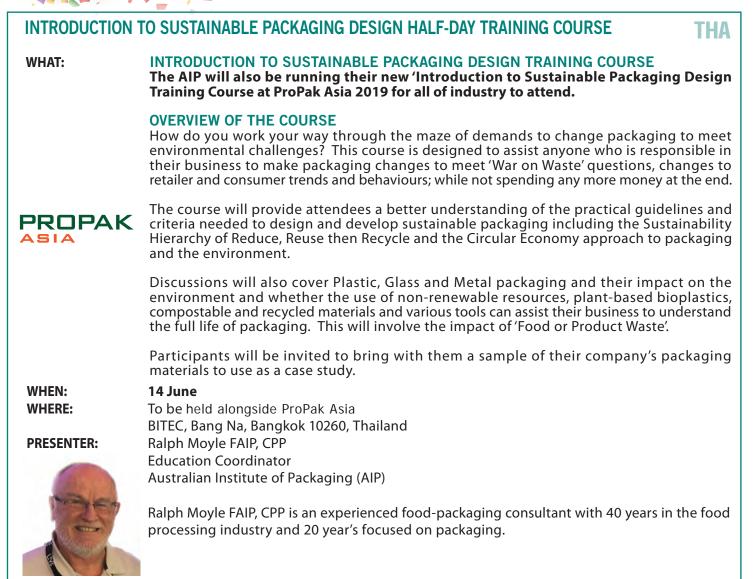




Surendra Soni Sector Marketing Director – Asia SealedAir Corporation







### Registrations are now open using http://aipack.com.au/event-registration/?ee=217

Known as Asia's number one packaging and processing exhibition ProPak Asia 2019 will be held from the 12 to 15th of June in Bangkok, Thailand. ProPak Asia has been serving the ASEAN Region for 27 years and is the regional hub for connecting packaging and processing manufacturers and suppliers. ProPak Asia 2019 will showcase over 20,000 products and solutions across 1900 exhibitors from 50 countries within 9 zones over 4 days. ProPak Asia is divided into nine targeted zones for visitors including ProcessingTechAsia, PackagingTechAsia, DrinkTechAsia, PharmaTechAsia, Lab&TestAsia, Materials Asia, Coding, Marking & Labelling Asia, Coldchain, Logistics & Warehousing Asia and Printech Asia.

### NEW MEMBERS

The AIP would like to welcome the following new Members.			
NAME	STATE	GRADE	
Manon Agrissais Randall Anthonisz Joshua Holmes Lea Maguero Poonam Patel Simon van Leuven	VIC VIC NSW NSW New Zealand VIC	Associate Member Associate Associate Member Associate	



AIP NOW ON TWITTER AIP@AIPACKAGING







### ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND ANY EVENTS ACROSS AUSTRALASIA

### 2019 FOODBANK WAREHOUSE VOLUNTEERING PROGRAM







# WHAT: The Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP) is pleased to advise that it will now also be working with Foodbank Victoria and their innovative Warehouse Volunteering Program.

### Hunger In Victoria. Hunger is a hidden crisis in Victoria and across Australia.

Foodbank Victoria believes every Victorian deserves healthy food, yet 1 in 10 don't know where their next meal is coming from and 1 in 7 Victorian children go to school hungry. Each month they source and distribute food to 134,000 Victorians who rely on their food assistance, including over 38,000 children. They collect surplus food from across Victoria, weigh it and sort it into orders, then distribute it among our community partners to feed hungry Victorians. Their total distribution during 2015-2016 was 10.4 million kilos – or over 18 million meals.

### SO HOW CAN THE AIP HELP FOODBANK VICTORIA?

Join our AIP Warehouse Volunteering Program; either as an individual, with your staff and colleagues, or even with your families. The AIP will work directly with Foodbank Victoria to book in some days where our volunteers can visit the Yarraville Warehouse and help pick and pack on-line orders and mixed grocery boxes. The day will start with a formal introduction on how Foodbank Victoria works and information on their charity partners.

### So how can YOU get involved?

The AIP Foodbank Warehouse Volunteering Program will provide you the opportunity to better understand how Foodbank works and will be a combination of picking and packing of on-line food orders and packing mixed grocery boxes. The on-line orders have been placed by many of the 470 charity partners who look after the thousands of Victorians currently experiencing food insecurity. The mixed groceries items are donated by school students, community groups, clubs and corporate organisations who run food drives to provide the ingredients for the food boxes. Their charity partners are able to order these boxes which they then pass on to those families or individuals who need that extra help with grocery items. Each volunteer would have the opportunity to work in both areas.

> WHEN: **Tuesday 2 July** WHERE: Yarraville, Victoria

WHEN: Tuesday 10 September WHERE: Yarraville, Victoria



### AIP NEWSLETTER JUNE 2019 9

NSW



### ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND ANY EVENTS ACROSS AUSTRALASIA

**2019 AIFST CONVENTION** 



### WHEN: 1-2 July

WHERE: Sydney International Convention CentreWHAT: Feeding the Future-challenges and opportunities

Join your industry colleagues to grow, learn and connect. The 2019 AIFST Convention will once again bring together an exciting, diverse and experienced line-up of international and local speakers to share their knowledge, insights and learnings about what the future holds for the food industry both here and beyond our shores.

The theme of Feeding the Future – challenges and opportunities is designed to encourage us to look to the future – what will the industry look like, what will consumers be looking for and, most importantly, how do we as food industry professionals provide for that?

The two-day Convention program features 70 speakers across 20 plenary and breakout sessions on the key topics of: • Food Safety

- Nutrition and Consumer Science
- Supporting the Future Industry
- o Education to build future capability
- o Food regulation
- o Humanitarian food science and technology o Sustainable food packaging
- 'What are you doing about?' covering topics such as traceability, food waste and the future of protein

The technical program will be complimented by 20+ exhibitors and networking events such as the Wine & Cheese night and Young Professionals in Food & 2019 National Mentoring Networking Breakfast. AIFST will recognise the commitment and excellence of its members at the annual awards ceremony.

Register now and take advantage of the early bird rate

### COCA-COLA AMATIL SITE VISIT



WHAT: Attendees will have the opportunity to tour the largest VIC manufacturing facility located at Morrabbin which includes 6x packaging lines and Syrup Make-up area. The tour will also provide familiarisation of Moorabbin Manufacturing Operations system - Business Excellence LEAN program.

