



Australasian Institute
of Packaging

NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 10 | November 2025

Linked in



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AIP joins foodpro 2026 as Association Partner

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26-29 July 2026
MCEC Melbourne

In partnership with



Australasian
Institute
of Packaging



2026 Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design (PIDA) Awards Ceremony

14

The Crown Aviary, Crown Complex,
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia



28 July 2026

Save THE Date

NEW MEMBERS

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

NAME	GRADE	STATE/COUNTRY
Omer Bin Sohail	Associate (AAIP)	VIC
Andrew Bloomfield	Associate (AAIP)	VIC
Widya Rubi Putri	Associate (AAIP)	Indonesia
Priyavathana Sengoden Kandasamy	Member (MAIP)	New Zealand
Vicki Tsiotinas	Associate (AAIP)	VIC

State of the Industry Upcoming Webinars

AIP State of Industry Update Webinar:
Packaging & Packaging Waste Regulation
(PPWR) Part 2: Implementation & Operational Details



7

10 DECEMBER 2025



AIP State of Industry Update Webinar:
Packaging & Packaging Waste Regulation
(PPWR) Part 3: Data Management



8

DATE TBA 2026



The AIP are migrating to a
NEW LinkedIn Page!

Welcome to the
brand new LinkedIn page
for the Australasian Institute
of Packaging - AIP

Share the news far and wide!

Don't miss a beat -
follow the AIP here for all
the latest in packaging.

Linked in



MEMBER



FULL MEMBER



SUPPORTING SIGNATORY



CORE PARTICIPANT



FOUNDING PARTNER



SUPPORTER



PIABC APPROVED TRAINING ACADEMY



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



foodpro 26-29 July 2026
MCEC Melbourne

Secure Your Stand

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

Enquire Today foodproexpo.com

Association Partner  Australasian Institute of Packaging

AIP joins foodpro 2026 as Association Partner and the PIDA Awards Gala Dinner moves to Melbourne

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.

Nerida Kelton FAIP, Executive Director of the AIP, shared: “*foodpro is an important tradeshow for the food and beverage industries and we are very proud to be an Association Partner of the show.*

The AIP is also delighted to announce that, for the first time, we will be hosting the 2026 Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design (PIDA) Awards Gala Dinner on Tuesday, 28 July, alongside foodpro.

The PIDA Awards program celebrates Australia and New Zealand's most innovative packaging solutions and is the exclusive entry point for the WorldStar Packaging Awards. This prestigious awards night brings together the best-of-the-best to be recognised for their leading-edge designs.

The entire industry is invited to attend the 2026 PIDA Awards. Having the awards night aligned with foodpro is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the food and beverage finalists and winners in a dedicated space at the show, so everyone can see which packs took home a PIDA award.”

Louise Brooks, Commercial Product Manager of foodpro, added: “*We are incredibly proud to welcome the AIP as an official Association Partner for foodpro 2026 — a partnership that reflects our shared commitment to driving innovation, excellence, and collaboration across the entire food manufacturing and packaging supply chain.*

The addition of the PIDA Awards Gala Dinner to the foodpro program is a true milestone for the event. It not only celebrates the most ground-breaking packaging designs from Australia and New Zealand but also brings the industry's brightest minds together under one roof.

This is more than a trade show — it's where the future of food and packaging comes to life. From education and training to world-class innovation and networking, foodpro 2026 will be an unmissable experience for anyone serious about shaping what's next in food manufacturing and processing.”

foodpro returns to the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre from 26–29 July 2026, celebrating over 50 years of connecting and inspiring Australia's food manufacturing and processing community. Visitor registration will open soon at www.foodproexpo.com.

The PIDA Awards Gala Dinner will be held at The Crown Aviary on the 28th of July with tickets available through the AIP.



26-29 July 2026
MCEC Melbourne

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

For more than 50 years, foodpro has gathered the industry to celebrate the contribution of Australian food producers, distributors and manufacturers.

foodpro is where the industry comes together to rethink food and build the future, through collaboration, innovation and creation.



Enquire about exhibiting
foodproexpo.com



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Institute
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**australian institute of
food science & technology**



FLEXOPACK
INNOVATORS • MANUFACTURERS • PACKAGING SOLUTIONS

OESTERGAARD

Australia-first tethered cap and paper blueberry punnet



Nerida Kelton FAIP

Executive Director – AIP

Vice President Sustainability - WPO

With Packaging design changing at such a rapid pace at the moment and impending Federal Government regulations and extended producer responsibility programs coming, now is the time to really stop and look at the way you design your packaging. The next couple of years should be used to re-design your packaging with the end in mind, to consider the true recyclability of all components, to build in as much recycled content as possible and to review the environmental impact of the packaging that you put out on to market.

Right now, we are seeing a shift in mindsets in the industry with the way they design packaging. Materials are evolving, alternative packaging and material choices are being made, and there is a new perspective on what Sustainable Packaging Design should really look like. Packaging can no longer just be fit-for-purpose and functional, it also needs to be truly recyclable in the country that it is sold in and offer the lowest environmental impact.

