



**60**  
YEARS  
1963-2023

# INTRODUCTION TO DIPLOMA IN PACKAGING TECHNOLOGY



## Internationally recognised as the premier qualification in the packaging industry.

**The Diploma in Packaging Technology is a Level 5 PIABC foundation degree course that is internationally recognised as the premier qualification in the packaging industry.**

The newly developed course, based on the revised specification released in 2022, prepares learners to take responsibility for packaging operations at any level through the supply chain and can lead to higher level study.

The course has been designed to take in to account the experiences of training through the pandemic and the results of research undertaken on the ideal learner journey. The course is comprised of short, bite-sized modules that you can study at a time and pace to suit you on a variety of devices.

### WHY STUDY THE DIPLOMA IN PACKAGING TECHNOLOGY?

Completion of the Diploma in Packaging Technology demonstrates your commitment to your career and to the industry.

Students who successfully complete the Diploma in Packaging Technology are equipping themselves for progression within the packaging industry to a position where they can assume responsibility for packaging in a company at any point in the supply chain.

Networking opportunities abound, providing the opportunity to draw on the experience and knowledge of others.



**“As a food technologist I have found the profession of packaging technology an extremely interesting and rewarding extension into the food and consumer goods industries. Having a Diploma in Packaging Technology, complemented by my earlier studies and industrial experience, has opened new career opportunities for me.**

**The network of people within the AIP and the professional focus on Packaging Technology allowed me to develop a life-long friendships as well as the introduction to a true mentor in the late Emeritus Prof. Harry Lovell OAM. After nearly thirty years in the packaging industry leading to positions of a national technical nature; I can definitely recommend to those interested in the profession of packaging technology, to look at the Diploma in Packaging Technology and on-going educational assistance offered by the AIP.**”

George Ganzenmuller Dip.Pkg.Tech., FAIP, CPP



## WHO IS THE COURSE AIMED AT?

Diploma in Packaging Technology students come from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines, but they all share a desire to broaden and deepen their knowledge and understanding of the packaging industry. Diploma students are typically experienced practitioners or managers in technical, sales/marketing, QA, purchasing, design or engineering.

The Diploma is a Level 5 qualification (foundation degree level) so learners should expect a challenging and rigorous course that explores the packaging industry in detail. The AIP would recommend that those wishing to undertake the course to have a minimum of an undergraduate degree in sciences, food technology, engineering or industrial design; or to have previously graduated from the Certificate in Packaging course.

Practical and industry experience can be used as an alternative to formal qualifications and all learners ideally come with good communication, numeracy and IT skills.

Potential students should understand that this is a detailed course and should therefore usually hold qualifications at a minimum of Level 3 standard (A-level) and/or relevant industry experience.

## BENEFITS TO THE BUSINESS

- Drive innovation and efficiency in your business.
- Staff motivation.
- Staff equipped to drive development and innovation.
- Best practice to maximise profit.
- Access the experience of the industry.

## BENEFITS TO THE INDIVIDUAL

- A recognised professional qualification.
- Add value to your business, prove your worth.
- Great networking opportunities.
- Broaden and deepen your knowledge and skills.
- Membership of a chartered professional organisation.

## HOW CAN I STUDY THE DIPLOMA?

The Diploma in Packaging Technology is a blended learning course that features:

- An induction day twice a year so you can meet fellow students and AIP Education team. During this virtual session you will get an in-depth explanation of the structure of the course, the milestones you need to meet, the on-line learning platform and how the qualification is assessed
- Independent on-line learning - Work through the units at a time and pace to suit you, with the support of an assigned tutor and education coordinator. The learning platform has plenty of opportunities for you to test your understanding and get feedback on your learning.
- Access to virtual site tours and additional AIP events where you will have the chance to see the packaging industry in action. This is a non-mandatory element.



## HOW IS THE DIPLOMA IN PACKAGING COURSE STRUCTURED?

# 1

### UNIT 1: PACKAGING IN TODAY'S WORLD

Unit 1 introduces the students to the subject of packaging by examining what packaging is used for and what it does for the product and the user, both within its broad social, economic and marketing context, and meeting its specific functional, environmental and aesthetic requirements.

