



PACKED.

Issue No. 6 ■ July 2026

Australasian Packaging Industry Monthly Newsletter

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AIP Packaging Panel Discussions x4 MONDAY 27 JULY 2026



24



AIP 2x Mini Training Courses

HELD ALONGSIDE

TUESDAY 28 JULY 2026



25-26



Mini Training Course 1: Unboxing Accessibility: Easy to Open, Reclose, Grip & Handle Packaging Design

Mini Training Course 2: Future of Soft Plastics & Flexible Packaging: Sustainable Trends & Innovations



2026 AUSTRALASIAN PACKAGING INNOVATION & DESIGN (PIDA) AWARDS

27



Tuesday 28 July 2026

Crown Aviary, Crown Complex
Melbourne Victoria, Australia
Alongside FoodPro

SOLD OUT: With waiting list

Gala Dinner

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Australasian Institute of Packaging



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

New AIP President begins new era for the industry

At the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) Annual General Meeting on the 30th of June 2026 John Bigley MAIP officially completed his three-year term as President.

Upon reflection, John identified some key milestones and outcomes that were delivered during his term.

A standout for John was the growth of the monthly AIP State of Industry Webinars that were borne out of COVID and lockdowns and have grown to be a very successful platform for the industry.



**AIP Outgoing President
John Bigley MAIP**

"In 2025 alone we saw over 1500 people attend our State of Industry Webinars from over 12 countries and that is remarkable. The library of information that the AIP is now developing from these webinars is astounding," Mr Bigley said.

"One of the key milestones under my Presidency was the development of a Strategic Plan for the Institute. I sincerely congratulate the Board and the Executive Team for their hard work in pulling together the strategic framework represented by 5 key pillars. As I complete my term, I know that the Strategic Plan and the pillars will help guide our way forward and prioritise our actions for the next few years,"

"For me though it needs to be seen as a living and dynamic document to support our regional ambitions and our global involvement in supporting minimising Food Loss and Waste.

The AIP are independent and apolitical, and against the backdrop of packaging reform we are very well placed to concentrate on expanding our education and training offerings to develop and upskill all of the packaging professionals regionally. Technical qualifications in packaging are the core of the AIP, and we are ready to help," he said.

"I can't quite believe that it has already been three years. I have personally learnt so much and understand so much more now about who the AIP really is at its core, and what we can uniquely offer packaging professionals within the industry. My own journey of truly appreciating the AIP and what respect it holds in the Asian region was at ProPak Asia a few years ago. The AIP have a rich 63-year-old history and incredible strength and depth in technical packaging education and training expertise. There is no other peak professional body in the region like the AIP and for that we should all be very proud,"

"As I close my term I have to admit that I have thoroughly enjoyed my 3 years and thank the Board, the executive team and the broader AIP team for their support, and especially Nerida Kelton for her support and guidance. To Ralph Moyle FAIP, CPP and Prof Pierre Pienaar FAIP, CPPL I have been eternally grateful to have them readily available as sounding boards over my tenure. Lastly, thank you to each and every AIP Member for their support and encouragement over the three years. I am not going anywhere I have accepted the role of AIP Treasurer under the new President." Mr Bigley said.



New President – New Era

Nerida Kelton FAIP, Executive Director of the AIP, said that ‘with a 40 year career in the packaging industry and as a strong supporter of the Institute, it is only fitting that Michael Dossor MAIP, Chief Executive Officer of Result Group, takes over as the next AIP President.



**AIP In-coming President
Michael Dossor MAIP**

“Michael has been in the packaging industry for four decades and joined the AIP Education Team as a trainer and lecturer close to 10 years ago. He is as passionate about packaging as the rest of the AIP Executive Team and we all welcome him to the role,”

At the close of the AIP Annual General Meeting Michael Dossor received the formal handover from John Bigley and commented that,

"It is very humbling and a great honour to be endorsed by my industry peers as the next President of the AIP."

“I know that myself, the board, the executive and most importantly the AIP team led by Nerida Kelton, are all committed to leading the AIP into a new era,” Mr Dossor said.

“We are also so grateful for having John guide us for the last three years and it was under his leadership that the AIP developed the Strategic Plan and Pillars. This will be the driving force in delivering growth for the AIP,”

“My role will be help support the growth areas and strengthen other areas of the AIP pillars. We will be communicating regularly, and in a very transparent way all that we do, to our individual members, sponsors, association partners and government bodies,” he said.

“The next generation of packaging professionals are also critical to the continued work required solve the challenges our industry faces today, tomorrow and into the future,”

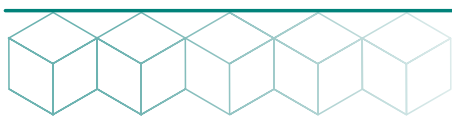
The AIP will continue to take the lead in technical packaging training and education for the region and to ensure that all packaging technologists and professionals in the industry have the qualifications to take the lead in this era of change that is coming,”

“Now more than ever, with Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and eco-modulation just around the corner, we need to ensure that we have the technical packaging qualifications and competencies within all teams across the region and the AIP are ready to train everyone,” Mr Dossor said.

Michael added that "Fit for purpose, functional Packing Design that offers the lowest environmental impact can no longer be an afterthought. Packaging plays a critical role in all businesses, and the AIP is best placed to help guide the Australasian industry through these changes,"

“The AIP are and always will remain independent; we are simply here to help guide the technical aspect of packaging for all businesses, to support and provide guidance to government, and help support our sister associations. That is the uniqueness of the AIP,”

“To become the AIP President is something I will forever be grateful for.” he said.



FSSC, WPO & AIP unite to introduce Save Food Packaging into FSSC 22000 V7

In 2021, Foundation FSSC became a member of the UN Global Compact to see how they could align their global vision 'Creating a Better World' with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

As the owner of the global Certification Scheme FSSC 22000 for Food Safety, together with their Certified Organisations across the globe, they soon realised that the impact was going to be at grass-roots level within food organisations.

According to Kelly Mulholland, Technical Manager Safety & Quality at FSSC, ***"The first step was to create impactful solutions for food businesses via the tools available through FSSC."***

"To this end, we decided to add a specific requirement on Food Loss and Waste (FLW) in Version 6 of our Certification Scheme. As a result, more than 30,000 organisations were required to implement policies and strategies addressing FLW."

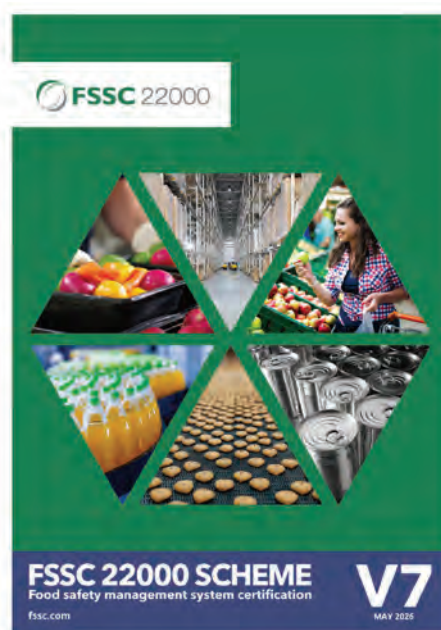


This contributed to progress on SDG 12, Responsible Consumption and Production, and specifically Target 12.3," she said.

The additional requirement on FLW was included in V6 in the Certification Scheme (Part 2, Section 2.5.16) and applies to all food chain categories except Category I (food packaging manufacturing).

The team at FSSC understood that packaging plays a vital role in reducing Food Loss and Waste, particularly in relation to the design of packaging materials.

FSSC 22000 V7 now includes Save Food Packaging guidelines



After joining the World Packaging Organisation (WPO), FSSC soon discovered that the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) had already established a research-driven set of Save Food Packaging guidelines, in partnership with RMIT University and End Food Waste Australia. These guidelines have been designed to be implemented by macros, SMEs, and multinational food and beverage companies in any corner of the globe.

Kelly added that ***“To address this, we recently announced Version 7 of the FSSC 22000 Certification Scheme now incorporates a new requirement under product design and development, which applies to all organisations that design primary packaging and packaging material.”***

Nerida Kelton, Vice President of Sustainability & Save Food for the WPO, and who is also the Executive Director of AIP, reminds everyone that ***“First and foremost, the true role of packaging is its functionality. Packaging needs to be designed to ensure that a product is protected, preserved, contained, and transported all the way through the value chain from production until it is used in the household.”***

“Save Food Packaging is designed to minimise or prevent food waste from paddock to plate using innovative and intuitive design features that can contain & protect, preserve, extend shelf life, easily open and reseal, provide consumer convenience and portion control; all the while meeting global sustainable packaging targets”, she said.



Nerida strongly believes that ***“The inclusion of aspects of the Save Food Packaging design guidelines in Version 7 will have a significant impact for tens of thousands of food and feed companies involved in the processing, handling, or distribution of food products across the world.”***

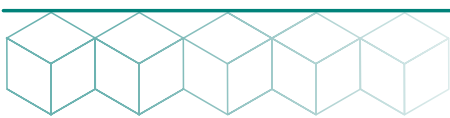
Kelly added that ***“Foundation FSSC now has over 40,000 Certified Organisations that are required to consider these packaging design principles, resulting in further support for the reduction of Food Loss and Waste.”***

The packaging design requirements included within FSSC 22000 V7 (Part 2, 2.5.13) were developed with the support of the WPO, of which FSSC is an affiliate member, and the AIP, which is a Member of the WPO.



The design requirements that in Version 7, are based on aspects of the AIP’s Save Food Packaging Design Principles, which have been globalised by the World Packaging Organisation (WPO).

FSSC looks forward to further collaboration with WPO and AIP on this important topic and creating even more impact within food companies across the world.



SME Solutions Centre

New national centre to help SME food businesses drive packaging and processing innovation and reduce waste without compromising shelf life.

A new national initiative, the Food and Beverage Small and Medium Enterprise Packaging and Machinery Solution Centre, will support small and medium (SMEs) Australian food and beverage firms to transition to sustainable packaging and processing solutions while mitigating unwanted food loss and waste.

The Solutions Centre is a collaboration between RMIT University, End Food Waste Australia, the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP), the Australian Packaging and Processing Machinery Association (APPMA) and Tetra Pak.

Led by RMIT and End Food Waste Australia CRC (EFW CRC), the Centre will provide independent, research-backed support to SMEs transitioning to reusable, recyclable and compostable packaging, and processing that enable better functional outcomes, aligned with Australia's circular economy and sustainable packaging goals.

It will deliver co-funded applied research and technical expertise to support SME decision-making on sustainable packaging innovations and processing changes.

As businesses move away from the use of problematic single use packaging they are grappling with new packaging formats that may unintentionally reduce shelf life and product quality, or have inherently higher environmental impacts than the packaging they replace.

End Food Waste Australia

SUSTAINABLE
PACKAGING FOR
YOUR FOOD OR
DRINK BUSINESS,
**WITHOUT THE
GUESSWORK.**

Transitioning to more sustainable
packaging and processing?
The new national Food &
Beverage SME Packaging and
Machinery Solutions Centre can help. →

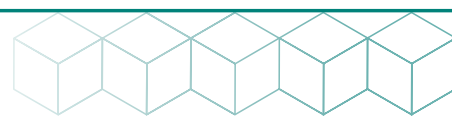
ENDFOODWASTE
COOPERATIVE RESEARCH CENTRE

SME Solution Centre
Food & Beverage, Packaging & Machinery

Senior Lecturer of Industrial Design at RMIT University, Dr Caroline Francis, says that the new Solution Centre has been established to address this risk by ensuring the transitions to sustainable packaging do not come at the cost of food safety, product integrity, higher impacts, increased food loss and waste.

“Packaging innovation is essential to achieving Australia’s sustainability goals, but it must be grounded in research,” Francis said.

“This Centre enables SMEs to test and validate real-world packaging and processing changes, ensuring that improvements in recyclability and circularity do not come at the expense of product quality or increased food waste.”



REDUCE Program Team Leader at EFW CRC, Prof. Simon Lockrey, says that the Centre is designed to strengthen decision-making across the sector by providing independent, evidence-based support.

"The Centre will operate as a national 'source of truth' for SMEs seeking guidance on packaging, processing, and machinery solutions," Lockrey said.

"It will support businesses to make evidence-based decisions rather than relying solely on supplier or informal advice, so they can have informed conversations with key partners such as large retailers."

Executive Director at the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP), Nerida Kelton said that the SME Solutions Centre will be invaluable for SMEs to learn more about how to look at packaging in a different light.

"The shifting landscape of packaging regulations, both domestically and globally, are changing the way companies need to design."

"Key areas of change include becoming recycle ready, moving to mono materials, building in recycled content and looking at ways to reduce the amount of packaging wherever possible," Kelton said.

"Important changes include designing for accessibility and inclusivity, looking at how packaging can potentially minimise food loss and waste across a value chain and looking at viable alternatives that can reduce the carbon footprint of the packaging. The new centre will allow SME's to have access to technical consultants from the AIP who can help their packaging journey." Kelton said.

Chief Executive Officer at the Australian Packaging and Processing Machinery Association (APPM), Michael Moran, said the initiative strengthens the connection between innovation and practical industry capability.

"Packaging and processing machinery is a critical enabler of sustainable manufacturing, particularly for SMEs navigating new materials and formats," Moran said.

"This Centre provides an important platform to connect industry expertise with applied research, helping businesses adopt and integrate advanced technologies that improve efficiency, performance and sustainability outcomes across the production line."

Director of Corporate Affairs at Tetra Pak, Flavia Vaz, said tackling food waste is a founding principle for the company and a key focus of how it is transforming packaging and processing.

"Our solutions are designed to protect food, extend shelf life and reduce environmental impact across the value chain. From aseptic processing and packaging that protect perishable food, to creating value from by-products, we invest in integrated technologies that reduce waste and improve efficiency."

End Food Waste Australia

SHELF LIFE.
PRODUCT QUALITY.
FOOD SAFETY.
**THE STAKES
ARE REAL.**

Many SMEs are facing a tough question:
how do you achieve change without
risking your product, or creating more
food waste in the process?

That's exactly what the Centre is here
to solve.



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SME Solution Centre
Food & Beverage, Packaging & Machinery



“This Solution Centre provides SMEs with practical access to the expertise and technologies needed to trial, validate and scale these solutions with confidence to deliver real impact.”

In addition to co-funding research, the Centre will connect SMEs with a national pool of technical experts across industry and academia, and research delivery will be supported by multiple EFW CRC partner institutions, including RMIT University, Queensland University of Technology (QUT), The University of Queensland (UQ), and the South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI), among others.

SMEs will be able to participate in the Solutions Centre through a rolling Expression of Interest (EOI) process available on the End Food Waste Australia website.