Two unique and innovative winners of the recent round of the Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design (PIDA) Awards are examples of how to re-design packaging with the end in mind. Both are category-first designs for the region.



Tethered caps arrive in Australia

The TetherSafe cap by Caps & Closures is an innovative, sustainable packaging solution that combines functionality with regulatory compliance. It features a tethered cap mechanism and advanced materials, making it ideal for diverse industries such as health and wellness, food and beverage, beauty, and household products.

The TetherSafe is an Australian-first new generation of tamper-evident caps that transforms regulatory compliance into an opportunity to deliver sustainability, safety, and everyday ease of use. Developed by Australian family-owned business Caps & Closures, TetherSafe enhances performance by integrating a tether between the cap and the tamper-evident (TE) band.

This small, yet powerful innovation helps reduce litter, supports the recycling of caps, and ensures an effortless and secure user experience.

Rather than using a hinged design, TetherSafe keeps the cap connected to the container through a secure tethered band after opening. This design eliminates the possibility of cap separation while maintaining full resealability, cleanliness, and control during use. It answers the growing demand for closures that comply with global environmental directives, including the EU Single-Use Plastics Directive and the Packaging & Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR), without disrupting the consumer experience.

Made entirely from mono-material polypropylene, TetherSafe is lightweight, durable, and fully recyclable. The one-piece construction supports closed-loop recovery by eliminating mixed materials and loose components. The tamper-evident band provides a clear visual indication of first opening, building trust and reassurance with every use.

From a user perspective, the TetherSafe cap has also been designed with accessibility & inclusivity in mind. The ribbed outer surface offers a firm and comfortable grip for people of all ages and abilities, helping to reduce strain and support independent use.

The tethered connection ensures the cap stays attached to the bottle, reducing the risk of contamination, spills, or misplacement in both domestic and healthcare settings. Whether the product is opened by a parent, patient, child, or carer.

This closure does more than protect products. It supports sustainable behaviour, simplifies recycling, and provides an accessible experience that welcomes all users.



Category-first Blueberry Punnet with wood-pulp film

Opal have designed a category-first paper-based fresh produce punnet with a renewable cellulose window that is manufactured in Australia, kerbside recyclable, meets pulpability standards for recycling and incorporates locally sourced recycled content into the pack.

The new paper-based punnet is offered as an alternative to a traditional PET punnet and was designed for Mountain Blue and Coles supermarkets to offer the first retail paper-based blueberry punnet in Australia. Paper-based punnets are a viable alternative to single use plastic and are easy for consumers to dispose of in kerbside recycling bins in their home.

The additional feature that makes this pack so unique is that includes a transparent film window that has been made from renewable wood pulp, which is a cellulose fibre renewable film. The folding lid and re-seal function paired with the fibre cellulose window, is a new innovation in paper-based punnet packaging for the Australian market.

The punnet window enables the punnet to be re-sealed for food safety, food waste management and product visibility; all the while being recyclable through the paper stream in Australia. The cellulose window provides both barrier protection and visibility of the punnet's blueberry contents and does not need to be separated when disposing of the punnets in kerbside recycling bins.

The punnets are lightweight and are designed to not only withstand the transportation and logistics required for fresh produce distribution, but also ensures that the blueberries maintain freshness, shelf life and are not damaged across the value chain.

Opal's paper punnet assists performance through its hinged lid which provides optimal emptyability reducing product capture and food waste, reveals the total contents to the customer and has a handy re-seal function for repeat usage.

Opal will work with brands who are wanting to shift to paper-based alternatives to ensure that there is an ease of moving from plastic punnet packing lines to cardboard punnet packing lines. This enables brands to have a smoother transition in their packing lines.

Caps & Closures and Opal have one thing in common; both companies have embedded the Sustainable Packaging Design Guidelines into their new packaging solutions. They have carefully researched alternatives to existing designs on the market and have re-designed legacy packaging to be new, unique and first-to-market.

The AIP would strongly encourage all brands to keep moving forward, to not slow down and to ensure that they are designing to be recycle ready for the regulations that are coming in the future.

If you follow the Sustainable Packaging Design guidelines and make sure that all of your packaging maximises recyclability, eliminates chemicals of concern, incorporates recycled content wherever possible then you will be well on your way for when Extended Producer Responsibility arrives in Australia. The AIP have the qualified technical packaging experts available to guide you, to work through your re-design and to help you prepare for the eco-design and eco-modulation regulations that will be here before you know it.

HP Indigo 200K

Digital Press

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GROW YOUR BUSINESS WITH HIGH-MARGIN SHORT RUNS

Grow your business with the only proven technology for on-demand, sustainable flexible packaging.¹ The HP Indigo 200K Digital Press delivers powerful next-gen technology to expand your capabilities and your offering. Increase productivity of high margin, short run jobs, and open your business to a broad range of customers and market-evolving needs. At the same time, attract environmentally minded customers with a printing solution that helps reduce your environmental impact.