WHEN:3 JulyWHERE:Spotswood

### Spotswood, Victoria

# INTRODUCTION TO SUSTAINABLE NZ PACKAGING DESIGN HALF-DAY TRAINING

### **BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND**

WHEN:	17 July
WHERE:	Visy Recycling New Zealand
	29 Victoria Street, Onehunga, Auckland
PRESENTER:	Ralph Moyle FAIP, CPP
	Education Coordinator
	Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP)







### FUTURE FOR SOFT PLASTICS TECHNICAL SEMINAR

### NSW

WHAT:

The Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP) will be running a technical seminar in New South Wales to discuss the Future of Soft Plastics. The AIP, along with their many industry members, are concerned about current discussions and challenges directed at 'single use plastic' packaging and this seminar will help to guide you and your teams to better understand the current and true state-of-play with Soft Plastics in Australia. Discussions will include understanding the issues surrounding Soft Plastics and the important benefits this packaging format brings (food safety, convenience and reducing food waste). Our speakers will provide insights into some of the excellent initiatives that are already underway in the country to effectively recycle this packaging format.

12 July WHEN: Mercure Parramatta Hotel WHERE: **SPEAKERS INCLUDE:** 



Anthony Peyton MAIP Director **PREP** Design



**Caitlyn Richards Responsible Sourcing Manager** Sustainable Products and Packaging Coles



Peter Tamblyn Sales & Marketing Manager Asia Pacific Close the Loop



**Mark Jacobson** Marketing Director Replas



**Keith Chessell FAIP** AIP Board Member APCO

### FOODTECH QLD



WHEN: 28-30 July WHERE: BCEC, South Brisbane **AIP TO EXHIBIT ON STAND H16** 

**Popular Sustainable Packaging Training Course to** run alongside FoodTech QLD

The Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP), in conjunction with AIFST, will be running their popular 'Introduction to Sustainable Packaging Training' half-day training course as a part of FoodTech QLD on the 29th of July.

# INTRODUCTION TO SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING DESIGN HALF-DAY TRAINING

WHEN:	29 July
WHERE:	To be held alongside FoodTech QLD
	BCEC, South Brisbane
PRESENTER:	Ralph Moyle FAIP, CPP
	Education Coordinator
	Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP)

#### TOOLS TO HELP YOU MEET THE 2025 VIC+ NATIONAL PACKAGING TARGETS: PREP NSW & ARL HALF-DAY TRAINING COURSE + MATERIALS RECYCLING FACILITY VISIT

WHAT:



Is your business doing enough to ensure that 100% of your packaging is reusable, recyclable or compostable by 2025? Have you audited your current packaging for recyclability? Have you started using the Packaging Recyclability Evaluation Portal (PREP) during your design process? Are you looking for a way to validate your onpack recyclability labelling? If a consumer picked up your product, would they easily understand which bin to put it in? Are you shifting your packaging design to incorporate the Australasian Recycling Label (ARL)? If you answered no to any of these questions, then this training course is for you. VIC: 24 July

WHEN:

WHERE:



LIMITED PLACES NSW: 7 August Smithfield NSW **AVAILABLE** Ralph Moyle FAIP, CPP **Education Coordinator** Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP)



# 102ND WORLD PACKAGING ORGANISATION BOARD MEETING





s the ANZ Board Member for the World Packaging Organisation (WPO) I recently attended the 102nd Board Meeting, WPO committee meetings and the 2019 WorldStar Packaging Awards which were hosted by Syba in Prague, Czech Republic.

The first day of meetings are committee meetings which are divided into Education, Marketing and Sustainability. The AIP sits on two committees 1. Sustainability and 2. Education as the Institute takes an active role in both of these initiatives in Australasia and globally.

### SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

During the Sustainability committee meeting the AIP were able to present an updated report on our Fight Food Waste CRC Save Food Packaging Consortium project and how Australia is going with the 2025 National Packaging targets. What came out of the 2025 National Packaging report discussion was that there is not one collective model anywhere around the world that anyone is working to.

Every country, region, state, province across the globe is following a slightly different model or program to meet the targets the best way possible based on their systems and facilities.

Within the report was an overview of the Australasian Recycling Label Program and the PREP tool and how they were both developed under a collaborative approach by all stakeholders across the entire supply chain.

This collaborative approach by Australia and New Zealand' was received with positive interest and even some intrigue as many of the countries sitting in the room simply adhere to Government decisions and regulations and are not a part of the lead-in discussions. I also discussed our Soft Plastics programs and this also created discussions about our programs vs other countries. A number of attendees were interested in finding out more about this program and for the AIP to provide updates on the rollout.





**102ND WORLD PACKAGING ORGANISATION BOARD MEETING** 



This then brought the discussion around to 'what is your country definition of recycling' and it became apparent that the answer varies across the world based on the government, regulations and systems in place. Sitting in a room of predominantly European packaging associations what struck me was some countries are establishing stringent levy's and taxable regulations and policies to meet their targets whereas other countries are still incinerating and dumping into landfill or offshoring their waste.

I soon realised that we are a long way from developing a global and collective model for recycling. I did however feel positive that every packaging association across the WPO is actively participating in the conversation and establishing programs and changes wherever possible. The World Packaging Organisation provides the AIP with an opportunity to hear about other programs and initiatives in this space and learn from them wherever possible.

I look forward to attending the next meeting and providing a report on the roll out of our new Lifecycle Assessment Tools training course, the outcomes from the Soft Plastics seminars and the new 'Tools to help you meet the 2025 National Packaging targets' training course.

# SAVE FOOD PACKAGING DESIGN GUIDELINES PROJECT

The AIP also presented a report on the Fight Food Waste CRC and our new project to develop the Save Food Packaging Design Guidelines. The overarching Fight Food Waste CRC initiative was very well received in the meeting and I look forward to reporting back on all of the three programs – Reduce, Transform and Engage in future meetings.

There was also some discussion about the presumption that all of our brand owners are already working to Save Food Packaging guidelines which was a key takeaway for me from this meeting. Here in Australia and New Zealand Save Food Packaging Design is a new topic and when you see how limited the entries are in our PIDA awards in this special category compared to other categories we have a long way to go before this becomes a norm for packaging technologists and designers.

I would encourage everyone reading this to start entering our Save Food Packaging Design special awards as it is extremely important to be able to show the rest of the world what packaging innovations ANZ are developing in this area.

### WPO EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

As the AIP are assisting the IoPP and the WPO with the global rollout of the Certified Packaging Professional designation I presented a report that provided an update of which countries are currently working to launch the program and who else has expressed interest in the program. It gives me great pleasure in advising that Nigeria are about to launch the program this month, with South Africa and Brazil very close.