Eligible Australian-based SMEs with a valid ABN will be invited to apply and, where successful, contribute matched cash funding on a dollar-for-dollar basis for approved projects.



End Food Waste Australia

EXPERT SUPPORT, CO-FUNDING, AND REAL RESEARCH, ALL IN ONE PLACE.

The Centre gives SMEs access to something rare, hands-on expert support, co-investment, and independent research without having to go it alone. Trial packaging, processing, and machinery changes in a supported environment before bringing them to market. →

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SME Solution Centre
Food & Beverage, Packaging & Machinery

End Food Waste Australia

LED BY WORLD- CLASS RESEARCHERS AND INDUSTRY PARTNERS.

RMIT
UNIVERSITY

**END
FOOD
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AIP
Australian
Institute
of Packaging

Tetra Pak
PROTECTS WHAT'S GOOD

APPMA
AUSTRALIAN
PACKAGING
PRODUCTION
MANUFACTURERS
ASSOCIATION

The Centre brings together academia and industry to deliver practical, real-world outcomes for businesses like yours. →

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SME Solution Centre
Food & Beverage, Packaging & Machinery

End Food Waste Australia

APPLICATIONS OPEN NOW VIA A ROLLING EOI PROCESS.

If you're an eligible Australian-based food or beverage SME ready to explore smarter, more sustainable packaging and processing, apply today.

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SME Solution Centre
Food & Beverage, Packaging & Machinery



HP Indigo 200K Digital Press

Grow your business with the only proven digital technology for on-demand **flexible packaging**¹.

Meeting brands' vision for standout packaging, multi-SKU production, fast turnarounds, and sustainable solutions, requires digital printing agility. The HP Indigo 200K Digital Press provides that agility, turning complexity into opportunity and enabling converters to deliver shelf-ready packaging in days, not weeks.

1. Proven technology claim based on IT Strategies Digital Packaging 2022 report, which identifies HP as the market leader in Flexible Packaging with more than 90% share of installations.



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AIP partners with Packaging Cockpit: One System for the entire Supply Chain

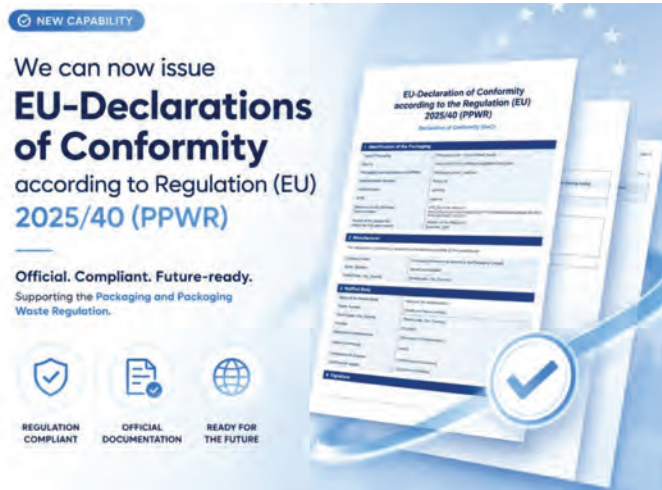
The Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) is pleased to announce that they will be formally partnering with the Packaging Cockpit to bring a Global Packaging Specification Management Software to the Australasian region.

According to Nerida Kelton, Executive Director of the AIP 'The Packaging Cockpit is a tool that calculates the technical recyclability, as well as the life cycle assessment of packaging systems, scientific calculations and enables data interface with suppliers and brands.'

"The Packaging Cockpit is ideally suited for Australasian companies that are exporting into Europe, as the system is intuitive, comprehensive and is supported by leading European retailers and brands. If your business needs to meet the Packaging & Packaging Waste Regulations, complete Declarations of Conformity, Technical Documentation and access your packaging suppliers' specifications, then the Packaging Cockpit is the answer," Mrs Kelton said.

"The team behind the Packaging Cockpit want to help make the recyclability of packaging systems transparent and help companies to make the right decisions when optimising their packaging portfolio. The Packaging Cockpit is intended to be applied both internally within companies and to entire supply chains.

The Packaging Cockpit integrates a scientific database and scientific methods into the software that is suitable for mass data. Not only can the



Packaging Cockpit fulfill PPWR regulations, but also other Extended Producer regulations across all corners of the globe. One System for the entire supply chain. The calculations can be performed for different countries, allowing country-specific evaluations. In addition, further management functions of the packaging portfolio can be performed, "

"The Packaging Cockpit can intuitively manage your packaging worldwide, and most importantly the basic version is available free of charge, which enables brands, packaging suppliers and manufacturers to able to build their datasets and digitalisation of their specifications, in readiness to be able to then undertake their reporting and regulatory requirements. Brands can work with their packaging suppliers to access their data through the Packaging Cockpit." she said.

The AIP is now the official exclusive partner of Packaging Cockpit for Australia, New Zealand and parts of Southeast Asia. Register your interest in a trial or demonstration of the Packaging Cockpit today via the AIP.

Please email info@aipack.com.au for more information on how you can access the AIP link to register for the basic version and start learning how to use the tool.





VidaCorp welcomes interns from the Master of Food & Packaging Innovation degree

The AIP & University of Melbourne co-developed Master of Food and Packaging Innovation includes an internship subject which the students are offered to gain real-industry based practical experience before they graduate.

This unique placement opportunity, provides access to some of Australia's most well-known brands and state-of-the-art facilities. The placement may include access to leading manufacturing sites in packaging and innovation. One of the AIP Members, Anhely Millan MAIP, Head of Packaging Sustainability, DBG Beauty took the opportunity and reach out to the AIP for an intern.

"This experience provided students with valuable insight into the challenges faced by the packaging industry, particularly within the beauty sector, where there is a wide variety of packaging formats and materials. It also gave them the opportunity to learn about global regulations, as well as the complexities of data collection and regulatory reporting. At DBG, we are grateful for the opportunity to host students who supported us in closing knowledge and data gaps, enabling

us to continue improving how we design packaging and meet our regulatory obligations across all the markets in which we operate."

Anhely Millan MAIP
Head of Packaging & Sustainability
DBG Beauty

"My internship at DBG Health provided valuable insight into how packaging sustainability is implemented within a regulated pharmaceutical environment. While frameworks such as APCO, ARL, and PREP offer structured guidance, I observed that real-world application involves navigating complex trade-offs between product safety, regulatory requirements, material limitations, and supply chain dependencies. Through hands-on experience in recyclability assessments and packaging data analysis, I developed a deeper understanding that sustainability is not solely a design challenge, but a system-level issue influenced by infrastructure, data quality, and industry constraints. This experience has strengthened my interest in pursuing a career in packaging, where science, sustainability, and compliance intersect to drive practical outcomes."

Afroza Sultana – Packaging Intern



"This internship allowed me to bridge the gap between classroom learning and real industry practice, showing me how packaging, sustainability, supply chain and business operations are connected in the real industry world. Through managing the packaging and sustainability compliance data, communicating with external suppliers and supporting the APCO reporting, I developed both technical knowledge and professional skills. Moreover, I also gained confidence while building meaningful industry connections and gained a clearer understanding of career paths and industry insights that align with my interest and strengths. It strengthened my passion for sustainable packaging and reinforced my goal of contributing to a more sustainable and responsible business practices in the future".

Tiffany Tang – Packaging Intern



Master of Food & Packaging Innovation

The Master of Food and Packaging Innovation is an inter-disciplinary degree that explores food processing, entrepreneurship and innovation in product and packaging design at an advanced level.



Australasian
Institute
of Packaging



What's in it for me?

You will learn the skills necessary to develop valuable and innovative food products that address key issues such as transportability, durability, tamper proofing and perishability issues, as well as key environmental, economic, social and ethical factors.

This unique course forms part of a joint University of Melbourne and Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) initiative. Industry is actively involved in this course, because the students want to cultivate the skills they require locally.



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AIP Welcomes New Corporate Partner WML Paperboard

WML Paperboard is Australasia's only manufacturer of folding box board, supplying FMCG brand owners, converters and packaging specialists across Australia and New Zealand. Manufactured in Bay of Plenty, New Zealand, WML Paperboard's Formakote™ range combines high-performance packaging solutions with the responsiveness and reliability that only a regional manufacturer can provide.

As supply chains continue to face disruption and sustainability expectations increase, local manufacturing has never been more important. By producing paperboard within Australasia, WML Paperboard helps customers reduce lead times, improve supply security, minimise freight-related risks and access local technical support. Formakote's direct contact food grade boards are made from 100% virgin fibre sourced from responsibly managed forests, is FSC certified, fully recyclable, and supported by internationally recognised ISO accreditations.



WML Paperboard are proud to announce they are a new Gold Corporate Partner of the AIP.

Together, these credentials provide AIP members with a packaging solution that delivers both operational confidence and environmental responsibility.

For enquiries, contact:
sales@wmlpaperboard.com

"Partnering with the Australasian Institute of Packaging was a natural fit for WML Paperboard. As Australasia's only paperboard manufacturer, we recognise the important role the packaging industry plays in balancing performance, sustainability and supply chain resilience."

Through this partnership, we look forward to contributing to industry conversations, sharing technical expertise and supporting packaging professionals with locally manufactured solutions that help strengthen the region's packaging supply chain."

Ron Hooper, CEO, WML Paperboard



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Arthritis Australia volunteers

Does everyday packaging or products make life harder than it should?

Arthritis Australia are recruiting volunteers for this year's Unboxing Accessibility Campaign and need your help.

If you, or someone you know, lives with a condition that affects hand strength, dexterity, vision, or cognition, Arthritis Australia want to hear from you/them.

The insights shared about your lived experience will directly inform how products and packaging are designed in Australia and help raise awareness of the barriers many people face every day.

The AIP uses these powerful and honest videos in our Accessible & Inclusive Packaging Design training courses and workshops so we encourage you to please support this campaign. If you have a family member that may be interested please share this with them.

Signing up takes just a few minutes via their form or please reach out to AIP Member Alexandra Brayshaw who leads this campaign each year.

Get involved today, contact:

Alexandra Brayshaw

ABrayshaw@arthritisaustralia.com.au



AIP iPad winner for 2026

The AIP would like to congratulate Jessica O'Donnell AAIP, Marketing and Procurement Manager, The Perfume Oil Company for winning the AIP iPad for 2026. We hope you enjoy it!





Soft Fruit Lidding Film: Starbarrier GPE-CL-AF 18PET by Camvac Rockwell

Starbarrier GPE-CL-AF 18PET has been introduced as a next-generation mono-material lidding film designed to help food producers cut plastic, streamline operations and improve consumer experience. The film launches at a time when retailers and brand owners are demanding both reduced environmental impact and more reliable pack performance.

Engineered as a lightweight 18 μ PET solution, Starbarrier GPE-CL-AF delivers clean, consistent peelability - addressing long-standing issues with traditional multi-layer laminates that often tear or leave residue on trays. Early adopters report that the film peels off in one piece, maintains strong yet controlled seal integrity and improves burst strength across fresh and frozen applications.

A key advantage is its universal sealing capability. Starbarrier GPE-CL-AF can be sealed to aluminium, polypropylene and emerging paperboard tray formats, allowing producers to consolidate SKUs and prepare for future shifts toward fibre-based packaging. This versatility also supports smoother line performance, with improved dwell times and more stable sealing.

As brands continue to push for lower-impact packaging, Starbarrier GPE-CL-AF 18PET positions itself as a practical, scalable step toward mono-material systems - offering measurable reductions in plastic use while enhancing the overall functionality of lidding films.



FOR BEAUTIFUL FOOD Smoothwall Trays by Cuki

Cuki



Cuki's black smoothwall trays are fast becoming a quiet hero in premium food presentation. Their glossy black surface creates instant contrast, making colours appear richer, textures more defined and meals more appetising.

Unlike standard aluminium trays, the smoothwall finish gives food a clean, modern backdrop. Beyond aesthetics, the trays offer the functional performance producers rely on - oven-ready, freezer-ready, robust through distribution and compatible with a wide range of lidding films.

But it's the visual impact that sets them apart. They help brands elevate ready meals, premium convenience dishes and chef-crafted ranges without changing a single recipe.

For producers looking to differentiate on shelf, Cuki's black smoothwall trays deliver an immediate upgrade: a simple packaging choice that makes food look fresher, more premium and undeniably more beautiful. Matching RPET clip-on lids also pair seamlessly with the smoothwall tray structure, maintaining a clean, modern look while ensuring the product remains visible and protected.

**Contact National Resources to find out
more about Cuki Smoothwall Trays.**

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are overpaying
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Get in Touch

Alycia McCarthy, Partnerships Specialist

0478 670 420

alycia.mccarthy@choiceenergy.com.au

choiceenergy.com.au



Result Group to Showcase Labelling and coding live on the line at Foodpro 2026

Result Group will exhibit at foodpro 2026, taking place from 26-29 July 2026 at MCEC Melbourne, showcasing smart packaging, laser coding, linerless and traditional labelling, coding, marking and traceability solutions at Stand AH50.

At foodpro, Result Group will focus on one clear message: **every pack can do more or less.**

A pack is no longer just a container. It can carry a best before date, batch code, QR code, product origin, compliance details, logistics information and a digital story that connects manufacturers, supply chains, retailers and consumers.

Result Group will demonstrate how packaging technologies can help food and beverage manufacturers improve efficiency, reduce waste, support compliance and create stronger product visibility across the supply chain.

“Packaging is becoming one of the most important sources of product information,” said Michael Dossor, CEO at Result Group. ***“A label, a code or a laser mark can connect a product to production data, traceability information and consumer engagement. At foodpro, we want to show how simple and practical that can be.”***

A key focus on the stand will be laser coding and linerless labelling - two technologies that support smarter, cleaner and more sustainable packaging operations.

Laser coding provides a clean, permanent way to apply information such as best before dates, batch numbers, production codes, logos, QR codes and DataMatrix codes directly onto suitable packaging materials. Because laser marking does not require inks, solvents or additional labels in suitable applications, it can help reduce consumable use while delivering clear, durable product identification.

Result Group will also showcase linerless labelling, a smart labelling solution that removes the traditional backing liner used with pressure sensitive labels. By eliminating backing liner waste, linerless technology can help manufacturers reduce waste, lower storage requirements, improve roll efficiency and reduce roll changes on production lines.

“Linerless labelling is a simple idea with a strong impact,” said Dossor. “It helps reduce unnecessary waste while giving manufacturers a smarter way to label products. Combined with laser, coding and traceability, it becomes part of a much more intelligent packaging approach.”

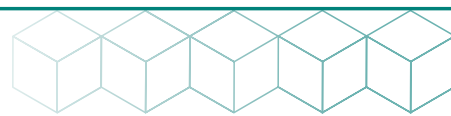
Visitors to Stand AH50 will be able to explore solutions across coding and marking, laser coding, labelling, print and apply, linerless labelling, 2D barcoding, QR enabled product information, packaging automation and digital traceability.