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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with speeds of up to
250 bpm* and wastage
as low as 0.1%

*subject to bag type, film and product



reduce change-over
time with our patented
design of the former
unload assist



improve serviceability
with 20% reduction in
cabling with EtherCAT®
communication



easy remote
connectivity and
smart diagnostics for
enhanced support

DECEMBER 2025

pacprocess 2025

WHEN: 9-11 December 2025

WHERE: Egypt International Exhibition Centre, Cairo, Egypt.

WHAT: The International Exhibition for Processing & Packaging in the Middle East and Africa.

- Addresses the requirements of the food, beverages, confectionery, bakery, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, non-food, and industrial goods sectors in the Middle East and Africa region.
- Brings together local and international industry stakeholders from across the entire value chain.
- Capitalises on mega opportunities in one of the major economic hubs in North Africa; also serving as the gateway to regional markets.



pacprocess
PROCESSING & PACKAGING

AIP State of Industry Webinar

Packaging & Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR) Part 2: Implementation & Operational Details

WHEN: 10 December 2025, 10.00 AEDT / 9.00 am AEST

WHERE: On-line via Zoom

WHAT: Following on from the recent AIP State of Industry webinar that discussed the Basic Toolkit for Understanding the Packaging & Packaging Waste Regulation in Europe the second webinar in this three part series will be discussing Implementation & Operation Details.

In this session, Charlotte and Lina will take a practical look at what companies need to do to comply with the new European Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR). The webinar will outline the key implementation steps required, with a particular focus on the conformity assessment process. The webinar will explain how this assessment must be carried out, especially from the perspective of importers, and provide clear guidance on operational details to help organisations prepare for compliance.

The webinar will help attendees to better understand key actions required for brands, suppliers, and manufacturers and how to navigate reporting requirements.

The third and final webinar of the series will be discussing PPWR & Data Management and Digitalisation.

SPEAKERS:



Lina Wimmer
Senior Consultant
Circular Analytics



Charlotte Neumair
Team Lead Circularity
Circular Analytics



2030		2035	
Recyclability Performance Grades	Assessment of recyclability per unit, in weight	Recyclability Performance Grades	Assessment of recyclability per unit, in weight
Grade A	≥ 95%	Grade A	≥ 95%
Grade B	≥ 80%	Grade B	≥ 80%
Grade C	≥ 70%	Grade C (cannot be placed on the market)	≥ 70%
Technically non-recyclable	< 70%	Technically non-recyclable	< 70%



**Isothermal Packaging
and Reverse Logistics
Solutions Provider**



Reuse



Sustainable
Supply Chain



Reverse
Logistics



Ready to use



Eco Design

FEBRUARY 2026

AIP State of Industry Webinar

Packaging & Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR) Part 3: Data Management



WHEN: TBC, 10.00 AEDT / 9.00 am AEST

WHERE: On-line via Zoom

SPEAKER:



Pia Buchmayr
Team lead Research
Packaging Cockpit



ProPak Philippines 2026

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

PROPAK PHILIPPINES

WHEN: 4-6 February 2026

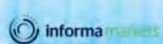
WHERE: World Trade Centre Metro Manila, Pasay City.

WHAT: ProPak Philippines 2026, the International Processing and Packaging Trade Event in the country, is scheduled on 4 – 6 February 2026 at the World Trade Center Metro Manila. It serves as the premier industry platform connecting international suppliers with local buyers and showcases cutting-edge technologies while addressing specific market needs through conferences and technical workshops focused on sustainability and efficiency improvements.



On its 6th edition, ProPak Philippines highlights its central theme on Consumer-Conscious Innovation: Driving Global Competitiveness and Sustainability. The event focuses on facilitating strategic business connections, showcasing technological innovations tailored to Philippine market needs, promoting knowledge exchange through educational content, and advancing sustainability initiatives that align with global environmental goals while supporting local processing and packaging industry growth and competitiveness.

Organised by



REGISTER NOW!

www.propakphilippines.com

MARCH 2026

ProPak Vietnam 2026

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

PROPAK VIETNAM

WHEN: 31 March - 2 April 2026

WHERE: Saigon Exhibition & Convention Centre (SECC)
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

WHAT: ProPak Vietnam is poised to showcase the latest advancements in the Processing, Packaging, and Packaging Technology sectors, solidifying its status as the 18th International Exhibition and Conference dedicated to these industries in Vietnam. Organised by Informa Markets - Vietnam, this tradeshow will take place at the Saigon Exhibition and Convention Center, a prominent venue located in Ho Chi Minh City. The exhibition is not just a display of technology but an engaging platform for industry professionals to explore cutting-edge solutions tailored to enhance operational efficiency and product quality in the manufacturing and processing sectors.



International Processing and Packaging
Trade Event for the Philippines

PROPAK PHILIPPINES

4 - 6 February 2026

World Trade Center Metro Manila
Pasay City, Philippines



EXHIBIT AT PROPAK PHILIPPINES 2026



Showcase processing and packaging machinery to 11,000+ qualified buyers



Get maximum business opportunities to ROI



Connect and network with the biggest stakeholders, government, and industry partners



Build your brand authority in the growing Philippine market

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SPACE NOW**

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MAY 2026

interpack 2026

WHEN: 7 - 13 May 2026

WHERE: Düsseldorf, Germany.