Other countries that are looking at the CPP program include Singapore, Indonesia and Turkey. To elevate the global recognition of Packaging Professionals it is critical that more countries roll out the program under the WPO umbrella. This is an exciting start to a very worthwhile and credible program and I urge all of you to consider applying for the CPP designation so that we can elevate the profession globally.





# **102ND WORLD PACKAGING ORGANISATION BOARD MEETING**





### **WPO BOARD MEETING**

Attending the 102nd Board Meeting in Europe brings a totally different group of member countries to the table and it was wonderful to meet a number of packaging organisations from across Europe that I had never met before.

The Board meeting was a long and intense day of reports and discussions covering everything from Sustainability to Food Waste to education and training to WorldStar Awards and other initiatives that the WPO are working on across the globe.

My takeaways from the board meeting were the development of the ArabStar awards program for the middle east, the WorldStar student awards program and the UNIDO partnership that has been established with the WPO.

A key objective of the WPO is to ensure that all countries have the same access to packaging education and training as developed countries and the education schedule that is currently underway is achieving this goal. I believe that it is the responsibility of developed countries like Australia and New Zealand to help our neighbours and other countries with their packaging education and training needs wherever possible. The work that the AIP is undertaking in the Philippines, Thailand and the ASEAN region is crucial to upskilling all packaging professionals across the globe.

I look forward to hearing more about the UNIDO partnership and providing reports back to the AIP Members as well.

### NEW ZEALAND NOW OFFICIALLY RECOGNISED IN WPO

Another successful outcome was the board ratifying that the AIP can formally represent our New Zealand members under the Institute's membership to the WPO. Whilst only a formality, it was important to the AIP that we represent both Australia and New Zealand in the WPO as we do with membership, events, education and training programs and the PIDA Awards. This now means that New Zealand will have its own flag at all WorldStar Packaging Awards ceremonies, which is great news for all our New Zealand PIDA Award winners.





## WPO BOARD VISITS THIMM FACILITIES





### **THIMM SITE VISIT**

Thanks to Syba the WPO Board Members were able to have a private tour of Thimm's manufacturing facilities. Established in 1949, THIMM is a leading solutions provider for the packaging and distribution of goods. Its solutions portfolio includes corrugated cardboard transportation and sales packaging, high-quality promotional displays, packaging systems combining a range of materials as well as packaging-related services.

THIMM Group currently has 3,035 employees, 120 of them apprentices and has achieved a sales volume to the amount of 601 million Euro in 2017 at 19 locations in Germany, Poland, Romania, the Czech Republic and Mexico. They offer tailored packaging solutions and custom solutions for the packaging-related elements in your value chain.

Thimm pack'n' display is the new brand offering the best solution for the packaging and display of merchandise. With customised packaging, individual display concepts of corrugated cardboard and the most modern digital printing technology, they develop the best solution for your products and design your brand presence to be unique and future oriented. This was evident in the customised boxes of Czech beer that they presented each of the attendees. I can attest that my box travelled safely home and will be well-taken care of.





# WPO BOARD VISITS THIMM FACILITIES





What struck me about the tour was the effort that the Thimm staff made to make us feel welcome and to ask our thoughts on their facility. Whilst the majority of attendees have of course had the opportunity in their own countries to tour corrugate and carton board manufacturing plants, we all walked away extremely impressed.

Their facilities and staff were first-rate, their custom digital printing range is world-class, and their staff were extremely knowledgeable. After seeing their facilities, it is now understandable why they have so many WorldStar Packaging Award trophies on display. Thimm are most certainly an innovative company. Thank you to all of the staff for running such a fantastic tour for the WPO.

A huge thank you must also be extended to the host association as without them the week would not be possible. In this case the acknowledgement must go to Syba and in particular Vlado Volek and Katerina Kolarova who went out of their way to make the week wonderful.

I look forward to reporting back again after the 103rd WPO Board Meeting.

Nerida Kelton MAIP ANZ Board Member - WPO





### SOFT PLASTICS IN AUSTRALIA, WHAT'S THE STATE OF PLAY?



he large attendance at the recent Future of Soft Plastic in Australia technical meeting run by AIP and SPE, reflected the industry's concern about current discussions and challenges directed against 'single use plastic' packaging, not only in Australia but globally.

The technical dinner, which drew a crowd 120-strong, focused on soft plastics and the current recycling projects and programmes underway. The evening, jointly presented by the Australian Institute of Packaging and Society of Plastics Engineers, aimed to challenge the industry to be more involved in promoting a better understanding of the benefits and opportunities for soft plastics.

Speakers included: Fiona Baxter, Coles Group Manager Responsible Sourcing, Coles; Peter Tamblyn, sales and marketing manager Asia Pacific, Close the Loop; Mark Jacobson, marketing director, Replas; Elizabeth Kasell, director of development, REDCycle; and Anthony Peyton MAIP, director, PREP Design.

Keith Chessell FAIP, AIP Board member, APCO facilitated the evening.

"It was encouraging to hear from Fiona Baxter (Coles) of the retailer's view of the importance of soft plastics for food handling, food safety, allergen containment, improved freshness and shelf-life, reduction if food waste and consumer convenience," Keith Chessell told PKN. "Coles involvement with REDcycle over many years has provided a very effective method for its customers to recycle soft plastics. The concern for Coles with 'singl- use plastic' is to remove/replace a range small single plastic items such as plates, utensils, straws, flossing sticks, tags off clothing, broken plastic pieces, bread bag tags, to name just a few."

Anthony Peyton from PREP Design assisted the group to understand the helpful information available with APCO's Prep tool in designing soft plastic that will /can be recycled effectively through the REDcycle program.

Carol Kilcullen-Lawrence, AIP National President, says: "I was intrigued to hear from Anthony Peyton about a new scheme - Roll'n'Recycle- that has been designed to allow single polymer stand-up pouches to be rolled up once discarded to become a 3D package that can be readily sorted in our existing Material Recovery Facilities. It will be rewarding to see brands adopt this label."

Liz Kasell (RED Group), Mark Jacobson (Replas) and Peter Tamblyn (Close the Loop) outlined the great initiative that has been undertaken with the recycling of soft plastics into useful items and the 2018 development of resurfacing over 100km of roads.

Close the Loop, partnering with the Downer Group, has made a totally new, innovative road surface. It lasts 65 per cent longer and is infinitely recyclable. To maintain a road they simply scrape it off, reprocess it, and lay it down again. Interestingly, when the road is hot the surface hardens unlike regular asphalt that melts.

