

NEWSLETTER

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Remarkable Moment from **AsiaStar Award 2023**

Presentation on 15th June, 2024 in Bangkok, THAILAND



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APF at ProPak Asia 2024 and the Global Packaging Forum

APF-UNIDO Round Table Meeting on Packaging



On 12th June 2024, APF President, Dr. Joseph Ross Jocson, attended the ProPak Asia 2024 Opening Ceremony at BITEC, Bangna, Bangkok, Thailand. He also spoke at the 2024 Global Packaging Forum during the session on the Global & Local Packaging State of Industry Update.

Ms. Nerida Kelton, Vice President of Sustainability & Save Food at the World Packaging Organization (WPO) and Executive Director at AIP and APF member, was a speaker in the same session, addressing the audience on relevant topics.



- Ms. May Yap, APF 3rd Vice President and representing Packaging Council of Singapore (PCS)
- Mr. Sunil Costa, APF Treasurer
- Dr. Pattra Maneesin, APF Secretary General
- Mr. Zhou Xingyu, China Packaging Federation (CPF)
- Mr. Tianhang Liu, China National Export Commodities Packaging Research Institute (CEPI)
- Dr. Jin Kie Shim, Korea Packaging Centre (KOPACK)
- Ms. Virginia Robledo, Packaging Institute of the Philippines (PIP)
- Ms. Ashlihan Arikan, ASD - Turkish Packaging Manufacturers Association
- Mr. Hari Noegroho, Indonesia Packaging Federation (IPF)
- Mr. Thusith Wijesinghe, Sri Lanka Institute of Packaging (SLIP)
- Ms. Nerida Kelton, Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP)

On 13th June 2024, at Amber 3 room, BITEC, Bangkok, Thailand, our esteemed APF members gathered to engage in a discourse centered on the imperative theme of "Enabling Sustainable Industrial Development of the Food Packaging Industry to Reduce Food Loss and Waste in Asia." The APF members participated in this significant event are as follow;

- Dr. Joseph Ross Jocson, APF President
- Ms. Hiroko Akieda, representing as the 2nd Vice President Mr. Yoichi Sonoyama and Japan Packaging Institute (JPI)





In addition, some honorary members Mr. Edward Kwong, Mr. Rohan Victoria, and Mr. Gamini Marambe

During this collaborative session, participants exchanged valuable insights and experiences pertaining to their respective nations, fostering a dynamic environment of knowledge sharing on sustainable packaging to reduce food loss & waste. Demands, challenges, new interests and future cooperation were also discussed.

Success of the APF 9th Strategic Planning Meeting at BITEC, Bangkok



On 15th June 2024 at at Amber 4, BITEC, Bangkok, Thailand, representatives from Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Turkey gathered for the APF 9th Strategic Planning Meeting.



During this gathering, discussions centered around several significant topics:

- Reflections on APF milestones achieved earlier this year
- Reporting on the APF-UNIDO Round Table discussions
- Updates on the ongoing journey towards NGO registration
- Important information regarding AsiaStar Awards 2024 registration and deadlines
- Exciting plans for the upcoming APF BOA meeting and conference scheduled for Bali this November



AsiaStar Awards Presentation 2023: A Remarkable Moment



On 15th June 2024, at Amber 3, BITEC in Bangkok, Thailand, the AsiaStar Awards Presentation 2023 was successfully hosted by APF. Thirty-two people from the winning companies attended the event. APF President Dr. Joseph Ross Jocson ceremoniously presented awards to the outstanding winners in both the commercial and student categories. APF members were present to congratulate all the winners. Special acknowledgment goes to Informa Market Thailand for their invaluable support, which ensured the event's resounding success.



Packaging Sustainability in Asia: The RoadMap & Journey

As an upcoming APF event, the conference titled “Packaging Sustainability in Asia: The Road Map & Journey” is poised to drive sustainable packaging practices across Asia. Set to gather 20 speakers from 10 countries on 7-8 November 2024, this event aims to be a pivotal meeting place for packaging experts worldwide, with a special focus on Asian nations.

The conference will feature insightful discussions on packaging sustainability, circular economy contributions, and innovative solutions. Speakers will share their expertise and experiences, fostering networking, information sharing, and business opportunities among attendees.

Highlighting the agenda are two key events: the AsiaStar Night on 7th November 2024, and the Pack Fun Trip on 9th November 2024, providing engaging activities and networking opportunities.

The objectives and goals of this event include:

- Providing a platform for packaging experts to converge and exchange ideas.
- Facilitating networking, information sharing, and business collaborations.
- Educating the packaging community on critical aspects contributing to the circular economy.