WHAT: Only held every three years, interpack gathers together the world's processing & packaging sector in Düsseldorf for one week. Its focus: packaging solutions and packaging materials; packaging machines and the related process technology for the food, beverages, confectionery, baked goods, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, non-food and industrial goods sectors. As an internationally leading trade fair, it draws experts from across the world to exchange ideas about the latest technologies and solutions and provides impetuses for the sector's future topics. The next interpack will take place in Düsseldorf from 7 to 13 May 2026. Around 2,800 exhibitors from around the world are expected.

In 2026, interpack will return at full throttle with some 2,800 exhibitors plus professional visitors are expected from all around the world. Düsseldorf's trade fair premises will again be fully occupied.

The planning provides for a focus on interpack's eight main visitor target groups: exhibitors offering solutions for the food, beverages, confectionery, baked goods, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, non-food and industrial goods sectors can be found in their own respective areas, which makes orientation easier. And the expansive section at the heart of interpack – packaging materials and packaging goods – along with machines for labelling and marking, production of packaging material and integrated packaging printing, are brought together in their own halls as well. On top of this, there is the accompanying suppliers' trade fair 'components', with two halls of its own for the first time.

The AIP will be supporting Interpack once again through our membership in the World Packaging Organisation and will keep you posted as to activities that will be available during the show. Our very own Executive Director is already working with Messe Dusseldorf on the Save Food Org initiatives and the Women in Packaging program that will happen at interpack, so we will keep you posted on more information once available. In addition, the WorldStar Packaging Awards will be held at Interpack 2026 so the AIP anticipates to have tables of winners joining the show. Closer to the event the AIP will reach out to find out who is attending and how we can meet up with as many AIP Members as possible during the show.





Sustainable Food Packaging Solutions





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JUNE 2026

ProPak Asia 2026

WHEN: 10 - 13 June 2026

WHERE: Bangkok, Thailand.

WHAT: ProPak Asia is Asia's Number One international trade event for Processing & Packaging Technology. ProPak Asia truly is the 'Must-Attend' industry event in Asia for Asia, as quality and variety of products increase and expand, and productivity of operations and manufacturing standards are driven higher by consumer demands and new automation and technological advances, which will be presented at the show.

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

PROPAK
ASIA



Ask the AIP about how you can join the 2026 Australasian Delegation

JULY 2026

foodpro 2026

WHEN: 26 - 29 July 2026

WHERE: Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

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

AIP to Partner - Packaging Sessions,
Training Courses & Stand



foodpro

The manufacturing sector is vitally important for our economic future, with food and beverage processing being Australia's largest manufacturing industry.

For over 50 years, foodpro has gathered the industry to celebrate the contribution of Australian food producers, distributors and manufacturers. foodpro connects professionals across the food and beverage value chain seeking cutting-edge solutions in processing, packaging, beverage equipment, digital technologies, logistics, and sustainability to drive efficiency, compliance, and growth.

Foodpro returns in 2026 to the MCEC as Australia's leading event for the food processing and manufacturing industry.

The AIP will be once-again partnering with foodpro with an exhibition stand, some packaging sessions and training courses. Stay tuned for more information.



26-29 July 2026
MCEC Melbourne

Secure Your Stand

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

Enquire Today

foodproexpo.com

Association Partner: AIP Australasian
Institute
of Packaging



Advertise Job Vacancies through the AIP

- Dedicated Job Board on the AIP website.
- Full Page ad in AIP Newsletter.
- Job Advertisements on AIP LinkedIn.
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- Access to technical packaging professionals.



Australasian
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PROPAK ASIA



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NEW VENUE

IMPACT
MUANG THONG THANI,
THAILAND

10-13 JUNE 2026



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and innovate.

PIDA Showcase Display:
Witness cutting-edge packaging
solutions.



UNLOCK YOUR ASIAN MARKET POTENTIAL AT PROPAK ASIA 2026

**AUSTRALASIAN INSTITUTE OF
PACKAGING (AIP) IS THRILLED TO
INVITE AUSTRALIAN AND
NEW ZEALAND PROCESSING AND
PACKAGING BUSINESSES TO
JOIN OUR DEDICATED GROUP
DELEGATION AT PROPAK ASIA
2026 DURING 10 – 13 JUNE
IN BANGKOK!**

JOIN THE AUSTRALASIAN INSTITUTE OF PACKAGING (AIP) GROUP DELEGATION AND GAIN

- Access to leading suppliers across Food & Beverage, Pharmaceutical, Cosmetics, and related industries.
- Exclusive networking with key industry decision-makers.
- Benefit from complimentary airport pick-up and drop-off services, as well as a shuttle bus service between the hotel and the venue during your stay.
- Delegates may be eligible for complimentary accommodation for a seamless experience. Enquire today!