And here's a great recycling fact: a kilometre of road (two lanes) contains approximately half-a-million recycled soft plastic bag equivalents, one hundred and sixty eight thousand glass bottles and twelve and half thousand tonnes of high grade polymer from toner cartridges.

The meeting was such a resounding success, the AIP has since announced it will be running a similar forum in Sydney on 17 July.



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# **AIP COMMEMORATION OF 40 YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP**





he AIP Board would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Robin Tuckerman FAIP, Mike Hubbert and Bob McFadyen for all receiving their 40 years of Membership to the Institute.

Our National President, Dr Carol Kilcullen-Lawrence was able to present all three commemorations over the last month. It is thanks to Members like these three that the Institute has been successful for 56 years.

# FOOD & BEVERAGE PROCESSING NEW PROJECT TO REVIEW QUALIFICATIONS



hese days people want to know exactly where their food comes from, how it's packaged and what's in it. In response, the food and beverage processing industry is adopting innovations to improve traceability, control contaminants, and further automate processes.

As a result of these changes and more, some of the most used qualifications in food and beverage processing are now in need of updating, to make sure training matches with current requirements for skills, knowledge and practices.

Do you work in food and beverage processing? This is your opportunity to have your say on the skills needs of your industry.

As part of the initial project planning process, advice is sought on the review of the Certificate I, II and III in Food Processing and Certificate II and III in Food Processing (Sales) and the units of competency within them.

https://www.skillsimpact.com.au/food-beverage-and-pharmaceutical/training-package-projects/food-beverage-processing-project/?



# Creating new lines in Manufacturing

Featuring the latest advancements in food and drink manufacturing, FoodTech 2019 is proud to support and showcase Queensland's appetite for innovation within the food industry.

**28–30 July 2019** Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre

foodtechqld.com.au

# A TARGETED SHIFT TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING

Words by Nerida Kelton



n September 2018 Australia's 2025 National Packaging Targets were announced at a milestone industry event convened by the Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation (APCO). These targets build on commitments made on 27 April 2018 by Commonwealth, state and territory environment ministers and the President of the Australian Local Government Association to set a sustainable path for Australia's recyclable waste.

The 2025 National Packaging Targets are:

- 100% of all Australia's packaging will be reusable, recyclable or compostable by 2025 or earlier.
- 70% of Australia's plastic packaging will be recycled or composted by 2025.
- 30% average recycled content will be included across all packaging by 2025.
- Problematic and unnecessary

single-use plastic packaging will be phased out through design, innovation or introduction of alternatives.

With 2025 only six years away now is the time for businesses to stop and re-evaluate current packaging designs and formats and develop a structured plan to ensure that all packaging adheres to the sustainable targets.

As the peak professional body for packaging education and training in Australasia the Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP) is often asked to provide a list of the exact substrates and materials that should be selected for every product on the market to meet the sustainable packaging targets. The answer unfortunately is never that simple. When re-designing packaging, businesses need to make sure that teams are fully-informed and able to truly measure the reasons behind decisions made. It's recommended that businesses gather as much data as possible to be able to manage all expectations across a business and supply chain.

AIP often reminds packaging technologists and designers that the true role of packaging is its functionality. First and foremost, packaging is designed to ensure that a product is protected all the way across the supply chain until it is purchased by the consumer. This includes the vital role that packaging plays in ensuring the health and safety of products and consumers, that product waste is kept to a minimum and the efficiency of the packaging in withstanding the rigors of transport.

The functionality of packaging cannot be ignored when re-designing packaging to meet the Sustainability targets. 'Sustainable Packaging', in the simplest of terms, is packaging that performs the primary role of functionality but is also designed with

THIS ARTICLE WAS REPRODUCED WITH PERMISSION FROM FOOD AUSTRALIA www.foodaustralia.com.au the lowest possible environmental impact when compared to an existing or conventional pack. Finding the balance between functionality, commercial reality, consumer demands, and environmental criteria is the real challenge.

### **Existing Packaging**

For existing packaging businesses need to question what is the purpose of the packaging currently being used. They then need to re-evaluate whether the packaging can be improved and altered to either be reduced, reused or recycled. Businesses should challenge their design process and start incorporating the 2025 targets in all packaging decisions, for example redesigning on-pack communication to demonstrate the changes and enable customers to better understand what is being done to adhere to the 2025 targets. When reviewing conventional packaging businesses should look at whether the materials currently being using are right for Sustainable Packaging and consider alternatives.

### **New Product Development**

For all New Product Development (NPD), incorporating Sustainable Packaging Design from the beginning will be a much easier process and this should ultimately become a fundamental part of packaging design. NPD is the perfect time to focus on the number one waste management hierarchy item of REDUCE. Businesses should look at what they can do to reduce packaging before it is even designed and manufactured, whether they're doing everything in their power to reduce as much packaging as possible from primary, secondary and tertiary products.

# Lifecycle Assessment Tools and Lifecycle Thinking

Incorporating Lifecycle Assessment (LCA) Tools into NPD process should be a consideration as LCA quantifies the environmental burdens associated with a product over its entire lifecycle, from production of the raw material to disposal at End-of-Life (as defined by INCPEN). Using LCA tools provides insight and better understanding of how to include Lifecycle Thinking into packaging design processes and will help achieve the 2025 targets. Lifecycle Thinking also enables businesses to determine whether changes will have a greater or lesser environmental impact on other parts of their supply chain for example within transport, storage or disposal.

### Understanding Recycling Facility Capabilities

AIP also recommends that businesses look at the End of Life (EoL) of their product, or the expected disposal options for packaging when the consumer has removed the product. APCO has developed the Packaging Recyclability Evaluation Portal (PREP), which provides information to ensure that businesses are selecting the most appropriate packaging substrates that will actually be able to be reused, recycled or repurposed. The PREP tool is the starting point for the application of the new Australasian Recycle Label (ARL), which provides helpful and consistent on-pack information to the consumer on correctly disposing of the packaging items.

All manufacturers and their packaging teams have a responsibility to better understand the current recycling facilities and capabilities in this country, and those into which businesses may export products, and ensure that packaging is able to be sorted and processed through these systems.

A useful exercise is to take designers, marketers and agencies to local Material Recycling Facilities (MRF) to see what happens to the packaging collected at kerbside. Manufacturers can also arrange with suppliers to visit paper, glass or plastics recycling facilities or review the RED Cycle program for soft plastics to really get a true view of what happens to packaging at the End-of-Life.