By the end of this unit students should understand:

1. The role, functions and impact of packaging in the world today.
2. The structure and interactions of elements in the supply chain from raw material to end use and disposal.
3. How active and intelligent packaging technologies can enhance traditional packaging methodologies.
4. How packaging complies with regulatory practices.
5. The factors that impact upon the environmental sustainability of packaging.
6. How packaging communicates and satisfies consumer needs.

# 2

### UNIT 2: PACKAGING MATERIALS

Unit 2 allows the students to study the main packaging materials in terms of their raw materials, manufacturing and conversion processes, and how materials can be used together.

By the end of this unit students should understand:

1. The properties and manufacturing of glass packaging.
2. The properties and manufacturing of metal packaging.
3. The properties and manufacturing of fibre-based packaging.
4. The properties and manufacturing of plastics packaging.
5. Adhesives and adhesive properties.
6. The manufacture and use of labels.
7. The application and use of closure systems.
8. How materials are combined to achieve the required properties.
9. Printing and decoration processes used in packaging.



## 3

### UNIT 3: PACKAGING PROCESSES

In Unit 3, students will study packaging machinery and packaging line operations in detail. The Unit also introduces the students to many of the management functions associated with the design, development, production and use of packaging materials and components. These include design, decoration, line operations and quality systems.

By the end of this unit students should understand:

1. The Packaging design and development process.
2. Packaging machinery and line operations.
3. Quality and business management in packaging.

### HOW IS THE DIPLOMA ASSESSED?

Assessment takes a number of forms. The theory you study in units 1 to 3 is assessed through four formal written examinations, consisting of:

- 10 short answer questions typically taking 3 minutes each to complete.
- 2 longer answer questions typically taking 25 minutes each to complete.
- 1 essay question typically taking 40 minutes to complete.

These examinations are all two hours long and are taken as part of PIABC's examination series in either June or November each year.

In addition, students must submit a substantial report on either work-based project or a topic release by AIP/PIABC on an annual basis.

### HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO COMPLETE?

The PIABC Level 5 Diploma in Packaging Technology is a substantial course, which has a recommended total learning time of approximately 510 hours split across working your way through the course content, revising, sitting exams and researching and writing your project. The AIP expects the students to take between two and three years to complete the qualification.

The examinations must be sat during one of PIABC's two examination series which take place in June and November each year. Some people opt to sit two exams in one day, others prefer to sit one exam on each day; how you choose to complete your examinations is up to you.

However, to help you to make good progress through your course and complete it in a timely manner the AIP has put together the following suggestions. These examinations are all two hours long and are taken as part of PIABC's examination series in either June or November each year.

In addition, students must submit a substantial report on either work-based project or a topic released by the PIABC on an annual basis.



## PRICING:

### OPTION 1: SINGLE PAYMENT

\$14,000 AUD +GST – Paid at time of enrolment.

### OPTION 2: SPLIT PAYMENT

\$9,200 AUD +GST – Paid at time of enrolment.

\$5,200 AUD +GST – Paid prior to commencement of Unit 3.

NB: A re-registration fee will be required if the Diploma in Packaging Technology is not completed within a three year time frame.

*Up to 3 years of complimentary AIP membership is included in your enrolment to the Diploma in Packaging Technology course. If you have not completed your course within 3 years you will be sent a membership renewal invoice and will be required to maintain your AIP membership to complete the course.*

Please return both the AIP Membership and Diploma in Packaging Course enrolment forms to:

Mark Kelton MAIP (Hon)  
Member Services Manager  
AIP Australasian Office

PO Box 400  
Mt Ommaney  
Queensland 4074  
Australia

PH: +61 7 3278 4490  
mark@aipack.com.au

### GENERAL STUDENT ENQUIRIES

Ralph Moyle FAIP, CPP  
Education Coordinator

Mob: +61 (0) 400 083 003  
educate@aipack.com.au