PROPAK ASIA

10-13 JUNE 2026

NEW VENUE **IMPACT** Bangkok,
Muang Thong Thani Thailand

New Horizons:
Connecting Processing & Packaging
Ecosystems, Empowering Sustainability

Join the 2026 Australasian Delegation
Send your expression of interest to info@aipack.com.au



"Thank you so much AIP for organising the first-ever Australian Delegation and for the invitation for us to attend. Propak Asia was such a great show, fantastic exhibitors, very well run, the AIP stand featuring all the PIDA winners was amazing, and the organisation of the delegation, dinners, and getting in and out of the show was seamless. Can't wait to do it all again. Many thanks."

"It was great to be part of the first Australasian Delegation, hosted by the Australasian Institute of Packaging, at ProPak Asia 2025. ProPak Asia is thriving, with strong industry engagement and many returning exhibitors. AIP's training sessions and workshops drew strong interest, and the AIP PIDA showcase was a standout."



"Another year at ProPak Asia but this time around I was there as AIP Australasian delegate. Thank you to the AIP for the continuous support for those AIP Members outside of Australia. Your continuous effort in organising events and upskilling packaging professionals around Asia is commendable. I was also very lucky to gain knowledge from Ralph Moyle and Prof Pierre Pienaar during the four days. Their experience and efforts to share knowledge to people of all different levels is quite remarkable."

JULY 2026



28 July
2026

Save THE Date

2026 AUSTRALASIAN PACKAGING INNOVATION & DESIGN (PIDA) AWARDS CEREMONY

The Crown Aviary, Crown Complex,
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia



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ENEWSLETTER

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NOVEMBER 2026

swop2026

WHEN: 16 - 18 November 2026

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

WHAT: swop is the essential event for the food, beverage, confectionery, bakery, pharmaceutical, cosmetics, non-food and industrial goods sectors. No other trade fair in China represents the entire supply chain. And at no other trade fair in China does the packaging industry provide all industry sectors with tailored solutions and innovative designs based on such a variety of materials.



Showcasing brands with progressive packaging solutions from Zipform Packaging



www.zipformpackaging.com.au



Australia's Leading Supplier of
Innovative Film Lidding Solutions



New at National Resources: Sealing the Future: Partnering with Global Innovators for Film Lidding Solutions

National Resources continues to develop its strategic partnerships with leading global innovators – Sappi Rockwell, Wipak and Polinas - to deliver a comprehensive portfolio of sealing films and lidding solutions - designed to meet the evolving needs of diverse tray formats, applications and markets. These collaborations mark a significant step forward, combining technical excellence with market responsiveness. Whether it's ready meals, fresh produce or dairy, the expanded range offers tailored solutions that enhance product integrity, shelf life and sustainability.

Key features of their expanded lidding films range includes:

- **Versatility across tray types:** Films are compatible with PET, PP, pulp, aluminium smoothwall trays and compostable substrates.
- **Sustainability-first options:** Including recyclable and mono-material films.
- **Advanced sealing performance:** Ensuring tamper-evidence, peelability and barrier protection.
- **Global expertise, local impact:** Leveraging international R&D with our regionally responsive service.

“At National Resources, we are committed to driving packaging solutions that not only perform but also align with circular economy goals,” says Leon Cox, Managing Director. *“These partnerships allow us to offer our customers greater choice, reliability, and innovation - without compromising on environmental responsibility.”*

As industries seek smarter, sustainable packaging, these alliances position National Resources at the forefront of lidding technology - ready to meet the demands of tomorrow's supply chains.

Contact National Resources today:
scoth@nationalresources.com.au

Innovation meets impact: Lidding Solutions from SAPPI ROCKWELL



From high-barrier protection to universal tray compatibility, the latest range of Starlid and Starbarrier films reflects a strategic blend of technical excellence and environmental responsibility. These solutions aren't just functional - they're future-ready.

The **Starlid GPE-CL-AF** is a robust 31-micron film engineered for sealing across CPET, PP, PS, PE, aluminium foil and even unlined paperboard. It's a versatile workhorse for manufacturers seeking reliable performance across diverse formats.

Meanwhile, the **Starbarrier SPX-LT30-AF** pushes the sustainability envelope with a 26-micron film. Designed for APET, APET-lined trays, and PVC, it's a mono-material solution that supports recyclability without compromising barrier integrity. The range also includes the **Starbarrier GPECL- AF- a 44-micron** high-performance film that seals universally with an easy-peel finish. It's dual ovenable, freezer-safe and boasts permanent anti-fog clarity with low haze (available on request). With up to 60% RPET content, it's as environmentally conscious as it is technically advanced.



BIAXOP PP ECO 60: RECYCLABLE PERFORMANCE FOR MODERN PACKAGING



National Resources is proud to range BIAxOP PP ECO 60 by Wipak, a 60-micron multilayer lidding film engineered for today's packaging demands. Part of the BIAxOP series, it combines oriented polypropylene (PP) with a polyolefin sealant to deliver exceptional sealing performance and environmental benefits.