### Auditing Supply Chain Partners

It's possible a business might manufacture a new product with primary packaging that has been re-designed to meet the sustainable packaging targets only to find out Supply Chain partners are incorporating non-recyclable materials in secondary and tertiary packaging. AIP urges businesses to review and audit their entire packaging supply chains and investigate whether partners are working towards the same 2025 targets and if not, ask why?

There are so many more decision points that need to be discussed when re-designing packaging to meet the 2025 Sustainable targets than those covered here. A recommended starting point is to contact the Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation (APCO) who are tasked by the Federal Government to ensure that the targets are achieved. APCO have developed information tools, checklists and guidelines on the sustainable packaging process and can help businesses optimise packaging to make more efficient use of resources and reduce environmental impact without compromising product quality and safety. Ultimately the goal is to achieve optimal outcomes for packaging functionality and to collectively meet the new 2025 National Packaging Targets.

Nerida Kelton MAIP is executive director of the Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP) and ANZ Board Member of the World Packaging Organisation (WPO).

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### **OPEN TO EVERYONE**

Many brands and packagers don't consider accessibility when designing their packaging – but that's a big mistake, said experts.

Alexandra Brayshaw, accessible packaging researcher at Arthritis Australia, told guests that with four million Australians suffering from arthritis, and the ageing baby boomers holding more than half of the nation's wealth, FMCG packaging has to keep up with these consumers' needs.

"Accessibility is about designing your product for a diverse set of consumers and what their abilities are," she said.

Brayshaw cited figures showing 65 per cent of consumers have to wait for someone to open packaging for them, and 92 per cent have split or damaged a product when opening it. The convenience of accessible packaging will reduce "wrap rage", injury, and waste – and if consumers can't open your product, they'll go to your competitors instead, she warned.

As gloves developed by Georgia Tech to simulate arthritis circulated through the crowd, Blair Keating, head of innovation at SPC, took the stage to outline how the company's Pro Vital fruit cup was made more accessible to disabled consumers through features such as easier grip, a clearly visible opening method, a seal that required less tear strength to open, a large textured tab that was simple to pull, and instructions printed in large font.

"There is no single solution for accessible packaging," he said, adding that it's important to engage with prospective users and prototype often based on their feedback.

# Forum faces the future

Innovation and sustainability were major themes at the 2019 AIP Packaging Technical Forum, which was held in a packed room at Sydney's Sofitel Wentworth on 30 April. PKN's Jake Nelson has a wrap-up of the day's discussions.

**HEMED** around "Packaging Innovation and Design", the 2019 AIP Packaging Technical Forum attracted domestic and international guests to the Sofitel Wentworth hotel in Sydney to discuss the trends shaping packaging design.

Speaking to a full house, experts held court on topics ranging from the 2025 National Packaging Targets, to making packaging more accessible to the disabled, to innovative design solutions, to fighting food waste.

Nerida Kelton, executive director of the AIP, said the institute was pleased with how the day turned out.

"Starting with the co-partnered Women in Packaging breakfast (see page 16), then running the new-model AIP Packaging Technical Forum and into our 2019 Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design Awards gala dinner in the evening, the day was a great opportunity to learn about current trends and challenges the industry is facing and offered a unique way to network with like-minded packaging technologists.

"Attendees were able to learn from outstanding speakers, network, and make new connections," she said.

In her keynote address, Libby Costin, vice president of marketing for Asia at

Tetra Pak, outlined two themes that would be key focal points for the forum: technology and sustainability.

"The speed and pace of technology change is impacting everything in the world," she said, adding: "Companies are becoming really specific about the content of their packaging – it's going to be more renewable, more sustainable, and so on."

### **TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION**

Smart packaging was a highlight of Costin's presentation, with the figures showing plenty of interest in solutions such as digital print, QR coding, RFID, and holograms – 89 per cent of Chinese consumers, according to a study she

**Companies** are becoming really specific about the content of their packaging – it's going to be more renewable, more sustainable, and so on."

– Libby Costin, Tetra Pak

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AIP NEWSLETTER JUNE 2019 23

Caps and Closures, for a panel on awardwinning packaging innovations.

According to Wilson-Smith, you don't need a big budget to innovate – you should focus on the minimum viable product, making it quick, cheap, and easy to pivot.

"Statistically, you're going to fail," she said, and stressed that starting small will allow you to iterate and make changes as swiftly as possible.

In her presentation on the packaging design for Arnott's new Simple Batch biscuit range, Vernalls told guests to prototype early and often; understand and re-purpose existing assets; and not forget to examine shelf standout.

"What looks good in your hand can get lost on the shelf," she said.

### PACKING FOR A BETTER WORLD

What's good for the planet is good for business – that was one takeaway woven through a number of presentations. Costin

MAIN: Nerida Kelton, AIP executive director announces the AIP's lead on the Fight Food Waste CRC project, while (from left) partner representatives look on: Keith Chessell (APCO), David Kilpatrick (ZipForm Packaging); Alan Adams (Sealed Air), Michael Dossor (Result Packaging) and Karli Verghese (RMIT).

ABOVE: Nicole Mahler has enjoyed start-up success with Delicious Foods, producer of plant-based ready meals in pouches.

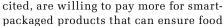
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safety and authenticity. "There's a lot of activity in this space, and it's just going to continue to take off," she said.

E-commerce is creating a "whole new role" for packaging as well, according to Costin, with online shoppers reshaping how packagers are thinking about their products: they now need to display well online, be robust enough to survive delivery, and provide an enjoyable unwrapping experience, she said, citing the popularity of 'unboxing' videos and the publicity they bring.

Costin then joined Liza Vernalls, director of packaging development at Campbell Arnott's; Jacqui Wilson-Smith, global head of marketing and innovation at McCormick; Nicole Ohm, senior marketing manager at Brownes Dairy; and Michael Van Dord, technical and design engineer at

May-June 2019 www.packagingnews.com.au







### SAVE FOOD, SAVE THE PLANET

Fighting food waste is a key area where packaging can show off its sustainability credentials, guests learned.

The National Food Waste Strategy aims to halve food waste in Australia by 2030. The problem of wasted food is a significant one, said Sam Oakden, manager of food sustainability at Food Innovation Australia Limited (FIAL): every year, 4.4 gigatonnes of greenhouse gases are emitted due to food waste.

"If food waste and loss were a country, it would be the third largest emitter of greenhouse gases," he said.

An estimated \$1.6 trillion worth of food is wasted worldwide every year, and packaging can play a key role in extending shelf life to prevent loss.