Result Group will be demonstrating a C-wrap labeller capable of applying a label to the top, side and bottom of a pack at super-high speed, with one of the smallest footprints of any labeller on the market.

Use cases include tray labelling across meat, poultry, fish and other food categories, as well as prepared meals.

For food manufacturers, these technologies are becoming increasingly important as more information needs to be placed on every pack. From ingredients and allergens to batch codes, storage instructions, origin details and retailer requirements, packaging must now carry accurate information while keeping production efficient.

Result Group will show how the right combination of labelling, coding and marking can help manufacturers place the right information on the right pack, at the right time.



Traceability will also be a major part of Result Group's foodpro showcase, not as a future idea, but as a solution already proven in industry.

Result Group's Plug-and-Play Traceability Platform has already been implemented with the Australian table grape industry, where it is being used by growers, packers, exporters and supply chain partners to support practical, connected traceability.

The platform is designed to work with existing systems, labels, data sources and supply chain processes. It connects product, packhouse and supply chain information to help businesses improve visibility, strengthen provenance, support compliance and reduce manual data handling, especially for exports markets.

The important message for foodpro visitors is that the solution is already built, proven and ready to use. While it has been demonstrated in the table grape industry, the same Plug-and-Play approach can be implemented across other industries that need practical traceability without unnecessary complexity.

A QR code or 2D code on a pack can connect the physical product to digital information such as origin, batch details, production data, quality assurance, compliance records, recall information and consumer-facing product stories.

"Traceability does not need to be complicated," said Dossor. "The Plug-and-Play Traceability Platform has already shown what is possible in the grape industry. Now we can take that proven model and help other industries connect their products, data and supply chains in a practical way."

At foodpro 2026, Result Group will show how smart packaging can help manufacturers reduce waste, improve efficiency, support compliance and build trust through better product information. A laser mark can identify. A linerless label can reduce waste. A QR code can connect.

A traceability platform can tell the product journey.

RESULT
GROUP OF COMPANIES

LABELLING & CODING

LIVE ON THE LINE

Linerless labelling, laser coding, wrap-around labelling and marking solutions

CHICKEN
FRESH • QUALITY • TRUSTED
RAISED IN AUSTRALIA
1.15kg

MACSA UV LASER CODING
PRODUCT: COFFEE BEANS
INGREDIENTS: 100% ARABICA COFFEE
ORIGIN: COLOMBIA HUJIA REGION
ROAST: MEDIUM ROAST
NOTES: COCOA • CARAMEL • CITRUS
PACKED ON: 24 MAY 2025
BEST BEFORE: 24 MAY 2027
LOT: COLOMBIA
STORAGE: STORE COOL & DRY
LASER MARKED FOR PERMANENT CODING

AU-MEL
MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA
PRODUCT: CHICKEN
NET WEIGHT: 1.05kg
GRADE: A
CARTON: CR 100
PRODUCTION CODE: 24 MAY 2026
LOT CODE: 24 MAY 2026-T2
BEST BEFORE DATE: 24 MAY 2027

LINERLESS LABELLING | CODING & MARKING | 2D BARCODES | TRACEABILITY | AUTHENTICITY

foodpro 2026 | **VISIT US AT STAND AH50**
26-29 JULY 2026
MCEC MELBOURNE

Result Group invites food and beverage manufacturers, processors, packers, brand owners, exporters and supply chain partners to visit **Stand AH50** to see these solutions in action.

Visit Result Group at foodpro 2026

Stand: AH50

Dates: 26-29 July 2026

Venue: MCEC Melbourne

Book a meeting with Result Group prior to the show.



DIPLOMA IN PACKAGING TECHNOLOGY

Internationally recognised as the premier qualification in the packaging industry.

PIABC Approved Training Academy



**Australasian
Institute
of Packaging**



PIABC
Awarding Qualifications
for the Materials Cycle



The Diploma in Packaging Technology is a Level 5 PIABC, 51-credit foundation degree-level qualification that prepares students to take responsibility for packaging operations at any level through the supply chain and can also lead to higher level study.

What's in it for me?

Completion of the Diploma in Packaging Technology demonstrates your commitment to your career and to the industry. Students who successfully complete the course and achieve the qualification are equipping themselves for senior positions within the packaging industry.



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RESULT
GROUP OF COMPANIES

July 2026

foodpro 2026

AIP to Partner - Packaging Sessions, Training Courses & Stand



WHEN: 26 - 29 July 2026

WHERE: Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

WHAT: AIP elevates packaging discussing at foodpro 2026.

foodpro, Australia's leading trade event for food processing, packaging and innovation, has announced a major new partnership with the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) – giving the industry even more reasons to gather in Melbourne from 26–29 July 2026.

Over four dynamic days, foodpro 2026 will bring together the full spectrum of food manufacturing and packaging with more than 400 exhibitors, cutting-edge displays, and hands-on learning opportunities for attendees. Including the chance to take part in AIP-led mini training courses and forums, covering key topics in food packaging innovations, sustainable packaging design and regulations, food waste and the intersection with packaging and more.

The AIP will also be hosting exclusive industry networking events and showcasing the finalists and winners of the 2026 Packaging Innovation & Design Awards (PIDA) across the four days of foodpro.

As one of the leading Association Partners for foodpro, the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) has developed an action-packed week for anyone that is interested in learning more about packaging for the food and beverage industries.

During foodpro the AIP will be offering 6x educational sessions including 2x mini training courses, a walking tour of the show, a Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design (PIDA) Award showcase with the winners being announced on the 28th of July, and the AIP will have an exhibition stand.



The Future of Packaging Starts Here

Meet MCC at FoodPro 2026

Discover smarter packaging solutions, explore our latest innovations, and connect with our team at Australia's leading food manufacturing exhibition.



Join MCC at FoodPro Melbourne 2026

We're counting down to FoodPro 2026 and look forward to welcoming customers, partners, and industry professionals to Stand V44.

This year's showcase will spotlight a range of innovative packaging solutions designed to meet the evolving demands of modern brands helping them enhance efficiency, reduce environmental impact, and elevate product performance without compromise.

Come and discover how MCC Label Asia Pacific continues to shape the future of labelling through innovation, collaboration, and customer-focused solutions that bring real impact from concept to shelf.

MCC Label Capabilities

Linerless Wrap



A wraparound label with no backing liner, reducing waste and improving efficiency.

Shrink Sleeve



360° coverage for maximum branding and unique container contours.

Extended Content Label



Extended Content Labels maximize limited packaging space by offering multilayer or perforated surfaces for expanded branding, regulatory, and promotional content without compromising design impact.

Pressure Sensitive



Pressure sensitive labelling is the perfect balance of cost efficiency and premium brand appeal that produces sharp, bright colors in a wide variety of applications.

Folding Carton



Folding Cartons help your brand stand out to consumers on the crowded retail shelf space.

OPP Wrap Label



OPP Wrap Labels offer high clarity, durability, and excellent print quality, making them ideal for laboratory packaging applications. They provide strong resistance to moisture, soiling, and handling while maintaining vibrant branding on shelf.

Visit us at Stand V44
26–29 July 2026 | MCEC Melbourne
Let's explore the future of packaging together!



SCAN TO
SCHEDULE YOUR
MEETING

26 - 29 July 2026 MCEC Melbourne MCC Label Asia Pacific mcc.australia





26-29 July 2026
MCEC Melbourne

Australia's Leading Trade Event for Food Processing, Packaging and Innovation.

foodpro is the must-attend event for food and beverage manufacturing in the region. Across four dynamic days, experience cutting-edge processing technology, world-class packaging, breakthrough ingredients and sustainable solutions.

The Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) will be in attendance and hosting training workshops, forums and presenting the PIDA Awards on the evening of Tuesday 28th July, making foodpro a true hub for packaging excellence.



Register for free today
foodproexpo.com

In partnership with



July 2026

AIP Packaging Sessions @ foodpro

WHEN: Monday 27 July 2026, 10.30 am to 3.30 pm
WHERE: Hospitality Suite 4, Alongside foodpro,
Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

On Monday the 27th of July the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) will be hosting 4x packaging panel discussions on the Innovation stage at foodpro.

The panel discussions will bring together a wide range of industry innovators including companies that entered the 2026 round of the Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design (PIDA) awards. Come and hear about the latest trends in packaging designs, and what is shaping the changing face of Sustainable packaging, materials and systems.

HELD ALONGSIDE



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Australasian
Institute
of Packaging

INNOVATION STAGE
MCEC

The panellists will discuss a broad range of topics including Extended Producer Responsibility regulations, the landscape for re-designing recycle ready packaging, moving towards kerbside recyclable alternatives, finding the balance between food & packaging waste, reduction of materials, reusable and refillable systems, the use of renewable materials such as sugarcane and dry moulded pulp, and more. The panellists will offer local, regional and global perspectives and will be showcasing some innovative new packaging coming out of the Australasian region.

Session 1 10.30am - 11.20am

This session will cover innovative trends in Food packaging including meat and fresh produce, save food packaging and date labelling.



Nerida Kelton FAIP
Vice President Sustainability & Save Food
World Packaging Organisation (WPO)



Michael Dossor MAIP
Chief Executive Officer
Result Group



Warwick Armstrong MAIP
Managing Director Oceania
IPE Pack and Technology Oceania



Prof. Simon Lockrey
School of Design, RMIT University
National Reduce Program Leader, End Food Waste CRC

Session 2 11.30am - 12.20pm

This session will discuss the latest trends and design innovations in kerbside recyclable fibre and renewable materials.



Mark Rohrlach
Regional Sales Manager Industrial Australasia
Detpak



Ola Wicik AAIP
Packaging Engineer
Opal



David Kilpatrick MAIP
R&D, Quality and Innovation Director
Zipform Packaging

Session 3 12.30pm - 1.20pm

This session will cover Sustainable Packaging design, recycle ready materials, washable adhesives, light weighting and recycled content.



Pippa Corry MAIP
Founder & Director
Philo & co



Saurabh Narula MAIP, CPP
Packaging Manager
McCormick Foods Australia



Devaki Rajendran MAIP
APAC Regional Sustainability Manager
MCC Label



Craig Walker MAIP
Packaging Specialist
Woolworths Group

Session 4 1.30pm - 2.20pm

This session will discuss refillable and reusable innovations and the shift to certified compostable packaging for ready meals, restaurants & hospitality.



Harald Hendriks AAIP
Owner
Pac Food



Glenn Drake MAIP
Business Development Manager - ANZ
Bonson Packaging



Darren Phillips
Commercial Manager ANZ
Finest Global Limited



Joe Macias
Chief Operating Officer
Pinnacle Packaging

Register as a Visitor to foodpro and the join the AIP at the Innovation Stage.

All attendees will attain CPD points towards the globally recognised Certified Packaging Professional (CPP) designation.



July 2026

AIP 2x Mini Training Courses @ foodpro

WHEN: Tuesday 28 July 2026, 10.30 am to 4.00 pm

WHERE: Hospitality Suite 4, Alongside foodpro, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

WHAT: On the 28th of July the AIP will be running not one, but two, mini training courses which are designed for the micro and SME sector, as well as the multinationals.

HELD ALONGSIDE



HOSPITALITY SUITE 4



Mini Training Course 1: Unboxing Accessibility: Easy to Open, Reclose, Grip & Handle Packaging Design

WHEN: Tuesday 28 July 2026

WHERE: Alongside foodpro 2026, Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre (MCEC)

TIME: 10.15 am arrival, 10.30 am start, 1.00 pm finish

ROOM: Hospitality Suite 4

WHAT: Is your packaging Easy to Open? Easy to close? Does your packaging need a knife to open?

The Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) will be running a three-hour training course on UNBOXING ACCESSIBILITY: How to design better packaging that everyone can open, close, grip and handle and all of industry is invited to attend.

The accessibility of a product essentially relates to the ease of use a consumer experience when interacting with a product. Making a product accessible and easy-to-use or open adds value to a product for all. Accessibility is especially important for the independence of those with functional limitations such as reduced strength or dexterity. Groups particularly impacted are those with a disability, chronic pain, injury or illness, as well as the growing ageing population. For these groups inaccessible packaging and products become daily barriers to achieving everyday tasks like preparing a healthy meal and living independently.

LECTURERS:



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



Prof Pierre Pienaar MSc FAIP, FIPSA, CPPL
Education Director - AIP
Immediate Past President - WPO

THIS COURSE WILL ENABLE PARTICIPANTS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND:

- The required design requirements for Accessible & Inclusive Packaging design.
- What bad packaging really looks like and how it can impact the lives of many.
- How to use Ease-of-Use packaging design tools which including examples from around the world.
- Best Practice award-winning examples of what good Accessible Packaging should look like.
- Case studies, checklists and guides to help you to design better packaging that everyone can open, close, handle and grip.
- Consumer struggles and victories with daily use products and how it impacts their every day to encourage more inclusive designs.
- Accessible & Inclusive packaging design guidelines and how to embed them into your packaging design.



July 2026

AIP 2x Mini Training Courses @ foodpro

WHEN: **Tuesday 28 July 2026**, 10.30 am to 4.00 pm

WHERE: Hospitality Suite 4, Alongside foodpro, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

WHAT: On the 28th of July the AIP will be running not one, but two, mini training courses which are designed for the micro and SME sector, as well as the multinationals.

HELD ALONGSIDE



HOSPITALITY SUITE 4



Mini Training Course 2: Future of Soft Plastics & Flexible Packaging: Sustainable Trends & Innovations

WHEN: **Tuesday 28 July 2026**

WHERE: Alongside foodpro 2026, Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre (MCEC)

TIME: 1.15 arrival, 1.30 pm start, 4.00 pm finish

ROOM: Hospitality Suite 4

WHAT: **With global focus still pointed heavily at curbing plastic waste (and plastic packaging waste in particular), the future of flexible packaging is multi-faceted and diverse - just like this mini course.**

Attendees will be presented with an overview of the industry and what is driving changes in soft plastics and flexible packaging both locally and abroad, including considerations surrounding food waste, emissions, legislation, and on-pack labelling requirements.

OBJECTIVES:

- To understand the important role that flexible packaging plays in the supply chain.
- To learn about the various flexible packaging materials that can be utilised for more sustainable outcomes.
- To understand the challenges and opportunities that exist with the recycling and processing of soft plastics.
- To understand the key tailwinds driving the flexible packaging industry and the relevant obligations of brand owners and packaging suppliers in the short-medium term.
- To discover the vast resources available to brand owners and suppliers to support them through the ever-changing landscape of flexible packaging.

LECTURER:



Joe Foster FAIP
Education Team
AIP



Become an AIP Member

Become a part of a large community of like-minded packaging professionals across Australasia



Australasian
Institute
of Packaging



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Please find out more by
visiting our website
aipack.com.au or
following us on LinkedIn.