Key features include;

- **Easy peel** for smooth, reliable opening
- **Anti-fog clarity** for chilled visibility
- **Barrier protection** against moisture, oxygen & UV
- **Low-temperature** sealing for energy efficiency
- **90-95% PP composition** - fully recyclable (check locally).

From fresh produce to ready meals, BIAxOP PP ECO 60 offers a future-ready solution that balances performance with purpose.



Polinas

POLINAS PEELABLE BOPET

Rounding out the lidding film range is the **peelable BOPET**, a **23-micron film** engineered for demanding food packaging applications from Polinas. Featuring an amorphous polyester heat seal layer, **peelable BOPET** is designed for secure, peelable seals across a wide range of tray types. Its versatility makes it ideal for refrigerated and frozen foods - especially those containing fats, liquids and powders - as well as for pasteurisation, hot fill processes and MAP options.

Peelable BOPET offers a reliable, high-clarity solution for food manufacturers seeking performance and flexibility.



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PACKAGING

50
YEARS

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF
INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE



WPO
WORLD
PACKAGING
ORGANISATION



PIDA
AUSTRALASIAN
PACKAGING
INNOVATION & DESIGN

PREVIOUS AWARDS

SQUEEZEPAK™ SAUCE BOTTLE WITH 100% RECYCLED FOOD GRADE PLASTICS
PIDA Gold Award (Sustainable Packaging Design), WPO Worldstar (Packaging Materials & Food)

100% rPET PREFORMS & BOTTLES FOR HOMECARE
PIDA Bronze & WPO Worldstar Awarded Jointly with Colgate-Palmolive

LINERLESS CLOSURE FOR OIL BASED DRESSINGS
PIDA High Commendation (Sustainable Packaging Design)

LIGHT WEIGHT FLIP TOP CLOSURES
PIDA High Commendation (Sustainable Packaging Design)



PIDA
AUSTRALASIAN
PACKAGING
INNOVATION & DESIGN
AWARDS 2024
**SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING
RECYCLABILITY INITIATIVE
GOLD WINNER**



PIDA
AUSTRALASIAN
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AWARDS 2024
**FOOD PACKAGING
BRONZE WINNER**

MASTERFOODS SQUEEZY PET SAUCE BOTTLES



PIDA
AUSTRALASIAN
PACKAGING
INNOVATION & DESIGN
AWARDS 2024
**SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING
RECYCLABILITY INITIATIVE
BRONZE WINNER**



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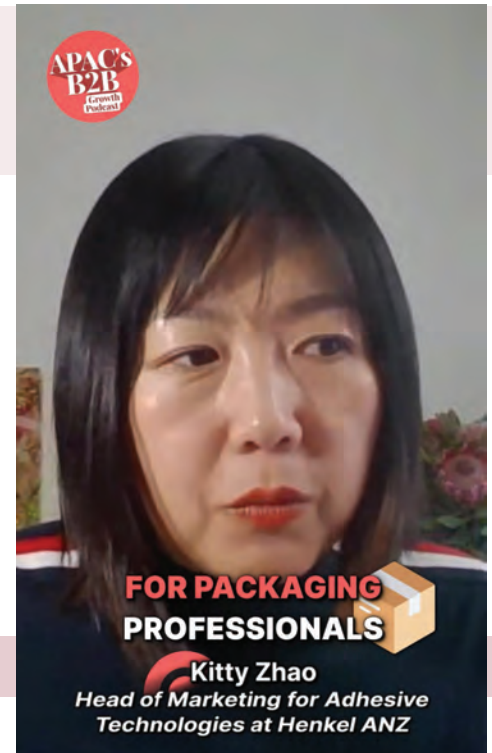


How the AIP is Powering the Future of Sustainable Packaging

We are pleased to share a recent episode of the APAC B2B Growth Podcast, hosted by xGrowth, featuring Kitty Zhao, Head of Marketing for Henkel Adhesive Technologies. In this episode, Kitty discusses Henkel's collaboration with AIP.

During the conversation, Kitty highlights how partnering with AIP strengthens industry engagement and helps expand local initiatives focused on sustainability. As many AIP members continue to seek practical solutions, insights, and best practices to achieve their sustainability goals, Kitty outlines the important role Henkel's expertise and technologies can play in supporting these needs.

The podcast reinforces the positive outcomes of our collaboration and demonstrates our shared commitment to advancing sustainable packaging across the industry.



Listen to the interview here



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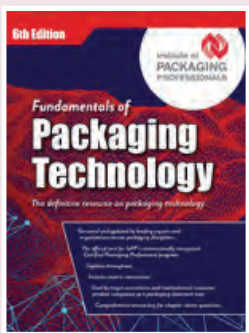
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4 QUALITY
EDUCATION



5 GENDER
EQUALITY



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION



17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS



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Responsible Solutions, Trusted Partnerships

Bunzl operates across more than 30 countries, collaborating with a diverse network of global suppliers. Sustainability is at the core of our operations, reflected in our leadership, ethical supply chain auditing, our carbon-efficient consolidation model, and our broad range of alternative packaging products. Together, we drive the transition toward a more sustainable and circular economy.