Gilad Sadan, managing director of NAVI, pointed out as part of a panel discussion with Alan Adams, sustainability, retail and market director of Sealed Air Food Care; Shannon Doherty, director of special products at Planet Protector; Karli Verghese, Reduce program leader at the Fight Food Waste CRC; and Michael Dossor, MD of Result Group, that customers won't buy products again that they had to throw out the first time.

"If the technology to extend shelf life is implemented and the consumer has a better experience, they're more likely to come back and purchase that product again," said Sadan.

Shelf life also has meaningful impact for supermarkets, which are more likely to stock food items that they won't have to throw out for a while, Adams said; he also suggested that portioning via packaging design could help customers avoid disposing of food.

"Portioning is a great solution to aiding with reducing food waste in the home," he said, but cautioned packagers not to use too much material and thus be accused of overpackaging.

The AIP has partnered with the Fight Food Waste CRC to launch the Save Food Packaging Criteria and Framework 1.2.1 project, which aims to develop design criteria and communication material for packaging that will reduce food waste, focusing initially on Australia and New Zealand before looking overseas through the World Packaging Organisation (WPO).

"The AIP has a goal to create a global standard for all Save Food Packaging design and that the criteria and guidelines are embedded in all NPD processes," said Nerida Kelton, executive director of the AIP, who announced the partnership at the forum.





pointed out that, for example, Unilever's "Sustainable Living" brands grow more than 50 per cent faster than the rest of the business, and delivered in excess of 60 per cent of the company's growth in 2016.

Consumers are increasingly demanding companies adopt ethical and sustainable business practices, with 91 per cent surveyed saying they thought businesses should be responsible, not just try to turn a profit. Key brands are, in turn, implementing ambitious sustainability agendas.

McCormick, one of the world's leading suppliers of herbs and spices, is among them, and Wilson-Smith talked guests through the company's sustainability programme. This includes reducing its carbon footprint by 25 per cent, and switching to 100 per cent reusable, recyclable, or repurposable packaging, by 2025.

McCormick has already been ranked the 13th most sustainable company in the world – first in the food category – and Wilson-Smith told guests she was excited about aligning the company's environmental goals with its commercial goals. "I don't want to be just customer-led, I want to be environmentally-led, and I'm excited about the power we can have in influencing customers positively for change," she said.

On a panel with Marlene Cronje-Vermeulen, packaging technologist at Lion; Simon Van Leuven, Australian director at Vanden Recycling; and Karunia Adhiputra, packaging technologist at Nestlé, Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation CEO Brooke Donnelly said the issue of plastic pollution has the potential to be bigger than climate change.

"You can't fix it by fixing one part – you have to fix the entire system," she said.

Donnelly was not impressed with the estimated 30 per cent of companies who are not yet pulling their weight to meet the national targets.

"After twenty years [since the Covenant was implemented], if you're not working [towards sustainability], you should go and do something about that right now, because you're holding everyone else back," she said. ■

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- 1. (I-r) Libby Costin, Michael Van Dord, Jacqui Wilson-Smith, Nicole Ohm, and Liza Vernalls discuss packaging innovation and design.
- 2. (I-r) Gilad Sadan, Michael Dossor, Shannon Doherty, Alan Adams, and Karli Verghese present a panel on save food packaging at the forum.
- 3. A full house at the Women in Packaging breakfast forum (see our story page 16).
- 4. (I-r) Brooke Donnelly, Karunia Adhiputra, Marlene Cronje-Vermeulen, Simon Van Leuven, and Ralph Moyle speak in a panel on sustainable packaging.
- 5. Blair Keating, SPC, speaks on developing accessible packaging.
- 6. Liza Vernalls of Campbell Arnott's walks guests through the packaging design of the new Simple Batch biscuit range.



### **SOUND BITES**

"Consumers today expect sustainable and responsible practices from companies and from themselves."

– LIBBY COSTIN, TETRA PAK

"People think that the greatest innovation needs brand new technology, but you can often repurpose what you have if you think outside the box."

- LIZA VERNALLS, CAMPBELL ARNOTT'S

"What consumers say they're going to do, and what they actually do at point of purchase, are not necessarily the same thing." – NICOLE OHM, BROWNES DAIRY

"We're in positions of influence, and we can help carve out a better world. Packaging can help do that."

- JACQUI WILSON-SMITH, MCCORMICK

"Developing renewable materials is an important part of the circular economy." – KEITH CHESSELL, AIP

"You have to have been living under a rock to not know about the growth of the plant-based food market."

- NICOLE MAHLER, DELICIOUS FOODS

"Consumers don't see the value of packaging."

– KARLI VERGHESE, FIGHT FOOD WASTE CRC

"2025 is a great big, hairy, audacious goal, and don't we all love them?" – BROOKE DONNELLY, APCO

"If your glass is blocking light, you won't recycle it right."

– KARUNIA ADHIPUTRA, NESTLÉ

"What we call a carton is not necessarily what the consumer would call a carton – they would just call it a box." – MARLENE CRONJE-VERMEULEN, LION

"If we can't recycle, we can reuse." – APOORV MEHROTRA, OJI FIBRE SOLUTIONS



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AIP NEWSLETTER JUNE 2019 25



# Top night for top achievers

At a gala event in Sydney, Australasia's peak packaging awards programme – the Packaging Innovation and Design Awards – announced the company and individual winners across eleven categories, which represent the cream of the crop in packaging design innovation and industry contribution for 2019.

**OME** 200 packaging industry professionals gathered at the Sofitel Wentworth last month to celebrate the award winners in this year's Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design Awards (PIDAs), which recognise companies and individuals making a significant difference in their field across Australia and New Zealand.

The PIDAs, which are co-ordinated by the Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP) and Packaging New Zealand, are the exclusive feeder program for the prestigious WorldStar Packaging Awards. The 2019 PIDA winners will automatically be eligible for entry into the 2020 WorldStar awards competition.

#### AND THE WINNERS IN THE MAIN SECTOR CATEGORIES ARE...

#### **BEVERAGE CATEGORY**

The Beverage category recognises organisations that have designed innovative processing materials and packaging for liquid or dry tea, coffee, water and soft drinks including wine, beer and spirits.

**GOLD WINNER: PACT Group** for the New Zealand brand Lewis Road Creamery post-consumer sourced PCR, 100 per cent recycled rPET milk bottle range. The rPET bottles and simple label design stand out on shelf as they are based on old-style glass milk bottles. This has enabled the boutique brand to achieve a nostalgic feel and a new level of authenticity. The rPET bottles have a sturdy glass-like premium-feel that captures the brand's history and credentials. This is the first Australasian milk producer to change to 100 per cent rPET that is also 100 per cent recyclable.