In addition, the **APF 74th BOA Meeting and the 49th GA Meeting** are scheduled to take place in Bali, Indonesia, hosted by the Indonesia Packaging Federation (IPF) tentatively on 6th November 2024.



IFT FIRST Annual Event and Expo (Jul 14-17)
McCormick Place, Chicago, IL. Institute of Food Technologists. Phone: 312/782-8424

Cosmoprof North America (Nevada) (Jul 23-25)
Mandalay Bay Convention Center, Las Vegas, NV. USA Beauty LLC. Phone:800/335-7469

INDOPLAS/INDOPACK/INDOPRINT (Sep 4-7)
Jakarta International Expo, Jakarta, Indonesia. PT. Wahana Kemalaniaga Makmu, Messe Düsseldorf North America. Phone: 312/781-5185

FachPack 2024 (Sep 24-26)
Jakarta International Expo, Jakarta, Indonesia. PT. Wahana Kemalaniaga Makmu, Messe Düsseldorf North America. Phone: 312/781-5185

PPMA 2024 (Sep 24-26)
NEC, Birmingham, UK. Reed Exhibitions Ltd.

Sial 2024 (Oct 19-23)
Paris-Nord Villepinte, Paris, France. Comexposium

Tokyo Pack 2024 (Oct 23-25)
Tokyo International Exhibition Center (Tokyo Big Sight), Tokyo, Japan.
Japan Packaging Institute.



A Milestone Event

TOKYO PACK 2024 promises to highlight every facet of packaging, from its role in distribution and sales to its impact on consumption patterns and recycling efforts. As the world’s leading comprehensive packaging exhibition, it continues to set benchmarks in innovation and sustainability.

Showcasing Innovation: A Gateway to the Future

Under the theme “TOKYO PACK Inspires the Packaging World ~ A Gateway to Innovation ~,” this year’s event will feature a wide range of exhibits. Attendees can explore cutting-edge technologies in packaging materials, machinery, converting technologies, environmental protection equipment, and more. The exhibition serves not only as a marketplace but also as a platform for industry solutions and international collaboration.

Driving Global Dialogue

Supported by esteemed organizations including the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Japan External Trade Organization, and the World Packaging Organization, TOKYO PACK 2024 aims to foster meaningful exchanges and contribute to global development perspectives.

A Collaborative Effort

With the participation of over 100 packaging-related organizations, TOKYO PACK 2024 will feature exhibitors specializing in Packaging Materials / Containers, Packaging Machines, Printing / Converting Machines, Food / Pharmaceutical Processing Machines, Inspection / Measurement / Environmental Equipment, Packaging Design / Communication / Services, Packaging & Logistics Solutions, Next Generation Technologies, PR • Press.

Join Us at TOKYO PACK 2024

Whether you are a packaging industry professional, researcher, or enthusiast, TOKYO PACK 2024 promises unparalleled insights into the future of packaging. Don’t miss this opportunity to explore the latest innovations, network with industry leaders, and contribute to shaping the future of packaging technology and sustainability.

For more information and to register, visit <https://www.tokyo-pack.jp/en/>.



Celebrating Innovation and Excellence: TOKYO PACK 2024

Hiroko Akieda
International Business Dept.
JAPAN PACKAGING INSTITUTE
(TOKYO PACK Secretariat)

The Japan Packaging Institute (JIP) is gearing up to host TOKYO PACK 2024, scheduled from 23-25 October 2024, at Tokyo Big Sight East Hall. This prestigious event marks the 30th anniversary of TOKYO PACK, renowned globally as the ultimate showcase of Japanese packaging technology and science.



Prof. Dr. N.C. Saha Presented at 3rd International RESPack Conference 2024



DIGNITARIES AT THE OPENING SESSION



Prof. Dr. N.C. Saha, former Director of the Indian Institute of Packaging and an honorary member of APF, delivered an insightful keynote at the opening session of the 3rd International Conference RESPack 2024 on 13th June 2024. Held at The Lalit's Majestic Hall in Mumbai, India, the event gathered 53 distinguished speakers and panelists

from Austria, Japan, India, Singapore, Thailand, and the United States of America. The conference received significant support from the Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India.