We've created our **'We Believe in Better'** Sustainability Strategy to deliver world-class, sustainable supply-chain solutions while holding ourselves accountable.

Our **Asia Pacific Sustainability Strategy** focuses on four pillars with specific targets that drive meaningful impact and allows us to reflect on our commitment to a sustainable future.

Embedding ethical supply chains

- Social audits
- Social procurement
- Supplier engagement
- Eliminating modern slavery

Ensuring everyone counts

- Māori community engagement plan (NZ)
- Community support program
- Reconciliation Action Plan (AU)
- Employee health, safety and wellbeing
- Inspiring Women in Bunzl

Accelerating climate action

- Facility energy efficiency and renewables
- Fleet electrification
- Scope 3 emissions reduction
- Nature-related decision-making

Transitioning to circularity

- Packaging sustainability
- Product innovation and stewardship
- On-site waste reduction
- Sustainability Ambassadors

Recent Awards

2022 **WINNER** APCO Industry Engagement

2023 **FINALIST** Banksia Foundation Business Transformation

2023 **WINNER** Packaging Innovation and Design Award (PIDA)

2024 **WINNER** WorldStar Packaging

2024 **WINNER** Packaging Innovation and Design Award (PIDA)

2024 **FINALIST** APCO Sustainable Packaging

2025 **FINALIST** Packaging Innovation and Design Award (PIDA)

Read about Bunzl's Sustainability Strategy:

www.bunzlasiapacific.com

Result Group, LEIBINGER and Fenner Conveyors Join Forces to Deliver Smarter, Maintenance Free Printing for Industrial Manufacturing

Result Group, the exclusive Australian distributor for **LEIBINGER – Coding & Marking**, has partnered with **Fenner Conveyors**, a global leader in conveyor solutions, to showcase the **LEIBINGER IQJET CIJ printer** in action.

Filmed at Fenner's Melbourne facility, the new video highlights how innovation and collaboration are reshaping industrial manufacturing.

Solving a tough challenge: printing on rubber

Part of the Michelin Group, Fenner needed a way to clearly mark bonding layers on uncured rubber - a surface notoriously difficult to print on due to heat and flexibility.

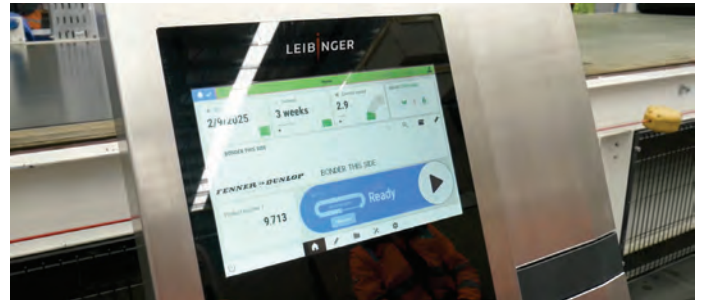
"The range of LEIBINGER inks was exceptional," said Jeremy Van Kaathoven, Extrusion Manager at Fenner. "We tested multiple inks, received results within two weeks, and now enjoy five years of maintenance-free operation – less cleaning, less downtime, and higher productivity."

The IQJET Advantage

With Plug & Print technology, the IQJET delivers five years of operation without maintenance, thanks to its sealed nozzle system that prevents clogs and solvent loss.

Key benefits include:

- **Up to 30% lower total cost of ownership.**
- **No production downtime.**
- **Reduced solvent use** for a cleaner, more sustainable process.



Built on partnership and innovation

"As LEIBINGER's local partner, we work closely with customers to tailor coding and marking solutions to their operations," said Michael Dossor, Group General Manager at Result Group.

This collaboration demonstrates how Result Group, LEIBINGER and Fenner are driving smarter, more sustainable manufacturing through partnership and innovation.

Watch the video here



Seoul Dairy is bringing SIG Terra Alu-free + Full barrier to shelves, the first aseptic carton recognized as recyclable under Korean regulations

In a landmark move to boost sustainability in packaging, Seoul Dairy Cooperative (SDC), Korea's leading milk producer, has become the first company in the country to launch products in aluminium-layer-free full barrier aseptic carton packs that are recognised as recyclable under the country's recyclability grading system. In a first move, SDC will offer organic white milk in SIG Terra Alu-free + Full barrier. This innovation, developed by SIG, is the world's first full-barrier aseptic carton.

"Seoul Dairy has always delivered the best products to Korean families under our philosophy of Making the World healthier with Milk, and that commitment extends to the way we protect our environment," said Jinsup Moon, President & CEO at Seoul Dairy Cooperative. "By adopting SIG Terra Alu-free + Full barrier, we are taking a significant step toward enhanced recycling and supporting Korea's drive for a circular economy."