Collecting the award, Lucy Sorensen of Lewis Road Creamery said, "This was a really big project for our relatively small, 20 person team in NZ. It's the first 100 per cent recycled PET, and recyclable, bottle on the market in this category, we are really proud to have done that." This product went on to win a second award, in the Sustainability – Circular Economy Category.



SILVER WINNER: Stay Tray for the reusable drink tray that is designed with 100 per cent recycled material sourced from Australian businesses to reduce single use. BRONZE WINNER: Moonuka Milk Limited for the world's first Milk and Manuka Honey beverage designed in New Zealand in an old-fashioned Aseptic PET milk bottle with a removable PET shrink sleeve.

### **FOOD CATEGORY**

The Food category recognises organisations that have designed innovative food packaging and processing materials for fresh, frozen or other categories.

**GOLD WINNER:** Danone ELN NZ Supply Point for its sachet multipack for both Aptamil and Karicare Infant Formula ranges for sale in Australia and New Zealand. The packaging format had to meet the consumer expectations of being easy-to-open (no tools to assist opening such as scissors), easy-to-pour (must have a pour opening that will fit inside a baby bottle) and easyto-carry around in a handbag or baby bag. Danone also designed its own sealing jaw



that was manufactured locally and incorporates a cutting forme that allows for perforations to be formed in the modified sealing area. This enables easy opening by the consumer without scissors (an ANZ first). On receiving the award, Danone's representative said: "When we first started this project two years ago we had no capex and had to use existing equipment. The design of sealing jaws was of paramount importance, we had to focus on the spout, and reduce surface area. Our next challenge is to make the triple-layer film sustainable by 2025."

SILVER WINNER: Don KRC, a Division of George Weston Foods, for its Just Add Don convenient stand-up pouch.

**BRONZE WINNER: OJI Fibre Solutions** for RJ's Licorice open top & open front Shelf Friendly Packaging.

#### **HEALTH, BEAUTY & WELLNESS**

The Health, Beauty & Wellness category recognises organisations that have designed innovative processing materials and packaging within cosmetics, toiletries, personal hygiene, supplements, vitamins, perfumes, hair body and oral care.

**GOLD WINNER: Impact International** for the Sarah, Craig and Margorie 100 per cent recycled PE and sugar cane PE tubes. The

> Craig tube can also be offered as a five-layer EVOH tube, which helps improve product shelf life by increasing the oxygen barrier properties of the tube.

These tubes are designed to be environmentally-friendly, improve packaging functionality, utilise smart technologies and also provide protec-

MAIN: Lucy Sorensen from Lewis Road Creamery accepts the 2019 PIDA Gold Award in the Beverage Category.



tion to the brand owner against counterfeit products. By scanning the QR code on the Sarah and Margorie tubes, you will be redirected to the Impact website, which

> explains what makes each tube unique.

Aleks Lajovic, managing director, received the award and said: "This tube has multiple [sustainability] attributes including QR coding that enables complete traceability. A big shout to the team, we pulled our factory apart three years ago and as part of the upgrade, installed a solar farm. We now have a large TV in our reception which shows how much energy we are using, how many kilos CO2 we are emitting daily and we have dropped by 1400kg a day, every day."

SILVER WINNER: PACT Group for the New Zealand's Mix Ltd Essano brand post-consumer sourced (PCR) 100% recycled rPET shampoo bottle range.

**BRONZE WINNER: OJI Fibre Solutions** for EcoStore gift packs.

### SUSTAINABILITY ATTRACTS RECORD NUMBER OF ENTRIES

The Sustainable Packaging Design Award is a special category in the PIDAs and this year had the highest number of submissions, with winners awarded in two categories.

Due to the overwhelming number of entries to this category and the difference in styles of packaging entered, the award winners were separated into two subset categories: Circular Economy and Materials. The gold winners for each category were awarded a custom EcodEX packaging environmental assessment valued at \$10,000 sponsored by Empauer.

#### **CIRCULAR ECONOMY GOLD WINNER:**

**PACT Group** for the New Zealand brand Lewis Road Creamery post-consumer sourced PCR 100% recycled rPET milk bottle range. (See beverage category, facing page for more detail).

**CIRCULAR ECONOMY SPECIAL COMMENDATION: Detpak**, for the RecycleMe system.

#### MATERIALS GOLD WINNER: Punchbowl

Packaging for the Kaituna Blueberries peel-able, re-sealable, tamper-proof top seal fibre punnets (pictured above right). Punchbowl's design approach was to deliver a simple, practical and sustainable solution for customers, while ensuring a range of end-of-life options for the packaging. In designing this sustainable packaging format, Kaituna have been able to achieve a 10 per cent weight reduction compared with the standard 125 grams blueberries plastic labelled clamshell. The punnet is made from renewable unbleached wheat straw and is compostable in industrial compost systems. The punnet is also recyclable, with pulpability testing indicating a 95 per cent fibre yield result and Kaituna has developed reuse opportunities for the punnet as seedling plant pots.



**MATERIALS SILVER WINNER: Plantic Technol**ogies for the NEAT Meat Tray.

MATERIALS BRONZE WINNER: Impact International for the Craig, Sarah and Margorie tubes.

#### **MATERIALS SPECIAL COMMENDATION #1:**

**Woolworths** for replacing its previous black plastic non-recyclable plastic trays with a renewable sourced pulp/plant-based fibre.



MATERIALS SPECIAL COMMENDATION #2: Ranpak for their Thermal Paper Packaging Solution.

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### AIP NEWSLETTER JUNE 2019 27

AWARDS PIDA 2019

### **EASY-OPEN DESIGNS SHINE**

A new award for Accessible Packaging design was introduced to the 2019 Packaging Innovation & Design Awards Programme. SPC, Flavour Creations and Sealed Air were recognised for their breakthrough designs.

The award recognises 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 category is sponsored by Arthritis Australia and Arthritis New Zealand.

**GOLD WINNER: SPC Ardmona** for its SPC ProVital Easy-Open Diced Fruit in Jelly range that is designed for all consumers to open, including those with reduced fine motor skills, dexterity and strength. This design achieved an ISR +8 accessibility rating (i.e. the product is universally easy-to-open, with 95 per cent of the population able to open the pack without tools). The key design features of the ProVital pack is the textured and



lengthened pull tab, combined with the easy grip decagon cup shape and low opening force. Testing undertaken by SPC has shown that the majority of patients experienced no pain when opening the pack. The final aspect that set this entry apart was the presentation of all the key information on the packaging. The instructions were clear and helpful, and the required information was very easy to read, with the use of the appropriate font size and excellent print contrast.