AIP Congratulates first Lifetime CPP in Australasia

Nerida Kelton FAIP
 Vice President Sustainability & Save Food, WPO
 Executive Director, AIP



The AIP would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the recipient of the first Lifetime Certified Packaging Professional in Australasia, Professor Pierre Pienaar MSc FAIP, FIPSA, CPPL, Education Director, AIP. The CPP program has been accepted as the global recognition as a packaging professional and therefore the CPP designation has now become the leading mark of excellence internationally and a must-have recognition of industry proficiency and achievement for packaging professionals. Please join us in congratulating Pierre for his outstanding achievement.

1. How long have you been in the industry? What are your areas of expertise?

Pierre: I commenced in the industry in 1984 after studying pharmacy and joining a large pharmaceutical manufacturer. After a year of doing drug analysis an offer came up to become involved in packaging. I jumped at the opportunity of getting out of the laboratory and venturing into the world of packaging. I was asked by the CEO to find a university somewhere in the world to do a post graduate degree in Packaging. I found Brunel University in London where I completed a Master's Degree in Packaging Engineering.

It is because of my undergraduate studies that I have developed an affinity for pharmaceutical packaging. I enjoy packaging problem solving in a production environment because in my early years in pharma where I spent 6 years in the manufacturing of liquid, parentals and solids and where the packaging was diverse and there were lots to learn in packaging when it came to output on the diverse filling machines. It was during these years in production that I completed a Master's Degree in Production from University of Hertfordshire, UK.

2. What made you originally apply for the Certified Packaging Professional (CPP) Designation?

Pierre: Whilst involved in the World Packaging Organisation (WPO) as VP education I wanted the WPO to have an international recognised accreditation because we had no idea of the various qualifications of the wide variety of people involved in the WPO. The then WPO President Tom Schnieder tasked me to find such a reputable accreditation that would fit with the needs of the WPO and was internationally recognised. At the same time the AIP was also in discussions with IoPP to also launch the program into Australasia.

The WPO used the AIP development of the program as a test case for how it could work for the rest of the world. The WPO program was borne out of the AIP program.

At this early stage the AIP became involved in supporting the development of the WPO program and they became first association to offer the CPP outside of the USA. I attained my CPP through the AIP and I became the first person to become a CPP in Australasia. The AIP had the tenacity to become the first association to offer the program for Australasia and they now have many CPP's in the region and support those around the world to undertake the designation.

3. Why was it so important for you to attaining the CPP designation?

Pierre: It is important that when the global packaging community comes together, we can easily recognise other professionals that are equally qualified in the various disciplines in packaging. The CPP designation gives us all a sense of belonging to a bigger global community.

Recognition however must go to the AIP for all their hard work in becoming the first association outside of the IoPP to offer the program and for taking the lead in the WPO Members. The AIP supports the WPO CPP program and works with many people around the world today to help guide them to attain the designation. In fact, the General Secretary of the WPO, Dr Johannes Bergmair undertook his CPP through the AIP.

4. How important is the CPP designation for the greater recognition of people in the packaging industry?

Pierre: It is the ultimate and only method of ensuring that you are recognised internationally in the packaging industry, through this CPP accreditation program. The CPP is also recognised in over 64 WPO Member countries which will help you to look for jobs overseas. Just knowing this is so encouraging and inspiring.

5. Were there any new learnings or takeaways that you gained from the experience?

Pierre: It has reminded me just how diverse packaging really is, all encompassing, where the left and right brain is required to solve the myriads of options and opportunities. It is a field where on-going studying and learning, be that in conferences, classroom, reading, discussions, webinars, seminars are all truly necessary, so as to stay abreast of developments.

6. What does it feel like to be the first Lifetime CPP in Australasia?

Pierre: If it inspires others to gain their CPP in packaging, then it has been worthwhile. Like anything there always has to be a first, I just happened to be in the right place and at the right time and nudged at the beginning by Nerida Kelton to attain the CPP designation.

7. What advice would you offer anyone in the industry looking to become a Certified Packaging Professional?

Pierre: What has driven me is to ensure that growth in education persists, it is encouraging to witness this enhancement and growth of the packaging industry over these ensuing years.

This highly regarded Certified Packaging Professional (CPP) program is really gaining momentum across all nations in the packaging professional space.

The AIP is very intentional about education and ensuring that it remains current giving the industry the advantage of access to cutting-edge packaging developments globally, and the CPP program is part of that education.

If your intention is to remain in the packaging industry, and you are wanting to ensure on-going learning, then the CPP program is for you. It certainly gives you a sense of belonging and a great personal sense of achievement.

Attaining the CPP designation is an excellent investment in your professional development and the credential defines the packaging professional and allows organisations to seek out and hire the right professional based on verified knowledge, skills and industry contributions. Using the CPP program to assess and evaluate one's professional competency validates you as internationally proficient as a packaging professional; a cut above your peers. Please email cpp@worldpackaging.org for information on the Certified Packaging Professional program.