July 2026

2026 AUSTRALASIAN PACKAGING INNOVATION & DESIGN (PIDA) AWARDS

SOLD OUT: With waiting list

Gala Dinner



Tuesday 28 July 2026

Crown Aviary, Crown Complex Melbourne Victoria, Australia
Alongside FoodPro



PLATINUM PLUS PARTNER



PLATINUM PARTNERS



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CLOSURES



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WORLDSTAR
GLOBAL
PACKAGING
AWARDS

Book your place today



July 2026

AIP expert walking tour for foodpro

WHEN: **Wednesday 29 July 2026**

WHERE: Alongside foodpro, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

WHAT: The AIP will have an expansive Education team attending foodpro so they will be taking Walking Tours of the show for AIP Members and industry colleagues, as well as for all of the students that the AIP has across the Diploma in Packaging Technology, the Certificate in Packaging, the Fundamentals of Packaging Technology course and the Master of Food & Packaging Innovation degree. Anyone is welcome to join the walk tour with the AIP experts, visit AIP member stands and discuss key trends and innovations that are being showcased. This walking tour will also include the Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design (PIDA) showcase and announce the winners of the 2026 round.

HELD ALONGSIDE



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October 2026

ProPak Hanoi

WHEN: 13 - 15 October 2026

WHERE: Vietnam Exhibition Centre (VEC), Dong Anh, Hanoi, Vietnam

Inheriting the proven success of ProPak Vietnam, ProPak Hanoi 2026 marks the first time the brand has launched in the North market, continuing to strengthen its position as the leading exhibition on processing and packaging technology in Vietnam.

Taking place in Hanoi – the political and industrial centre of the country – the continuation of the journey brings advanced technologies, extensive professional knowledge and opportunities to connect effective business.

Expanding coverage in the northern market

Access to key manufacturing, processing and packaging enterprises in Hanoi and neighbouring provinces – potential areas and possessing a fast growth rate.

AIP to Partner - Hanoi Packaging
Forum, Training Courses & Stand

PROPAK
HANOI



Take advantage of the strong wave of FDI

With a 35% increase in FDI in the first quarter of 2025, northern provinces such as Bac Giang are becoming a strategic industrial centre, leading to a great demand for advanced processing and packaging technology.

Modern venues, international standards

Taking place at the Vietnam Expo Center (VEC), ProPak Hanoi 2026 offers a modern exhibition space, conveniently connected to key industrial parks and city centres.



PROPAK HANOI Co-located Event **DRINK & TECH**

**TRIỂN LÃM QUỐC TẾ VỀ
CÔNG NGHỆ XỬ LÝ, CHẾ BIẾN
& ĐÓNG GÓI BAO BÌ TẠI HÀ NỘI**

The International Processing and Packaging Exhibition in Hanoi

★ **13 - 15 OCTOBER 2026**

Hall 1, Vietnam Exposition Center (VEC), Dong Anh, Hanoi

Đơn vị Tổ Chức

Đối Tác Chiến Lược

Đối Tác Hỗ Trợ

Discover more at:
www.propakhanoi.com



UPM Adhesive Materials – Proud Sponsor of the
**2026 Australasian Packaging Innovation &
Design (PIDA) Awards**

Our heartfelt congratulations to every winner

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PROPAK
HANOI

Co-located Event
DRINK TECH



13 – 15 OCTOBER 2026

Vietnam Exposition Center (VEC),
Dong Anh, Hanoi

TRIỂN LÃM VÀ HỘI THẢO QUỐC TẾ VỀ
**CÔNG NGHỆ XỬ LÝ, CHẾ BIẾN &
ĐÓNG GÓI BAO BÌ** **TẠI HÀ NỘI**

The International Processing and Packaging Exhibition and Conference in Hanoi



Organizer



informa
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Services Company
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This event is powered by
**Renewable
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October 2026

AIP Training Course 1: Steps to design Sustainable Packaging: Guidelines for primary, secondary & tertiary packaging

HELD ALONGSIDE

PROPAK
HANOI

WHEN: Tuesday 13 October 2026
Day 1 ProPak Hanoi

WHERE: Alongside ProPak Hanoi 2026,
Vietnam Exhibition Centre (VEC) Dong Anh, Hanoi, Vietnam

TIME: 10.15 am arrival, 10.30 am start, 1.00 pm finish

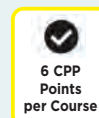
WHAT: **Achieving the lowest possible environmental impact can sometimes be very challenging, particularly when balancing various environmental criteria with other functional and commercial considerations.**

The Sustainable Packaging Guidelines (SPGs) have been established to assist the design and manufacture of primary, secondary and tertiary packaging that meets the sometimes-conflicting demands of the market, consumer protection, fit-for-purpose and functional packaging, shelf life, recycling and recovery and the overall environmental impacts.

Sustainable Packaging ultimately ensures that the design provides the lowest possible environmental impact compared to existing or conventional packaging and also takes into consideration trade-offs and un-intentional consequences through inadequate packaging design. Costs, price sensitivities, regional-focus, competitiveness of the country are all considerations that also need be discussed during this important training course run by the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP).



Ralph Moyle FAIP
Education Coordinator
Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP)



AIP Training Course 2: Unboxing Accessibility: Easy to Open, Reclose, Grip & Handle Packaging

HELD ALONGSIDE

PROPAK
HANOI

WHEN: Wednesday 14 October 2026
Day 2 ProPak Hanoi

WHERE: Alongside ProPak Hanoi 2026, Vietnam Exhibition Centre (VEC) Dong Anh, Hanoi, Vietnam

TIME: 9.15 am arrival, 9.30 am start, 12.30 pm finish

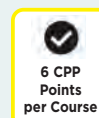
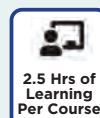
WHAT: **Is your packaging Easy to Open? Easy to close? Does your packaging need a knife to open?**

The AIP will be running a three-hour training course on Unboxing Accessible & Inclusive Packaging Design: How to design better packaging that everyone can open, close, grip and handle and all of industry is invited to attend. The accessibility of a product essentially relates to the ease of use a consumer experience when interacting with a product.

Making a product accessible and easy-to-use or open adds value to a product for all. Accessibility is especially important for the independence of those with functional limitations such as reduced strength or dexterity. Groups particularly impacted are those with a disability, chronic pain, injury or illness, as well as the growing ageing population. For these groups inaccessible packaging and products become daily barriers to achieving everyday tasks like preparing a healthy meal and living independently.



Ralph Moyle FAIP
Education Coordinator
Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP)



October 2026

Hanoi Packaging Forum

WHEN: **15 October 2026, Day 3 ProPak Hanoi**

9.15 am arrival, 9.30 am to 12.30 pm

WHERE: Vietnam Exhibition Centre (VEC), Dong Anh, Hanoi, Vietnam

The AIP will be working with Informa Markets to launch the inaugural Hanoi Packaging Forum at ProPak Hanoi. The forum will be built on Panel discussions

that will bring a wide range of packaging experts from across the regional and the globe to Hanoi.



November 2026

interpack China

WHEN: **16 - 18 November 2026**

WHERE: Shanghai New International Expo Centre (SNIEC), China

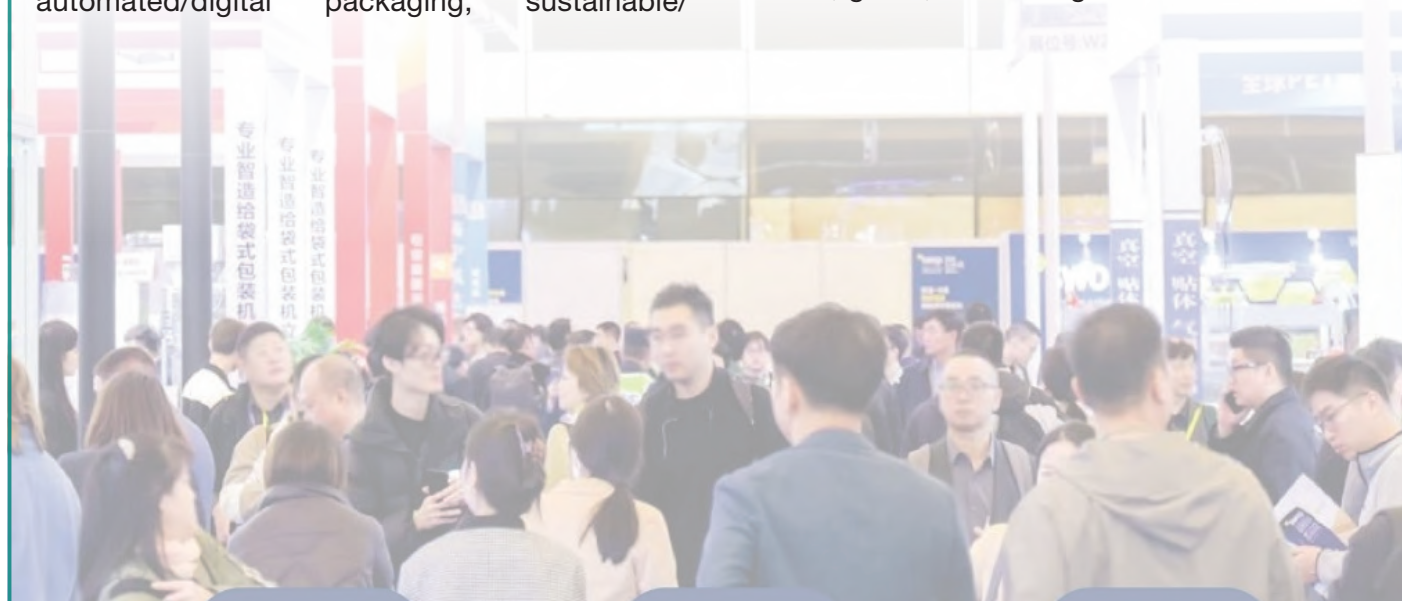
WHAT: Messe Düsseldorf (Shanghai) Co., Ltd. and Adsale Exhibition Services Ltd. will join hands to present the interpack China (formerly known as 'Shanghai World of Packaging' from 16th to 18th November 2026 at Shanghai New International Expo Centre (SNIEC). In 2026, interpack China will celebrate its 11th anniversary milestone.

As a member of the interpack alliance, interpack China deeply explores cutting-edge fields such as artificial intelligence, intelligent/automated/digital packaging, sustainable/

NEW AIP Corporate Partner



personalised/lightweight packaging, processing and packaging machinery, innovative materials and products, components, printed labels, and packaging design. With a scale of over 70,000 square meters, interpack China 2026 will present innovative products and technologies from approximately 970+ global leading enterprises in a one-stop platform. It is expected to bring together over 47,000 professional visitors from home and abroad, jointly driving the packaging industry toward an efficient, green, and intelligent future!



Global Linkage Intelligent Future



16-18 NOVEMBER 2026
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Senior Project Manager

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interpack China 2026 Layout



- Plastic Packaging Machinery
- First Packaging Machines
Secondary Packaging Machines
Measurement and Testing Machines
Sleeve Labelers & Labeling Machines
Inkjet Coding & Laser Marking
Food Processing Equipment
Ultrasonic Equipment
Parts & Components
- Green Power Pavilion
- Packaging Products & Materials

70,000 sqm
Exhibition Area

970+
Exhibitors

47,000+
Trade Visitors

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Global network brings professional resources



ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES IN CHINA

Explore the No.1 packaging market in Asia



INTERNATIONAL PAVILION

Premium position to showcase innovations



77% DECISION-MAKERS VISITORS

Meet executives directly involved in investment decisions

March 2027

APPEX 2027

WHEN: 16-19 March 2027

WHERE: MCEC, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

WHAT: APPEX was formed in 2024 on the 35-year foundation of the former AUSPACK event, taking what was previously a packaging-focussed event and combining it with the processing industry in what was a 50% larger event.

APPEX is now every 3 years uniting the best in processing and packaging machinery as well as materials, packaging and ancillary equipment.

The APPEX event offers an education program as well as unique networking areas designed to allow visitors and exhibitors to connect, network and to enjoy their day at the event.



Australia's Largest Expo for the
Processing & Packaging Industry

appex 27
AUSTRALASIAN PROCESSING
AND PACKAGING EXPO



16-19 MARCH 2027
MCEC, Melbourne

June 2027

ProPak Asia 2027

AIP to Partner - Global Packaging Forum, Training
Courses, Workshops, PIDA showcase & Stand

PROPAK
ASIA

WHEN: 9-12 June 2027

WHERE: IMPACT Muang Thong Thani, Bangkok, Thailand

WHAT: **Advancing Processing, Packaging & Manufacturing for a Smarter Future**

As Asia's leading platform for processing, packaging, automation, and industrial innovation, ProPak Asia brings together global technology providers, manufacturers, and industry leaders to shape the future of production.

Driven by advancements in AI, automation, digital transformation, and sustainability, ProPak Asia showcases cutting-edge technologies, expert

insights, and global business opportunities across the entire processing and packaging ecosystem—bringing together manufacturers, brand owners, technology providers, and industry professionals from diverse sectors worldwide.

Join us at ProPak Asia 2027 and stay on the forefront of the manufacturing industry.

Ask the AIP about how you can join the 2027 Australasian Delegation



PROPAK ASIA

The Premier Global Exhibition for
Processing & Packaging in Asia

9 > 12
JUNE
2027

IMPACT

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PROPAK ASIA

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Processing & Packaging in Asia

9 > 12
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Gain insights from industry leaders.

2 Exclusive Training Courses:
Enhance your skills and knowledge.

2 Interactive Workshops: Collaborate
and innovate.

PIDA Showcase Display:
Witness cutting-edge packaging
solutions.



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**AUSTRALASIAN INSTITUTE OF
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“Awesome to attend this massive show. I learnt so much during the AIP sessions and trainings. Being part of the delegation is an amazing way to network. I made new contacts including a potential customer and a potential supplier!”

“It was a joyful moment with my new encounters! Packaging is indeed a complex topic with different people from across the continent and across different subset of the field. I had an opportunity to not only meet people from my own specialty in plastic, but also from paper industry. This opportunity was great as we all strive for sustainability goals within the industry, regardless from what perspective we might have. Lastly, the most fun I had was the opportunity of networking without any seniority. In the AIP it doesn't matter if you are in CEO level, Worldwide association level, or student. Everyone shared their expertise without any social barriers and enjoyed ourselves to the fullest with our passion in the industry!”