SILVER WINNER: Flavour Creations for its pre-thickened Ready-To-Drink (RTD) range packaged in the new Dysphagia Cup and Cup Holder.

SPECIAL COMMENDATION: Moana New Zealand & Sealed Air for Cryovac Grip and Tear.

### **DOMESTIC & HOUSEHOLD**

The Domestic & Household category recognises companies that have designed innovative packaging and processing materials for products in the domestic and household, toy, stationery, gift, clothing, garden, decorating sectors.

**GOLD WINNER: Nulon Products Australia & Caps and Closures** for the Nulon EZY-SQUEEZE fluid transfer system which replaces the traditional rigid packaging with a flexible pouch and applicator that has made



accessing hard-to-reach fill points on a car quick and easy. According to Nulon, "As it's very hard to innovate due to regulations in the automotive industry, this was a really successful innovation. It had to be easy to get product from the pouch to the transmission box and engine. No-one has ever used flexible packaging before, we are the first. A big thanks to Caps & Closures." In response, Michael van Dord from Caps & Closures said: "The job was a great opportunity to develop innovation using our expertise. Projects like this demonstrate what our company and our industry is capable of."

**SILVER WINNER: OF Packaging** for the Kookaburra Worm Farms flat bottom bag with perforated side gussets.

#### LABELLING & DECORATION (NEW AWARD)

This category recognises the addition of content to a pack to create a unique or innovative appearance, function or communication. This may include labels, sleeves, tags, coding/markings, etching, directly applied inks or any other similar process.

**GOLD WINNER: Currie Group** for its new transformational printing technology for packaging that showcases high-end printing, finishing, coding, marking and AR technology driving awareness to The Australian Rhino Project (TARP).



Currie Group's Mark Daws said: "We wanted to push the boundaries and show how print can deliver the 'wow' factor and instigate action, using a combination of technologies. Thanks to the team at *PKN*, our marketing manager Matt Tangey and the other partners in the project, Birdstone and DreemAR. The result is inspiring us to continue to push the boundaries."

SILVER WINNER: Metalprint Australia for Chobani Australia Spooky Vanilla Ghost Shaped Pouch. ■

### GAME-CHANGING SAVE FOOD PACKAGING

With food waste one of the biggest sustainability challenges Australasia faces, the PIDA programme has set out to encourage design innovation in this area.

The Save Food Packaging Design Special Award, a sought-after accolade in the PIDA programme, recognises companies that have developed innovative and sustainable packaging solutions that minimise food losses and food waste.

The gold award winner gains automatic entry into the 2019 WorldStar Packaging Awards and wins a custom EcodEX packaging environmental assessment valued at \$10,000, sponsored by Empauer. GOLD WINNER: Hazeldene's Chicken Farm and Sealed Air for Cryovac Darfresh on Tray vacuum skin technology that has been engineered to address key challenges facing the world's food processing industry including food safety, shelf life

extension, operational efficiency and brand building. The pack can provide an increase in shelf life of 25 per cent over existing MAP applications. Food waste reduction is further facilitated by the fact that the packaging is easy-to-open as the tear tab



and peelable top film allows for easy product access. This means no knives and no product damage. The pack is also freezer-ready and the vacuum environment ensures no product dehydration. The

shelf life is visible and easy to find on the front of the pack, which makes meal planning for less waste easier.

**SILVER WINNER: Flavour Creations** for its pre-thickened Ready-To-Drink (RTD) range of packaging.





# Packaging's leading professionals recognised

One of the highlights of the PIDA awards evening is the announcement of the industry professional of the year award, which this year went to Joe Foster of OF Packaging.

**HE** 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 industry. The judges were looking for an individual who has demonstrated vision and leadership, shows innovation and who is not afraid to take risks.

This year's winner is Joe Foster, co-founder and director, OF Packaging. The audience heard that Joe Foster has had a passion for flexible packaging for most of his life and has run four businesses across four countries over the last forty years. Foster has spent the majority of his career working to not only understand flexible packaging at its core, but progress the possibilities of flexible plastics with a continued focus on packaging innovation.

The citation said: "Joe Foster's true legacy revolves around his resoundingly passionate attitude towards flexible packaging. Joe sees beyond what flexible packaging is, to what it can be, and hopes to create an evolved understanding of flexible packaging and the place it holds in society. His goal is to improve the relationship we have with flexible packaging and plastics, helping inspire new respect for packaging and improving consumer and waste behaviours along the way."

Another much-anticipated announcement was the 2019 Young Packaging Professional of the Year, which this year went to Karunia Adhiputra (Adhi), packaging technologist – Technical and Production, Nestlé Australia.

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 and seeking to continue their career path, within the packaging industry.

Adhi's citation read: "While Adhi has already achieved a significant number of things in his career the one that stands out is the development of the Australasian Recycling Label program tracker and generator for Nestlé. During the implementation and training of the ARL for Nestlé products, Adhi created an Excel tracker which captures all products across Australia and New Zealand to assist in the auditing requirement of APCO members. Adhi is now responsible for training all Nestlé packaging technologists in MAIN: Joe Foster acknowledges how honoured he is to be recognised with the Industry Professional of the Year Award.

BELOW: PIDA 2019 Young Packaging Professional of the Year: Karunia Adhiputra.

BELOW RIGHT: 2019 Packaging New Zealand Scholarship winner: Poonam Patel. both ARL and PREP tools, and he hopes that one day he will become a mentor to new packaging technologists and provide them with the skills required to become successful and valuable contributors to the packaging industry."

Also announced on the night was the winner of the **2019 Packaging New Zealand Scholarship**, which provides a packaging professional who is looking to further their education the opportunity to enrol in the Diploma in Packaging Technology valued at \$9000.

The 2019 winner is Poonam Patel, senior packaging technologist, Goodman Fielder. According to her citation, "Poonam believes that with a Diploma in Packaging Technology in hand she will have a strong platform to solidify her career path to specialise in the packaging field. Not only that, the knowledge gained from the Diploma will empower her to utilise her skills in teasing out ideas, risks and mitigations with a more focused and technical view.

"Using the knowledge she gains from this course, Poonam would like to turn theory into practice that is engaging, inspiring future generations with little awareness of this fascinating sector. For Poonam the journey doesn't just stop at creating and innovating. She recently read about the importance of women in the manufacturing environment and the part they actively play to grow the success of this sector.

"Her aspiration is to not only be a part of this movement but to advocate to the upcoming generation of women joining the work force on the viability of a career in packaging technology." ■



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