Empowering Users Towards a Greener Future

APF Secretariat Office



In today's global landscape, the conversation around sustainability has pivoted towards packaging—a cornerstone of modern life that not only shields products but also shapes consumer perceptions and environmental impact. The exponential growth of delivery services in Asia has magnified concerns about packaging waste. The convenience of e-commerce and food delivery has led to a surge in single-use packaging materials, contributing significantly to environmental degradation. This trend underscores the critical need for sustainable packaging solutions that minimize waste while maintaining functionality and appeal.

To address these challenges, industries are increasingly turning to innovative materials and design strategies. Biodegradable alternatives, such as plant-based plastics and compostable packaging, are gaining traction for their ability to break down naturally, reducing landfill burden and marine pollution. Concurrently, efforts to educate consumers about the environmental consequences of packaging choices are crucial. Transparent labeling practices that highlight recyclability and sustainability certifications empower users to make informed decisions aligned with their values.

Collaboration across sectors is key to advancing sustainable packaging practices. Governments play a pivotal role in setting regulatory frameworks that promote eco-design and recycling infrastructure development. Meanwhile, industry partnerships drive innovation and scale sustainable solutions. Community engagement efforts amplify awareness and encourage responsible consumption habits among users. By harnessing technological advancements—such as smart packaging and blockchain traceability—businesses can further enhance resource efficiency and environmental stewardship throughout the packaging lifecycle.

In conclusion, sustainable packaging initiatives represent a shared commitment to preserving our planet's resources for future generations. By embracing innovation, education, and collaborative action, stakeholders can foster a culture of sustainability where packaging not only meets consumer needs but also contributes positively to environmental health. Together, we can pave the way towards a greener future where packaging solutions support economic growth while safeguarding our natural environment.

Standout packaging at Anuga FoodTec 2024; including aluminium free aseptic cartons, seaweed films, top wrap labelling & paper based trays

Nerida Kelton FAIP
 Vice President Sustainability & Save Food, WPO
 Executive Director, AIP

Joining 39,999 other people from 133 countries I recently ticked off my first participation at Anuga FoodTec which was held in Cologne, Germany.

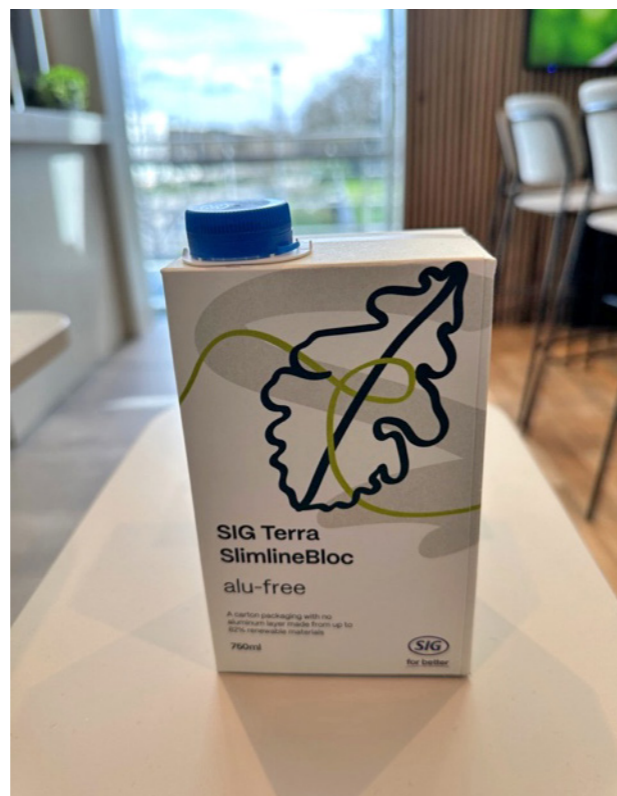
As Anuga FoodTec is the leading international trade exhibition for the food and beverage industries the World Packaging Organisation (WPO) decided to exhibit for the first time and also participate in three speaking sessions during the four-day show.

I had the opportunity to visit some of the exhibition stands, talk to a number of exhibitors and see what is new, innovative, intuitive. I was particularly looking for packaging that is recycle ready, offers improvements to packaging to provide lower environmental impacts, new advancements in paper and renewable materials and any save food packaging design.