September 2027

Foodtech Packtech

WHEN: 21 - 23 September 2027

WHERE: Auckland Showgrounds, North Island, New Zealand

WHAT: Foodtech Packtech (FTPT) and the Materials Handling & Logistics Expo (MHL) is New Zealand's premier trade event for the food manufacturing, packaging and processing technology, materials handling, warehousing and logistics industry. This collaboration offers exhibitors the opportunity to connect with over 4,500 registered industry professionals and

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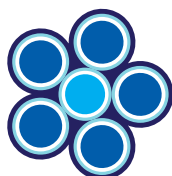
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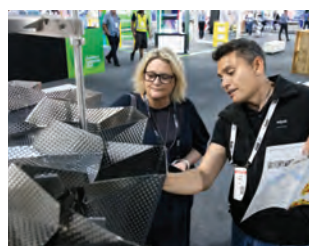
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Australian Delegation joins 76,890 visitors at ProPak Asia 2026



ProPak Asia 2026, Asia's premier processing and packaging event, officially took place from June 10–13, 2026. The event relocated to a larger venue at IMPACT Muang Thong Thani in Bangkok, Thailand, expanding its exhibition space to over 60,000 square metres.

The event reinforced Thailand's position as Asia's strategic hub for manufacturing, innovation, and food, beverage, and packaging technologies.

Informa Markets also announced plans to elevate the 2027 edition into a world-class comprehensive exhibition by co-locating with ASEAN Paper Bangkok and LOUPE Southeast Asia 2027.

ProPak Asia Highlights

60,000
square metres
exhibition space

over **2573**
exhibitors

40
countries
exhibited

more than
76,890
visitors to
ProPak Asia

AIP trained over
200
people

GLOBAL
PACKAGING
FORUM
with **250 people**


35 expert speakers
from over **12** countries

15
international country
pavilions
including Australia



PROPAK ASIA



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▲ Heat & Control





The AIP once again hosted a 20 person Australasian Delegation to attend ProPak Asia. The delegates came from Australia - including Western Australia, New Zealand, Vietnam and Malaysia. We also had a Master of Food & Packaging Innovation student from the University of Melbourne join this year.

Joining the delegation is available to all AIP Members in the Asia region and anyone in Australia and New Zealand that would like

to attend the show as a visitor, buyer, or potential exhibitor in the Australasian Pavilion in the future.

The AIP and Informa Markets provide incentives to join the delegation including assistance with accommodation and other perks.

Expressions of interest for 2027 are now open and limited so reach out to the AIP at info@aipack.com.au asap.





ProPak Asia 2026 was a genuinely valuable and energising week, and joining the AIP team made the experience even more worthwhile.

"What stood out most was how much the industry is working through the same questions we think about every day at Caps & Closures: how do we make packaging more sustainable without compromising function? How do we keep pushing design forward when the pressures around cost, efficiency, and practicality are very real? Seeing how different companies and individuals approach those questions through their materials, technology, and ways of thinking was a real shift in perspective.

It challenged some assumptions, confirmed others, and gave me plenty to bring back into our own work".

The AIP created exactly the kind of environment where those conversations could happen openly and productively. That kind of access to the broader industry is hard to manufacture, and it is something

I really valued. A big thank you to the AIP team for the invitation, and to everyone involved for creating such a valuable environment for learning and industry discussion.

Lachlan Holmes, Business Development & Operations Support, Caps & Closures



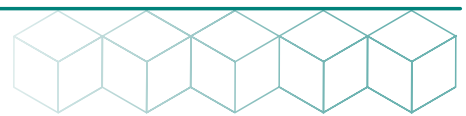
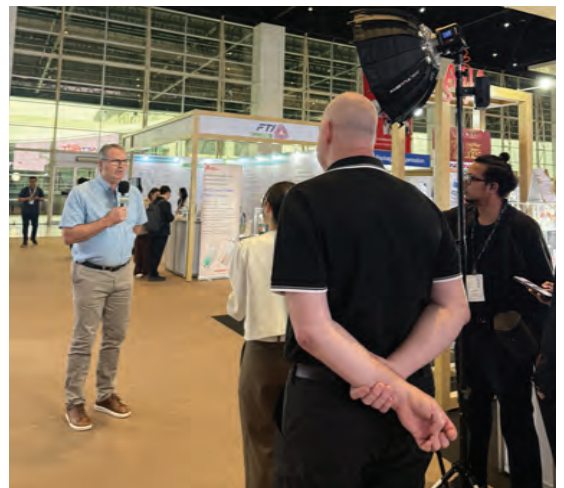
▲ Meeting VP of the Sri Lankan Institute of Packaging





"Awesome to attend this massive show. I learnt so much during the AIP sessions and trainings. Being part of the delegation is an amazing way to network. I made new contacts including a potential customer and a potential supplier!"

Jean-Francois Roiran





▲ AIP Australasian Delegation dinner

"It was a joyful moment with my new encounters! Packaging is indeed a complex topic with different people from across the continent and across different subset of the field. I had an opportunity to not only meet people from my own specialty in plastic, but also from paper industry. This opportunity was great as we all strive for sustainability goals within the industry, regardless from what perspective we might have. Lastly, the most fun I had was the opportunity of networking without any seniority. In the AIP it doesn't matter if you are in CEO level, Worldwide association level, or student. Everyone shared their expertise without any social barriers and enjoyed ourselves to the fullest with our passion in the industry!"

Hoang Tran MAIP, CEO, Vh Plast Ltd



The Noongar Land Enterprise Group (NLE) was very pleased to have CEO Alan Beattie participate as part of the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) delegation at ProPak Asia 2026, held in Bangkok from 9–13 June. NLE extends its sincere thanks to Nerida Kelton and Pierre Pienaar for the invitation to be part of the Australian delegation and for their commitment to supporting innovation and excellence across the food and packaging industries. As part of the ongoing development of its bushfoods enterprise, NLE has engaged with the AIP to assist in designing and implementing packaging solutions that reflect the quality, cultural integrity and commercial potential of its native food products. Access to world-class packaging expertise is a key step in ensuring NLE's products are market-ready for both domestic and international customers.



"Attending ProPak Asia was an extremely valuable experience, providing the opportunity to connect with leading packaging manufacturers and suppliers from across the region. The visit enabled NLE to identify and source suitable packaging solutions for a number of bushfood products currently under development, strengthening its capability to bring premium Noongar bushfoods to market while supporting future growth, export opportunities and economic outcomes."

Alan Beattie, CEO, the Noongar Land Enterprise Group (WA)





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ProPak Asia 2026 Report

with Lea Reynolds AAIP

I had the absolute privilege to be part of the Australasian Institute of Packaging delegation and attend Propak Asia 2026 in Bangkok, Thailand. It was truly an honour to represent the AIP as both a board member and as a team member and to accompany the 19 delegation members who travelled from across the globe including from New Zealand, Vietnam and Malaysia.

Propak Asia is an annual international trade exhibition for processing and packaging technology in Asia organised by Informa Markets. The exhibition catered to all sectors of the supply chain including packaging and production.

It certainly was the place to be for manufacturers, suppliers, and industry leaders, providing endless networking opportunities, as well as the chance to discover machinery, automation, technology, packaging materials and more.

In addition to the exhibition halls, there were break-out sessions and training seminars providing invaluable information on all the latest industry insights, regulations, developments in processing, packaging, sustainability, and digital technologies.



In collaboration with Informa Markets, the AIP ran an educational program across 3 days including the 8th edition of the Global Packaging Forum seminar with 24 speakers from around the world, 3 x packaging workshops and 2 x mini training courses.

I was fortunate to attend all 6 educational sessions and I found them to offer practical and industry-focused knowledge in key areas such as mandated regulation, circular packaging design, sustainability, food waste and safety, accessible packaging, and traceability. The speakers highlighted the importance of developing packaging solutions that balance product protection and environmental responsibility whilst meeting consumer expectations.



Key takeaways and statements from the educational sessions for me were:

- Circular economy principles.
- Mandated packaging regulations including EPR Extended Producer Responsibility and PPWR Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation.
- Innovations aimed at reducing both packaging and food waste.
- ERP needs to be mandatory to work.
- That the demand for sustainable materials has increased substantially and therefore the cost to incorporate recyclable material can be better balanced versus virgin materials.
- Brands should not wait for the EPR regulations to be finalised, they should be getting ready now so that they are ready when the regulations are rolled out.
- There is no solution that fits all in packaging.

- Treat sustainability like your personal health, focus on one area at a time because it can't happen all at once.
- GS1 will be a larger driver in active packaging.
- 2 areas that will keep on evolving are traceability and production efficiency.
- The concept that sustainable packaging and active/intelligent packaging can co exist with an example of traceability assisting in reducing food waste.
- We should not focus solely on plastics being the problem!

Whilst I didn't spend a significant amount of time visiting the exhibition stands, I did get to briefly observe some of the packaging equipment in operation and to see a wide variety of machinery including filling lines, sealing equipment, labelling machines and automated packaging lines as well as the latest in flexible packaging materials, paper-based alternatives, and innovative designs focused on improving functionality and reducing environmental aspect in the food, beverage and pharmaceutical and consumer goods industry.



▲ The AIP Education team setting up the stand and PIDA showcase.





My favourite stand would have to be Roland. I was simply fascinated by their cylindrical direct to object printer that printed beautiful designs onto clear reusable cups in approximately 30 seconds right in front of me. It was impressive to see some of the many advancements in technology in action.

Reflecting on my week at Propak Asia, it was truly inspiring to meet and to be surrounded by passionate packaging professionals who are friendly, open and willing to share their knowledge and expertise.

I was delighted to meet the lovely Luciana Pellegrino, Chakravarthi AVPS, Johannes Bergmair and Soha Atallah from the WPO World Packaging Organisation along with many of the other panellists and industry professionals.

The experience strengthened my understanding of current industry trends and sustainability initiatives. The panel discussions and training sessions enhanced my understanding of the challenges and opportunities currently facing the packaging industry and emphasised a single standout theme across all speakers being the importance of industry collaboration.

I would personally like to thank Nerida Kelton, Mark Kelton, Prof Pierre Pienaar, Joe Foster and George Ganzenmuller for the unparalleled opportunity to accompany them and attend my first international packaging exhibition where I was able to meet and learn from some of the experts and leaders within the packaging industry.

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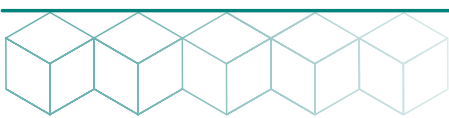




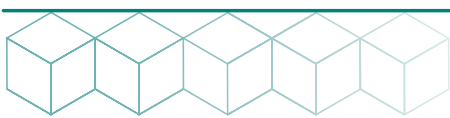
PIDA Showcase a success

The AIP showcased a broad range of finalists from the 1016 round of the Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design (PIDA) Awards in a spectacular location. Having both posters and samples of the finalists on display not only

attracted visitors all day every day, but also allowed the AIP team to explain the designs in more detail. The PIDA showcase was one of the highlights for many visitors at ProPak Asia and received many compliments.









▲ AIP members from Sealed Air and Opal.





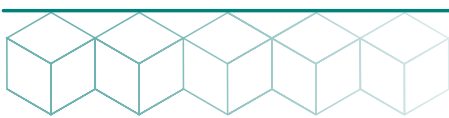
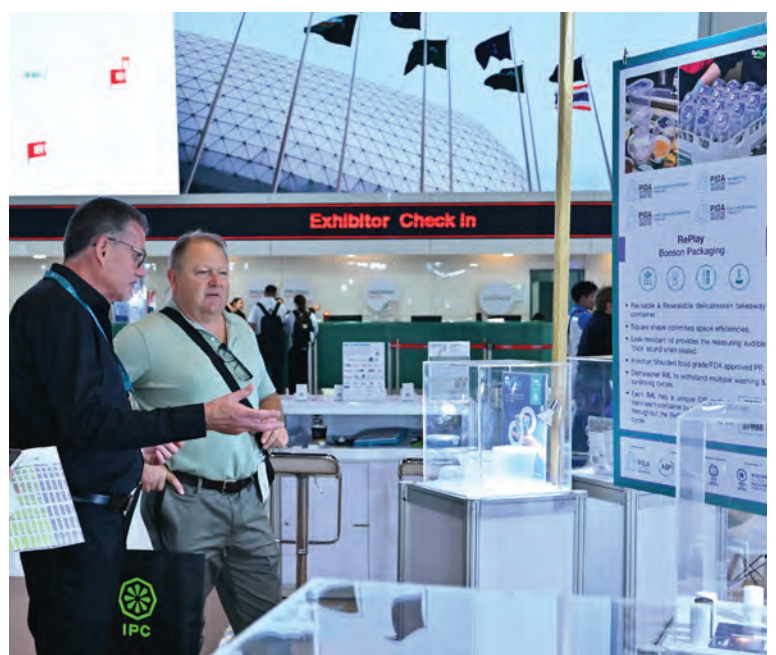
▲ AIP new Gold Partner tesa.



▲ Our English colleagues.



▲ AIP and Labthink.





▲ Indian Institute of Packaging Member.

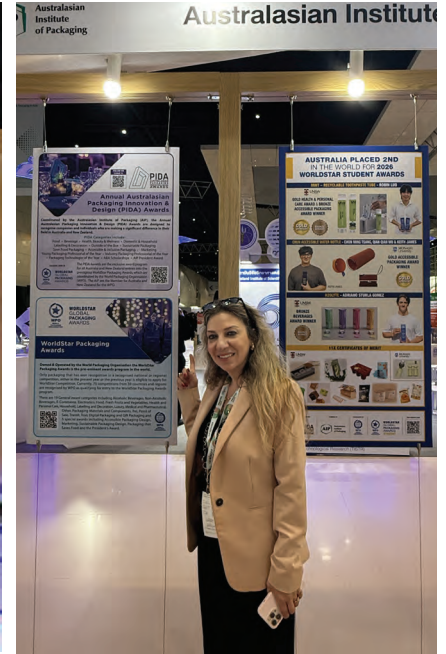


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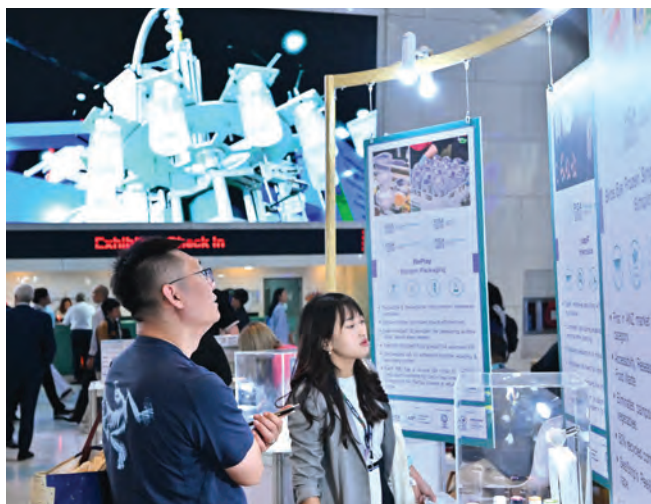




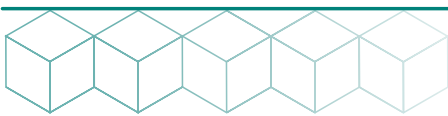
▲ Futamura Team.