Some of the standout packs that I wanted to share were the SIG Alu Free cartons, Sea6 Energy seaweed films and novel products, Multivac Paperboard and G.Mondini Paper2Skin.

SIG Alu Free cartons

SIG Alu Free cartons are an aseptic carton with no aluminium layer. The carton is FSC certified paperboard, is fully recyclable and produced with 100% renewable energy. The SIG Alu free carton has a carbon footprint up to 27% lower than standard SIG packaging material, thanks to a unique composite with no aluminium layer. It is specifically designed for liquid dairy products such as plain white UHT milk, cream, and other oxygen-insensitive



products. The carton is made from up to 82% renewable paperboard, with ultra-thin polymer layers to contain and protect products over long periods of time without the need for refrigeration.

SIG also recently added the option to link to 100% forest-based renewable materials via a mass-balance system. The SIG Alu free carton is another step to remove aluminium from aseptic cartons but still maintain shelf life and barrier for products.

www.sig.biz

Sea6 Energy developing seaweed-based films

Seaweeds, characterised by their efficient utilisation of solar energy and minimal resource requirements, offer a promising solution to address the pressing challenges of resource scarcity and environmental degradation.



Headquartered in Bangalore, Sea6 Energy believes that there is a critical need to design innovation strategies to meet the escalating demand for raw materials, particularly within the packaging industry.

Sea6 Energy are developing seaweed based, compostable films that can be used for packaging of FMCG goods and fast foods. These films, when discarded into the environment, will compost in a few months and are available in Food and Non-food grades.

The utilisation of seaweed biomass extends beyond traditional boundaries, encompassing the production of bio stimulants for agriculture and horticulture, food and feed ingredients, and the development of innovative biomaterials tailored for the packaging industry. Sea6 Energy is actively engaged in research and development efforts to formulate seaweed-derived biomaterials such as coatings, and extrusion compounds for flexible films and rigids. These biomaterials offer several advantages, including biodegradability, renewability, and reduced environmental impact, positioning them as sustainable alternatives to traditional packaging materials. The

commercialisation of first materials is targeted within the next 12 months. I look forward to watching Sea6 Energy developments in the future.

<https://www.sea6energy.com/solutions/bio-plastics/>

Multivac sustainable packaging solutions
 Visiting the Multivac stand at Anuga FoodTec actually took two trips as there was so much to discover in the way of advancements in sustainable packaging solutions, fibre-based trays and some very impressive top wrap and top close labelling.

PaperBoard – formable paper



The PaperBoard series has been designed to eliminate single use plastics, reduce the use of plastics and improve recyclability of the packs.

PaperBoard material can be run on packaging systems in the form of rolls, pre-cuts, or trays. Paper fibre and cardboard composites with different grammages and functional layers are available. The use of functional layers makes it possible to produce paper-based packs that meet the barrier property requirements of the respective product.

What I personally like about the PaperBoard series is that the design is a step ahead of many other available solutions in the market for separability of the components for recycling. So many consumers get frustrated by some of the packs on the market as they can't easily separate the film from the paper. This in turn means that the separable components end up in the wrong disposal bin and the pack that has been promoted as reducing single use plastic and being more sustainable is not meeting sustainable design standards.

The PaperBoard design however does separate easily as I tested multiple packs. The design features are intuitive and ensure that the paper and the film can in fact be easily and quickly separated by a consumer.

www.multivac.com

G. Mondini Paper2Skin



Another paper-based solution that I saw on the G.Mondini stand was Paper2Skin which is a unique and innovative paper top skin web technology designed to take packaging to the next level. The pack has been designed to eliminate single use plastics, use less materials at the start and ensure that the materials can be separated and recycled easily.

The Paper2Skin material is FSC/PEFC certified, is designed to be able to separate the components for recyclability and is easily openable and separable for the consumer. The pack offers a uniquely shaped window and the laser cutting of paper allows each brand to be able to create several window shapes depending on the product shape and size.

<https://www.gmondini.com/>

Anuga FoodTec has always been on my bucket list of global trade shows that I have wanted to see, and it did not disappoint. Unfortunately, I didn't get to see as many exhibition stands as I had wanted as it is a very large exhibition with thousands of stands.

I have no doubt that there were many other innovative packaging designs on display that I missed but the ones I have mentioned are just some that I wanted to share with you.

If you are planning to attend the next edition of Anuga FoodTec on the 23rd to 26th of February 2027 I would recommend that you allow at least two days to walk around the show. I also look forward to returning to Anuga FoodTec in 2027 to see even more advancements in sustainable packaging and recycle ready packs. Imagine what we will see in three years!