▲ Sri Lankan Institute of Packaging Board members.



▲ Bangladesh Institute of Packaging Board members.

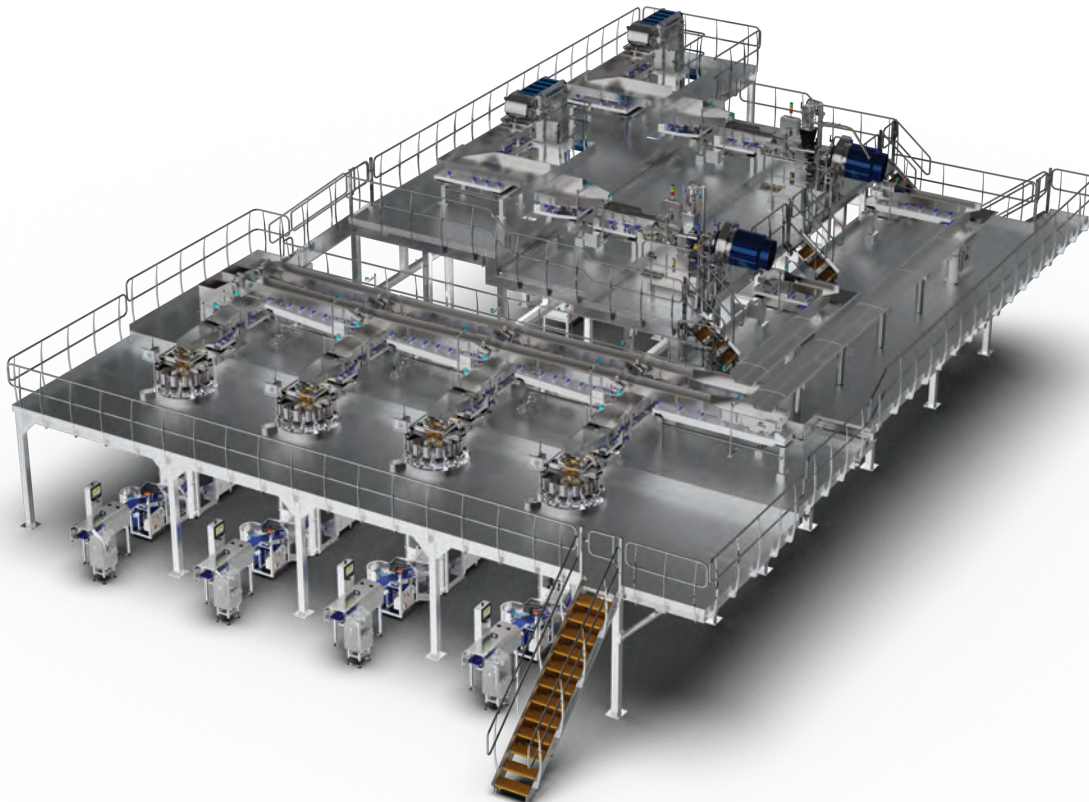




▲ Some of the Australasian Delegation.



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Bonson at ProPak Asia: Seeing RePlay™ on the International Stage

There's something special about travelling across the world to attend one of Asia's largest processing and packaging exhibitions, only to discover a home-grown project being showcased among some of the region's most innovative packaging solutions.

This week, members of the Bonson Packaging team visited ProPak Asia 2026 in Bangkok, where thousands of packaging, manufacturing, processing, and sustainability professionals have gathered to explore the latest developments shaping the future of our industry.

Among the many highlights of the event was the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) display featuring finalists from the 2026 Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design (PIDA) Awards.

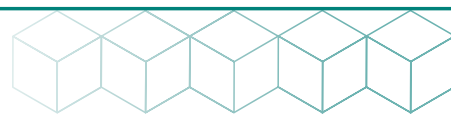
We were incredibly proud and excited to see the Bonson RePlay™ Returnable System featured alongside some of the most innovative packaging projects from across Australia and New Zealand.

A Recognition of Innovation and Collaboration

RePlay™ was developed to challenge the traditional single-use packaging model by providing a practical, scalable returnable packaging system for foodservice applications.

The system allows customers to borrow a reusable container, enjoy their meal, and conveniently return the container for professional cleaning and reuse. By keeping valuable packaging in circulation for longer, RePlay™ aims to reduce reliance on single-use packaging while maintaining the convenience consumers expect.

Seeing RePlay™ represented on an international stage was a proud moment for our team and a reminder of how much can be achieved through collaboration.



The project has only been possible thanks to the support and commitment of our partners, including:

- Foodstuffs North Island
- Circularity
- Again Again
- Ministry for the Environment | Manatū mō te Taiao.
- The participating New World stores and their teams – NW Birkenhead & NW Metro Willis St.
- The many Bonson team members who have contributed their expertise throughout the project.

Learning from Global Packaging Leaders

Beyond the excitement of seeing RePlay™ featured in the AIP display, ProPak Asia provided an excellent opportunity to explore emerging trends and technologies from around the world.

From advanced manufacturing equipment and automation systems to innovations in materials, recycling, circular economy solutions, and sustainable packaging design, the exhibition demonstrated the rapid pace of change occurring throughout the packaging sector.

Events like ProPak Asia provide valuable opportunities to learn from industry leaders, share ideas, and bring new thinking back to our customers and manufacturing operations in Australia and New Zealand.



Looking Ahead

As RePlay™ continues to be trialled and refined, it is encouraging to see growing recognition for practical circular packaging solutions that can be implemented in real-world environments today. Being recognised as a finalist in multiple PIDA Award categories was already a significant achievement. Seeing the project showcased internationally at ProPak Asia reinforces the importance of continuing to innovate and collaborate as our industry works towards more sustainable packaging systems.

A big thank you to the Australasian Institute of Packaging for showcasing the PIDA finalists and providing a platform to celebrate packaging innovation from across Australasia. We look forward to continuing the journey and sharing what comes next for RePlay™.

Read the full story here





The 8th annual Global Packaging Forum 2026 was organised by the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) in partnership with Informa Markets. It took place from June 10 to June 13, 2026, as a hallmark event within ProPak Asia 2026 at the IMPACT Muang Thong Thani in Bangkok, Thailand.

Key Highlights & Core Topics
Extended Education: The forum formed part of a comprehensive week of training, including two specialised mini-training courses and three

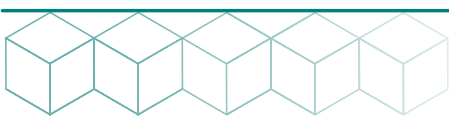
hands-on packaging workshops. **Regulatory Focus:** Keynote sessions and panels focused heavily on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and navigating updated sustainable design laws, such as Europe's PPWR guidelines.

Circular Economy Innovations: Sessions targeted the transition to plastic alternatives, particularly focusing on 'fibre-first' design, compostable materials, and soft flexible plastic recyclability.



▲ Nerida receiving samples of the Calbee mono material chip pack.







Reflections from the AIP Education Director on Training at ProPak Asia 2026

Prof. Pierre Pienaar MSc FAIP, FIPSA, CPPL

ProPak Asia 2026 featured a significant focus on the "Global Packaging Forum," held on June 10, 2026, alongside the exhibition. The forum served as a key platform for industry leaders and experts to share global, regional, and local insights on the evolving landscape of packaging. It was well attended with over 300 delegates present at various times during the day.

Summary of the 8th edition of the Global Packaging Forum covered critical industry topics, including:

- **Regulations and Sustainability:** Discussions centred on navigating global and local recycling regulations, the shift toward Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), and the importance of designing 'recycle-ready' packaging.
- **Design and Materials:** Sessions examined trends in sustainable packaging, such as material advancements, the move towards mono-materials (shifting from soft plastics), and the integration of paper and certified compostable alternatives.
- **Industry Trends:** Experts discussed the balance between food safety, functionality, and sustainability, while also addressing global supply chain limitations and the future of packaging machinery and technology.
- **Collaboration:** A key theme was the necessity of collaboration across the entire value chain to successfully implement EPR targets and reduce environmental impact.

The one-day forum focused on global, regional, and local packaging topics. We were thrilled at the interest, attendance and involvement of delegates. There certainly was a yearning for learning as they hall remained full, although there was a consistent coming and going of delegates.

I list the sessions so that you can see the diversity of our offerings:

- **Session 1:** Recycling, packaging & waste regulations, and re-designing for recycle-readiness and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR).
- **Session 2:** Sustainability from a label and adhesives perspective, caps & closures, and refillable solutions.
- **Session 3:** Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regulations and rethinking packaging design for circularity.
- **Session 4:** EU Packaging & Packaging Waste Regulations (PPWR) and the intersection of food contact materials and EPR.
- **Session 5:** Resin materials, recycle-ready materials, paper/compostable alternatives, and mono-materials.
- **Session 6:** The changing industry landscape, including supply chain limitations, machinery, and future innovations.



Beyond the formal forum, two half day training sessions on very topical subjects were held:

Unboxing Packaging Accessibility: focusing on packaging accessibility in the era of a rapid aging population.

This topic encouraged industry participants to rethink packaging designs considering aging populations, reflecting a broader commitment to ensuring packaging solutions are inclusive and accessible.

Future of Sustainable Flexible Packaging: An interactive training session focusing on sustainable trends in flexible packaging. This was well attended which was encouraging for us because it remains an important topic for the Southeast Asian industry and community.

On the day following the training sessions, the AIP held workshops. Three interactive workshops were held, utilising a panel format where industry leaders discussed topics and engaged in interactive Q&A sessions. The panel type sessions were hugely popular and well attended. Delegates enjoyed the interactive nature of these chosen topics:

1. Future of Plastic Packaging (Rigid & Flexible): Focused on recyclability challenges, rigid plastic circularity, and regulatory impacts.

2. Future of Fibre, Paper, Renewable & Compostable Packaging: Covered trends and innovations in non-plastic materials.

3. Future Trends & Innovations in Intelligent Packaging: Focused on digitalisation, 2D codes, anti-counterfeiting, and artificial intelligence in packaging.

The AIP in reflection was again 'blown' away by the interest and support that we received for all our sessions of training and involvement. There was an overall positive exchange regarding the various training session at ProPak Asia 2026.

In talking to various delegates at the close of the expo, some reflected of a shift in their perspective on packaging in general and that more effort should be placed on inclusive packaging design.

The correspondence highlights appreciation for the AIP team's ongoing support for international participants and a shared enthusiasm for future industry dialogues and events.

It is encouraging to see such collaborative engagement within the AIP community, and we in the AIP Education Team look forward to seeing how these conversations continue to influence future packaging innovations.





DIGITAL MAGAZINE

Vol. 5 • Issue 22 • April 2026

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ProPak Asia 2026 – Key Learnings Summary

Maria Becerril Roman AAIP



ProPak Asia 2026 provided a valuable perspective on the rapid changes shaping the global packaging industry, as well as key local challenges in the region.

Learnings centred on the evolution flexible plastic packaging technologies and innovation, smart packaging trends, and the growing relevance of fibre based and compostable solutions across the Asia Pacific region. I also gained insight into emerging reusable formats and observed the significant advancements in automation and quality assurance technologies across the regional manufacturing industries. This summary outlines the insights I found most relevant to our strategic planning and future decision making.

1. The Future of Flexible Plastics: Monomaterial Momentum & Global Case Studies

The flexible packaging sessions showcased rapid advancements in **monolayer and mono material structures**, with enhanced **barrier performance** from CEFLEX aligned polymers. Presenters from Europe and Australia shared

real world EPR driven trials, demonstrating both the **technical feasibility** and **operational challenges** of transitioning away from multi layer laminates.

Key takeaways included:

- Early adopters stressed the importance of **starting trials well before regulatory deadlines**, as scale up, qualification, and retailer acceptance take longer than expected.
- Case studies highlighted improved oxygen and moisture barriers in new mono PE and mono PP structures, with physical samples illustrating progress.
- New Zealand's PAKn'SAVE soft plastic machine collection trial stood out as a practical model for consumer participation and closed loop recovery.
- In Australia, the collaboration between Woolworths and Close the Loop demonstrated how retailer–recycler partnerships can accelerate national collection and reprocessing capacity.



2. Fibre Packaging Innovation & the Future of Paper-Based Solutions

The **Future of Fibre** workshop delivered some of the most forward looking insights of the event. Experts showcased innovations in **cartonboard seasonal packaging**, **renewable fibre sources**, and **agricultural waste valorisation**. Discussions centred on balancing recyclability, compostability, and performance.

Highlights included:

- A renewed interest in **cellophane** and other regenerated cellulose films as compostable alternatives where recycling infrastructure is limited.
- Advances in **moisture**, **grease**, and **oxygen barrier technologies** for fibre packaging, enabling recyclable or compostable formats without PFAS.
- **NatureFlex** solutions for cold chain and frozen applications demonstrated that compostable films can meet demanding performance requirements in specific geographies.
- Experts emphasised that fibre's future depends on fit for purpose design, regional infrastructure realities, and harmonised standards.

3. Reuse, Refill & Reusability Innovation

Reusable packaging also gained attention, with emerging models from Europe and Asia. A standout example was the **KOOR reusable bottle** from a French startup, illustrating how design, material durability, and digital tracking can converge to create scalable reuse systems. The broader message: reuse is no longer niche—it's becoming a serious innovation pillar alongside recycling and compostables.

4. Smart Packaging, GS1 Evolution & the Rise of 2D Codes

A major theme across the conference was the acceleration of **smart packaging ecosystems**, driven by GS1's global transition toward **2D barcodes**. Speakers highlighted how 2D codes enable **richer data capture**, **real time traceability**, and **integration across supply chains**, from manufacturing to retail to consumer engagement.



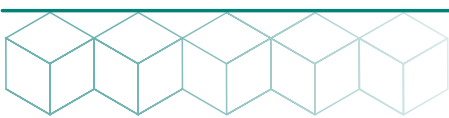
The shift is not only technological but strategic: brands are preparing for a future where **every pack becomes a data node**, supporting authentication, recalls, sustainability reporting, and circularity tracking. The consensus: companies must begin **data governance and system integration work now** to avoid being left behind as GS1 sunsets traditional 1D barcodes.

5. Technology, Automation & Quality Assurance Across Asia

The exhibition floor showcased a wide range of **processing**, **automation**, **inspection**, and **quality assurance technologies**, reflecting Asia's rapid industrial upgrading. From smart filling lines to advanced vision systems, suppliers demonstrated how automation is becoming essential for efficiency, labour resilience, and compliance with tightening global standards.

Overall Reflection

ProPak Asia 2026 made clear that the packaging industry is entering a **data driven**, **circular**, and **highly collaborative era**. Whether through smarter codes, mono material breakthroughs, fibre innovation, or reuse models, the path forward requires **early trials**, **cross sector partnerships**, and **region specific solutions**. The event delivered a strong sense of momentum—and a reminder that regulatory, technological, and consumer expectations are converging faster than ever.





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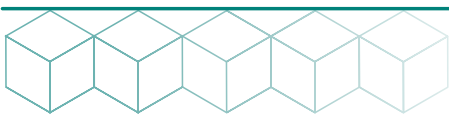


The Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) partnered with Informa Markets at ProPak Asia (held at IMPACT Muang Thong Thani in Bangkok, Thailand) to host two mini training courses, three packaging workshops, and the 8th Global Packaging Forum.

The comprehensive educational program offered:
Mini Training Courses: Unboxing Accessibility:

Addressed designing better, inclusive packaging that everyone can open, close, grip, and handle without needing tools.

The second course was with Joe Foster FAIP and was The Future of Soft Plastics & Flexible Packaging. Joe provided global and regional insights into the future of this valuable material.





▲ The Bangladesh Institute of Packaging brought a delegation to attend all AIP educational sessions.



HIGHLIGHT 11 JUNE 2026 | 11 มิถุนายน 2569

10.30-16.30 Jupiter 9

TIME	SEMINARS / ACTIVITIES	LOCATION
09:00-17:30	Asia Food Safety Forum 2026	Sapphire 205-206
09:00-15:30	ประชุมเสวนา "BCG & EPR for Thai Packaging Industry"	Sapphire 109
09:00-12:00	การประชุมเสวนาเรื่องสิ่งแวดล้อมและเศรษฐกิจ	Jupiter 5
10:00-12:00	EXECUTIVE THAI/PA TALK: GOOD DESIGN = GOOD BUSINESS, From Local Roots to Global Recognition	ProPak Stage Challenger 2
10:00-12:00	Hygienic Tank for Food and Beverage Industry and Case Studies	Jupiter 10
10:00-16:00	Technical Forum of Metal Packaging in Thailand: Challenges and Opportunities	Sapphire 110
10.30-16.30	AIP 2K mini Training Course	Jupiter 9
10.45-11.30	Alkaline water : "น้ำด่างมี pH"	ProPak Drinkosphere Challenger 2
11:00-12:00	Steak - Beef & Buffalo: The Ultimate Steak Experience: Premium Beef & Buffalo Showcase	ProPak Gourmet Challenger 3
11.30-13.30	Beverage Business Beverage Business : "เครื่องดื่มระดับโลกสู่คนไทย"	ProPak Drinkosphere Challenger 2

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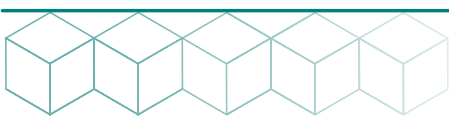
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The Power of Accessibility in the Era of Rapid Aging Population

Wilsen Kannan AAIP, CPP, Assistant Packaging Manager, Vinda Malaysia

In recent years, packaging with new features is gaining traction to influence buyers on their buying habits. Does the new feature influence the buyers to become returning customers? The answer may vary. Does a useful feature that makes the packaging more accessible influence the buyer's buying habits?

I attended the latest training conducted by Nerida Kelton and Prof Pierre Pienaar on the Topic, Unboxing Accessibility on ProPak 2026, Thailand, Impact.

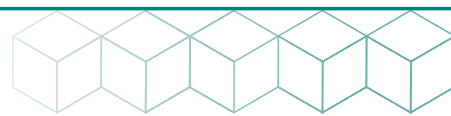
"The course left a significant impact on myself as a packaging professional on why packaging needs to serve the most basic function besides protecting the product or being appealing on shelf. It needs to be made easily accessible by everyone, regardless of their age and physical capabilities."

The objective of this training is to provide every professional with the fundamental principles of good packaging designs and how good accessibility would look like. The content of the training this year, 2026 is an eye opener.

"Why? It shows us what bad packaging design looks like which makes it hard for consumer to access the product especially in the world where rapid aging is happening due to low fertility rate."

We all knock on bottle caps, hit the bottle caps on the table, use our teeth to open tamper evident packaging or even shrink wrap, break our nails when we try to open a box or use excessive force to open a bottle of water.

We all focus on making the packaging to be appealing on the shelf, but we forget the fundamentals that make your consumer come back after a good experience. We all go on with our lives when we encounter bad packaging, but we have never been taught what happens if we are living alone and are aged or ill, or have disabilities. How do you open that container that contains your medicines or even get that pieces of contact lens out? We would try several times, be frustrated and we would opt to open the packaging in a way which it was not intended to; using knives and scissors.



What makes this new Accessible & Inclusive Training course event more impactful are the videos showing how everyday people with disabilities or even aging adults try to open products. The everyday problem we face; it is just the same problem we face just that we do not pay much attention when we are young and free of any health issue. The emotions that go through those people in the video are very real and eye-opening.

This course now makes me rethink how I should design my packaging and how I should prioritise the type of product for all types of customers. We all can have many new innovations, concepts and ideas but if does not provide the fundamentals of a good packaging with good accessibility, then there is no point in having that packaging. A very good example is the toothpaste container that is supposed to ease consumer, but it is harder to use than the conventional squeeze tube toothpaste.

Your everyday jar and bottles with shrink wrap and tamper evidence, if you cut your finger while opening or using your teeth to open the wrap, then you defeat the purpose. Just providing an explanation would not depict the whole problem since everyone can just compensate for this flaw in design and we would move on with our lives.



The videos help you put another thinking hat on to put yourself as the consumer and the design aspects that need to be included at the very beginning stage.

The live demonstration this year to show how a person living with arthritis tries to open a simple product such as a water bottle makes you rethink again why the design has to be that way. Is there a better way or can we redesign the water bottles to make them easier to open regardless of age and any form of illness. It makes you wonder, how can you achieve a design which is easier to be accessible and appealing while still balancing the cost. It engages your brain to rethink many possibilities while always putting the consumer first.

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Many participants actually wanted to try the demonstration to see if they are up to the challenge, but the live struggles and the challenge of even getting the cap of the bottle makes a dent in your confidence.

Both Nerida and Prof Pienaar together with the AIP team have come up not only with written content with the required principles, but content that makes you rethink your decisions. Training needs to have videos of real-life people and demonstrations based on real-life situations to ensure we are putting ourselves in another person's shoes to make better decisions in good packaging designs.

My take on this year training is simplified in one word 'Emotions'. Make better packaging, putting functionality first, keep it simple, and always put the people's need ahead.

Overall, this year's training is one that can immediately make a difference in a very competitive market by emphasising the human aspects of things. Always use the right tool, principles, test out your packaging, refine and redesign as needed and create awareness on packaging accessibility. Not forgetting, videos and demonstrations would always make a difference when engaging with audiences of many different countries.



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Interactive Packaging Workshops

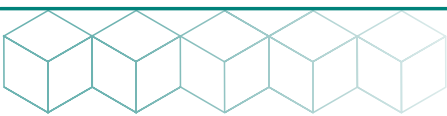
Workshop 1: Future of Plastic Packaging (Rigid & Flexible).

Workshop 2: Future of Fibre, Paper, Renewable & Compostable Packaging.

Workshop 3: Future Trends & Innovations in Intelligent Packaging.

These courses were designed to provide actionable, touch-and-feel experiences with simultaneous translation. Attendees also earned credits toward the Certified Packaging Professional (CPP) designation.





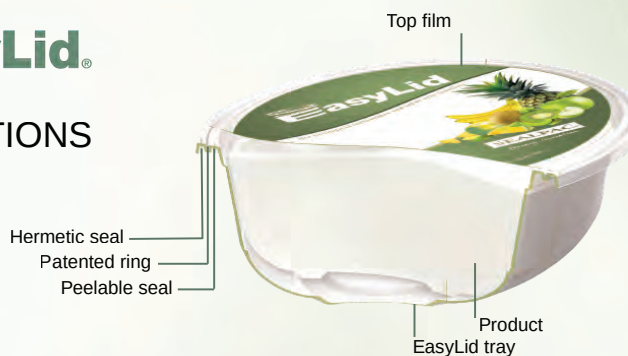


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Once again there was an Australian Pavilion and Australian Exhibitors like Heat & Control at ProPak Asia.

If you are interested in joining the pavilion please reach out to the AIP.

We would also encourage New Zealand companies to come and join the pavilion and we can make it an Australasian Pavilion in 2027.





Food & Beverage

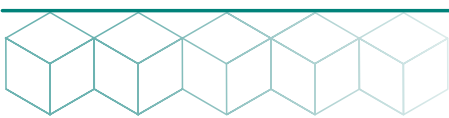
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World Packaging Organisation joins ProPak Asia

The World Packaging Organisation (WPO) also had a stand and a WorldStar showcase. Our very own Executive Director, Nerida Kelton,

also represented the WPO at a number of workshops and presentations during the week.





▲ Jean-Francois Roiron with his WorldStar winning koor display.



▲ Lea Reynolds AAIP and Nerida Kelton FAIP with the 2x ANZ winners - koor and zipform packaging.



▲ Latest AIP corporate partner, Meyer Seals with their WorldStar winning ALKOseal™.





▲ Nerida talking about Save Food Packaging.



▲ UNIDO Asia Food Safety Forum panel discussion and regulations and food safety.





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Asia Star Awards

As an Executive Member of the Asian Packaging Federation, the AIP also supported the Asia Star Awards that were held during ProPak Asia.





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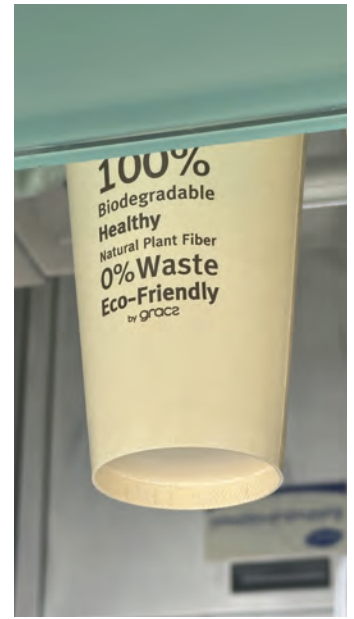
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or drop them off to us at one of our up-coming events.

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▲ Prof. Pierre Piennar kindly donated his 5th edition FPT Textbook to Dr Mouylin Chem from Cambodia.

THE AIP APPRECIATES YOUR SUPPORT WITH THIS NEW RETURN PROGRAM TO HELP OTHER PEOPLE WHO NEED ACCESS TO TEXTBOOKS.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE



Food South Australia Future of Food + Drink Summit

Representing Big Picture Packaging and the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP), I recently had the opportunity to present at the Food South Australia Future of Food + Drink Summit, contributing to discussions on Packaging Design and Sustainability.

The Summit brought together industry leaders, innovators, manufacturers, government representatives, and researchers to explore the trends, challenges, and opportunities shaping the future of South Australia's food and beverage sector.

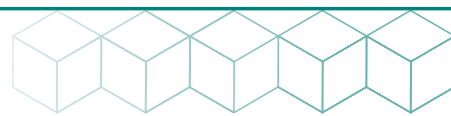
A recurring theme throughout the day was the importance of collaboration, innovation, and sustainability. Presentations covered a diverse range of topics, including future food trends, brand development, circular economy principles, collaborative manufacturing, artificial intelligence, and the role of people in driving industry transformation.

My presentation focused on how packaging can support both business and sustainability objectives through improved design, material selection, recyclability, and waste reduction.

Packaging continues to play a critical role in protecting products, reducing food waste, supporting efficient supply chains, and helping brands meet evolving consumer and regulatory expectations.

One of the key takeaways from the Summit was that the future of food and the future of packaging are intrinsically linked. As food manufacturers seek new ways to innovate and grow, packaging must continue to evolve alongside them – delivering solutions that are functional, sustainable, and commercially viable.

The event highlighted the exciting opportunities ahead for South Australia's food and beverage industry and reinforced the value of bringing together diverse perspectives to tackle shared challenges.



A sincere thank you to Food South Australia, the organisers, presenters, and attendees for delivering an engaging and thought-provoking event. It was a privilege to share insights and learn alongside so many passionate industry professionals.

Together, food innovation and packaging innovation will help build a more sustainable, resilient, and prosperous future for our industry.

Pratik Surana Dip.Pkg.Tech. MAIP

Founder & Packaging Specialist, Big Picture Packaging

Representing the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) at the Food South Australia Future of Food + Drink Summit.



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\$100 million to deliver more arthritis research

The Albanese Government is delivering a record amount of funding for Arthritis by establishing a new Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Conditions Research Mission.

We will invest \$100 million over 10 years to deliver the Mission that will boost research into arthritis and musculoskeletal conditions.

The Mission will be established through the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) and will bring together key researchers, health professionals, industry partners and patients to improve prevention, diagnosis and treatment of the debilitating condition.

More than 7 million Australians are living with Arthritis and other musculoskeletal conditions. They are complex, lifelong diseases which can strike at any age.

The new research mission is part of the Albanese Government's record investments to transform health and medical research in Australia. It will be funded through the 26-27 Budget commitment to spend \$508.5 million over four years to increase MRFF investments from \$650 million to \$1 billion a year by 2030-31.

[Read the full story here](#)



Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) News

The 11th edition of the Sustainable Development Report (SDR) has been released and provides a comprehensive assessment of progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) across all UN Member States.

With less than four years remaining in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) remains significantly off track: Only 16% of targets are projected to be achieved by the deadline.

Explore the report's key findings:



[Read the full report](#)



Australians seek national packaging reform as recycling support reaches new heights

New research from Cleanaway reveals near-universal public backing for packaging reform and onshore sustainability, as Australians' recycling commitment hits a record high - with soft plastics the number one pain point.

Australia's largest waste management and resource recovery company Cleanaway, has today released the findings of its 2026 Recycling Behaviours Report tracking consumer support and awareness for sustainability programs – and the changes they want to see for a better system.



Now in its fifth year, the report conducted in partnership with the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC), surveyed 1,000 Australians and found 94 per cent support a circular economy for packaging in Australia, 92 per cent back national rules for recycled content in plastic packaging, and 89 per cent believe there should be stronger rules for manufacturers and brands to help reduce waste.

Nowhere is the gap between ambition and infrastructure more visible than in soft plastics. Nearly two-thirds of Australians (64 per cent) say they have felt misled by soft plastics packaging that appears recyclable but isn't, while one in two (49 per cent) admit to having put soft plastics in their kerbside recycling bin hoping it would be recycled. Known as 'wishcycling' this is a well-intentioned behaviour that risks contaminating the broader recycling stream.

Support for a circular economy that keeps materials in use through recovery, recycling and reuse is now near-universal (99 per cent, up from 95 per cent in 2024).



64%

have felt misled by soft plastics packaging that appears recyclable but isn't



88%

support increasing fines for companies that do not meet recycling rules



The commitment Australians are asking for is straightforward: a system that turns plastic back into plastic – whether it be soft plastic or the rigid (hard) plastics accepted through current kerbside recycling bins. That could be achieved through measures such as setting minimum requirements of recycled content in packaging, reduced reliance on virgin materials and clear accountability for the brands that put packaging into market. Such reforms would unlock investment in domestic recycling infrastructure, create local jobs, and strengthens closing the loop between what Australians put in their bins and what ends up back on shelves.

Cleanaway is already moving to meet this demand. In partnership with Viva Energy, Cleanaway are progressing plans for Australia's first large-scale advanced soft plastics recycling facility, Cycleback Plastics. The joint venture would see soft plastics collected at scale through Cleanaway's existing waste infrastructure and converted into food-grade recycled polypropylene at Viva Energy's Geelong refinery, closing the loop between waste and new packaging.

The project moved from pre-feasibility into its engineering phase in April 2025 however, final investment decisions for the project are contingent on mandatory product stewardship and recycled content levels in soft plastics to be legislated federally. These regulations are currently being drafted by the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) in consultation with industry as part of the Packaging Reform with further details on implementation expected later this year.

The report found the majority (94 per cent) want one national plan with consistent plastics recycling rules across all states, and while the Federal Government remains the most-named leader for delivering a circular economy (32 per cent), more than one in five (22 per cent) see brands and manufacturers as having a key role to play – reflecting a growing expectation that creating packaging and managing what happens to it should go hand in hand.



71%

know batteries
cannot go
in kerbside
bins



Cleanaway is ready to work with government to meet the growing desire of Australians for a solution, understanding the importance of continued partnership between industry and community. Jeroen Wassenaar, Head of Innovation at Cleanaway said the findings are a promising signal of where Australia stands on recycling and where it needs to go next.

The 2026 Recycling Behaviours Report shows that the public appetite for reform is no longer in question. What matters now is how policy, industry and infrastructure come together to meet it. Every stakeholder in the value chain has a role to play, from recycling correctly to achieve better resource recovery, to facilities that process recycling and manufacturers who use recycled material in new products. We have the will, we have the capability, and Cleanaway looks forward to building on the momentum Australians have shown.

Recycling Behaviours Report Key Findings

Packaging reform

- 94% support a circular economy for packaging in Australia.
- 92% back national rules for recycled content in plastic packaging.
- 91% want recycled content to be a requirement across all packaging.
- 89% believe there should be stronger rules for manufacturers and brands to help reduce waste.
- 85% would prefer to buy from brands that use plastic packaging made from recycled content.
- 83% say companies should pay for the cost of recycling the plastic packaging used in their products.
- 50% are seeking out products with minimal packaging when shopping (up from 43% in 2024).

57%

of FOGO non-users say
lack of access to
kerbside
services is
the main
barrier



Soft plastics

- 94% of Australians would use a new soft plastics recycling scheme if one launched tomorrow.
- 87% say Australia should prioritise a national soft plastics solution.
- 93% support introducing a national kerbside collection for soft plastics.
- 89% would be confident soft plastics were being recycled if government initiated a formal scheme.
- 64% have felt misled by soft plastics packaging that appears recyclable but isn't.
- 61% of households recycle or intend to recycle their soft plastics.
- 49% have incorrectly put soft plastics in their kerbside recycling bin in hope it would be recycled.
- 39% of those using a soft plastics scheme can't name the scheme they're using.
- 33% describe Australia's current approach to soft plastics recycling as 'confusing'.

Circular economy

- 99% of Australians say it is important to implement a circular economy in Australia (up from 95% in 2024).
- 54% of Gen Z rate establishing a circular economy as very important.
- 86% agree recycling is a valuable contributor to developing a circular economy in Australia.
- 94% favour creating one national plan with consistent plastics recycling rules across all states.
- 88% are in favour of increasing fines for companies that do not meet recycling rules.
- 32% see the Federal Government as most responsible for implementing a circular economy (down from 40% in 2024).
- 22% place primary responsibility for the circular economy with brands and manufacturers.
- 21% place primary responsibility with Australian consumers.
- 25% rank education as the top priority for making a circular economy happen.

99%

say implementing a circular economy in Australia is important



94%

would use a new soft plastics recycling scheme if one launched tomorrow



General recycling attitudes & behaviours

- 91% agree recycling is important.
- 86% rate themselves as a good or very good recycler (up from 81% in 2024).
- 83% believe there should be national consistency in recycling standards.
- 77% say recycling correctly is easy (up from 65% in 2024).
- 54% would recycle more if they had a bigger recycling bin.
- 50% are seeking out products with minimal packaging when shopping (up from 43% in 2024).
- 25% still find recycling confusing.

Batteries & rechargeable devices

- 52% now find battery recycling easy (up from 41% two years ago).
- 71% know batteries and rechargeable devices cannot be placed in kerbside bins (down from 77% in 2024).
- 86% of 62-80 year olds correctly answer that batteries can't go in kerbside bins.
- 59% of Gen Z and 60% of Millennials know the rules - the lowest of any age group.

77%

say recycling correctly
is easy



- 76% of Australians outside capital cities answer correctly vs 68% in cities.
- 20% would incorrectly put an electric toothbrush in general rubbish 18% would incorrectly put headphones in general rubbish 47% would take batteries to a drop-off because it's the right thing to do.
- 57% of those who would take items to a drop-off do so because it's dangerous to dispose of them other ways.
- 37% don't take batteries to drop-offs because they don't know where to go.
- 37% cite inconvenience as a barrier.
- 14% say they didn't know they were supposed to take batteries to a specialised location at all.

Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO)

- 30% of Australians have a separate FOGO bin.
- 74% of Australians with a FOGO bin use it.
- 86% believe the rollout of FOGO services across Australia will help reduce waste to landfill.
- 82% believe FOGO recycling will help reduce greenhouse gases.
- 79% of FOGO bin users believe their waste is composted after collection.
- 71% of FOGO bin users say it reduces waste going to landfill.
- 57% of non-users cite lack of access to kerbside services as the primary barrier.
- 40% of all Australians say compostable bin liners would make FOGO easier.
- 33% have never seen the certified compostable logo; 21% don't know what it means.
- 22% of FOGO bin holders who never use their bin say they simply don't know how to use it.

Download the full report



The Flexible Plastic Fund (FPF) - FlexCircular

The Flexible Plastic Fund (FPF) has launched its next major initiative, FlexCircular which aims to further accelerate the UK's transition to a circular economy for flexible plastic packaging.

Building on the momentum of the award-winning FPF FlexCollect project, which successfully demonstrated that large-scale household collection of flexible plastic packaging is achievable, FPF FlexCircular represents the next critical step: moving from collection towards recycling and full-system circularity.

FPF FlexCircular builds on the results of the FlexCollect project, and is a collaborative effort with input from DEFRA, PackUK, Welsh Government and Zero Waste Scotland, and a specially commissioned project team comprising Suez, CEFLEX, WRAP and RECOUP.

This project will report its findings towards the end of 2026.



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For The Future



Australia's first national standard for recycling facilities launches

GECA, in partnership with the Australian Council of Recycling (ACOR), has officially launched the Australian Recycling Facilities (ARF) standard, establishing a new national benchmark for genuine recycling facilities across Australia.

The ARF standard provides an independent framework for assessing recycling facilities on a site-by-site basis, recognising that performance can vary across operations and locations. Developed through consultation with industry and stakeholders, the standard supports best practice in environmental management, operational performance, transparency, health and safety, and social responsibility.

The launch comes at a time when public confidence in recycling remains a challenge. Recent research found that 41 per cent of Australians do not trust that their recycling will be properly recycled, highlighting growing demand for greater transparency and accountability across the recycling value chain.

GECA CEO Josh Begbie said the new standard will help strengthen confidence in Australia's recycling system by providing independent verification of facility performance.

"Australians increasingly expect confidence that materials collected for recycling are being properly recovered and returned to productive use," Mr Begbie said.

"The ARF standard provides an independent and credible way to recognise facilities that are delivering genuine recycling outcomes and operating to high environmental, operational and social standards.

"Facilities that achieve certification will be able to independently demonstrate to customers, governments and supply chain partners that they are delivering genuinely contributing to Australia's circular economy.

"By establishing a consistent benchmark for facility performance, we can support better procurement decisions, encourage investment in resource recovery infrastructure and help strengthen Australia's recycling system."



ACOR CEO Suzanne Toubourou said the standard addresses a longstanding challenge for the recycling industry.

"The Australian Recycling Facilities standard is an important step in lifting confidence across the recycling system. For too long, it has been difficult to distinguish legitimate recycling facilities from other types of operations."

"By setting a nationally recognised benchmark, the ARF standard helps create a more transparent and accountable recycling sector. That matters not just to operators but also to customers, governments and other end users who are increasingly seeking assurance that recovered materials are being properly recycled."

"Importantly, this is also about strengthening demand for Australian recycle. When buyers have confidence in how materials are processed, it supports better procurement decisions and helps unlock investment across the circular economy."

"Over time, standards like this can play a practical role in improving outcomes on the ground and supporting a more resilient, high-performing recycling system."

The ARF standard is designed for recycling facilities that sort and intentionally transform recovered resources into recycled materials and products that meet market specifications and have commercial value.

Facilities certified under the standard undergo independent third-party assessment against criteria covering environmental management, operational performance, transparency, health and safety, and social responsibility.

Applications for certification are now open. Recycling facilities interested in demonstrating industry leadership, genuine recycling outcomes and independent verification of their operations are encouraged to explore certification under the ARF standard.



To download the standard or enquire about certification visit:



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AIP sets course on training, technical leadership

The Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) has outlined a refreshed strategic direction, positioning itself as a leading provider of technical education, training and industry guidance as packaging reform and sustainability pressures intensify across the region.



Above: AIP president John Bigley says the strategy signals a clear intent — to anchor the AIP as the region's technical authority on packaging.

THE AUSTRALASIAN INSTITUTE of Packaging (AIP) has outlined a refreshed strategic direction, positioning itself as a leading provider of technical education, training and industry guidance as packaging reform and sustainability pressures intensify across the region.

In a message to members, AIP president John Bigley said the institute's strategy is designed to strengthen its role in supporting industry through a period of regulatory uncertainty and transition, particularly as discussions around Extended Producer Responsibility and design standards gather pace.

"The AIP is proud of, and indeed cherishes, its role as an independent, apolitical, material agnostic organisation whose technical expertise is all about educating and training packaging professionals to deliver 'better packaging'," Bigley said.

FOCUS ON EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL CAPABILITY

At the core of the strategy is a renewed emphasis on education as the industry navigates increasing complexity around recyclability, circularity and environmental impact. The AIP is positioning its technical training programs as critical infrastructure for the sector.

Bigley highlighted the depth of expertise within the organisation's education team, noting that it brings "hundreds and hundreds of years of combined technical and practical experience and knowledge" across materials, formats and industries.

With packaging reform discussions resuming — including work by the Design Standards Working Group under the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water — the AIP sees a clear need for upskilling across the value chain.

"Now more than ever it is important that the AIP takes an even

larger leading regional role in providing the much-needed technical training and education for packaging professionals operating in an increasingly challenging environment," Bigley said.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK AND FIVE PILLARS

The institute has formalised its direction through a strategic framework defining its vision, mission, purpose and ambition, supported by five pillars that will guide priorities through to 2030 and beyond.

While specific actions under each pillar will evolve, the overarching focus remains consistent — expanding access to training and education across Australia, New Zealand and South East Asia. The strategy also reflects the AIP's growing international profile and influence, with the institute continuing to strengthen ties with organisations including the World Packaging Organisation, the Asian Packaging Federation and UNIDO.

The AIP has also expanded Australasian participation in international awards and student programs. In the 2026 WorldStar Awards, Australia secured 11 awards, while students achieved two Gold and two Bronze awards in the global student competition. The institute also confirmed that New Zealand students will join the PIDA program from 2027, further broadening the organisation's regional footprint.

The strategy also reinforces the AIP's commitment to balancing environmental outcomes, with equal consideration given to reducing packaging waste and minimising food waste.

CIRCULARITY, FUNCTIONALITY AND DESIGN

A key theme of the strategy is a holistic approach to packaging design, encouraging professionals to consider the full lifecycle



and functional requirements of packaging.

Bigley emphasised that packaging must be “fit for purpose and functional” while delivering the lowest possible environmental impact, incorporating principles such as recyclability, recovery, accessibility, transport efficiency and product protection.

EXPANDING SERVICES AND INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT

Alongside its education portfolio – which includes qualifications such as the Diploma in Packaging Technology and the Master of Food & Packaging Innovation – the AIP is expanding its consulting capability through a new ‘Consulting Concierge’ model, aimed at connecting industry with technical expertise.

The institute is also strengthening member value through targeted initiatives, including member-only content and continued delivery of its State of Industry webinar series.

POSITIONING FOR A CHALLENGING YEAR

With 2026 shaping as a pivotal year for packaging reform and sustainability progress, the AIP is positioning itself as a central



Now more than ever it is important that the AIP takes an even larger leading regional role in providing the much-needed technical training and education for packaging professionals.

JOHN BIGLEY, AIP PRESIDENT

enabler for industry capability and preparedness.

“2026 is going to be a very challenging year for the packaging industry... and I believe that the AIP is best equipped to give packaging professionals and the industry all the tools they need to make the journey as smooth as possible,” Bigley said.

The strategy signals a clear intent – to anchor the AIP as the region’s technical authority on packaging, supporting industry

through education, guidance and practical expertise as regulatory and market expectations continue to evolve. ■

Founded more than 63 years ago, the Australasian Institute of Packaging is the peak professional body for packaging education and training across Australia, New Zealand and parts of South East Asia. Operating as an independent, not-for-profit and material agnostic

organisation, the AIP provides technical training, industry certification, networking and professional development for packaging professionals across the supply chain. Its education portfolio includes the Diploma in Packaging Technology, Certificate in Packaging, Fundamentals in Packaging Technology, Certified Packaging Professional designation, and a range of specialist training courses and technical consulting services.

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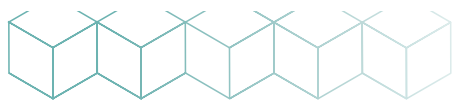


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APCO
2026

BIENNIAL

Awards Night & Sector Forum

Putting circularity to work.

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The APCO Biennial Awards and Sector Forum brings together industry, government and innovators to showcase what progress looks like in practice, and to recognise organisations turning circular packaging commitments into measurable outcomes.

Date: 1st December

Where: Sydney (Venue to be announced)

Sector Forum: 10am - 3:30pm

Awards Night: 6pm - 10pm

Register interest via the waitlist below.



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