Conventional aseptic cartons are made of three materials – paper, polymers, and an aluminium layer – to ensure full-barrier protection and long shelf life without refrigeration. SIG Terra Alu-free + Full barrier packaging material replaces the aluminium layer with an ultra-thin polymer layer, simplifying the packaging structure from 3 to just 2 main raw materials: FSCTM-certified paperboard and polymers. This streamlined design maintains full-barrier protection and is fully compatible with South Korea's existing recycling infrastructure.

"This is more than just an incremental improvement – it's a game-changer for the industry," said Hans Cho, Country Manager at SIG Korea. "SIG Terra Alu-free + Full barrier can seamlessly run on existing SIG carton filling lines with full performance including high-speed of up to 24,000 packs per hour on SIG filling lines for small-size cartons with only minor, low-cost adaptations. It's a plug-and-play solution for beverage producers who want to future-proof their packaging and deliver on sustainability without compromising product quality or production performance."

SIG is a pioneer in its industry and introduced the first packaging material without an aluminium layer for aseptic cartons in 2010: SIG Terra Alu-free. Since then, SIG has sold over 4 billion packs featuring no aluminium layer. Drawing on its extensive knowledge and experience with alu-layer-free structures and building on the success of SIG Terra Alu-free, the company has continued to grow its aluminium-layer-free aseptic carton portfolio – with every solution reducing the already low carbon footprint of standard SIG aseptic cartons even further.



▲ In a landmark move to boost sustainability in packaging, Seoul Dairy Cooperative (SDC), Korea's leading milk producer, has become the first company in the country to launch products in aluminium-layer-free full barrier aseptic carton packs that will now be recognised as recyclable under the country's recyclability grading system.

With SIG Terra Alu-free + Full barrier SIG expanded the alu layer-free options for wider use with oxygen-sensitive products such as fruit juices, nectars, flavoured milk or plant-based beverages. With over 400 million packs already sold since 2023, SIG Terra Alu-free + Full barrier has proven its scalability and market readiness. The market launch in Korea opens the door for brands to differentiate themselves with visible sustainability gains and to respond swiftly to evolving consumer and regulatory demands, without compromising barrier performance, product safety, or shelf life.

SIG Terra Alu-free + Full barrier is one of the milestones moving toward SIG's goal of developing an aluminium-layer-free full-barrier aseptic carton with at least 90% paper content – including the closure – by 2030.



▲ Under Korea's current environmental regulations, the new packaging is labeled recyclable and can be collected and recycled alongside chilled gable top cartons.

¹ based on an independent ISO-compliant life-cycle assessment for SIG Terra MiniBloc Alu-free + Full barrier in China: https://go.sig.biz/I/251992/2024-08-26/7rhl6m/251992/1724677470q9DQ6lp5/LCA_SIG_Terra_Alu_free_Full_barrier_SIG_MiniBloc.pdf

² based on recycling rates for aseptic carton packs and gable top cartons for chilled products in South Korea: <http://www.kora.or.kr/epr/record.do>

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Compostable by Design Guidelines

The Compostable by Design Platform has launched the 'Compostable by Design Guidelines', which mark a major step toward making compostable packaging and products work for the circular economy.

The Compostable by Design Platform (CbDP) brings together leaders from across the value chain to build shared evidence-based recommendations on when and where compostable items truly make sense.

The newly released Guidelines provide:

- ✓ Clear design recommendations for compostable packaging and products.
- ✓ A practical decision tree to determine when compostability could be the right end-of-life option.
- ✓ Guidance on materials, standards and certification.
- ✓ Best practice examples and labelling guidance for transparent communication.
- ✓ Insight into the evolving EU legislative and infrastructure landscape for bio-waste recycling.

At a time when Europe is advancing toward 100% recyclable, reusable, or compostable packaging under the new Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR), these Guidelines are designed to ensure compostable solutions are effective, appropriate and scalable to help reduce contamination, increase bio-waste capture and return valuable nutrients to the soil.



**Download and
learn more here**

THE COMPOSTABLE BY DESIGN GUIDELINES IS AVAILABLE NOW

**Learn about the latest design
recommendations for compostable
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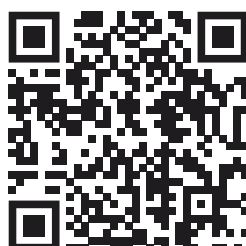


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National Framework for Recycled Content Traceability Video Tutorials

The **National Framework for Recycled Content Traceability** provides guidance to support the implementation of traceability practices across Australian supply chains. It is a voluntary framework that outlines the types of data that should be collected and shared, promoting clear, accessible, and consistent information throughout supply chains. The department has been working on a suite of guidance to support the framework.

Recycled Content Traceability Video Tutorials

The tutorials cover concepts including:

- Why recycled content traceability is important
- Understanding the national framework for recycled content traceability
- Building a business case for traceability
- Mapping your supply chain
- Deciding the traceability information you need
- Deciding on a traceability system
- Verification of recycled content

The tutorials can be
viewed here ►



These videos provide practical, accessible support for businesses at different stages of implementation and are designed to build confidence and capability across the sector.



DCCEEW have also updated the **Step-by-Step Implementation** Guide to provide more in-depth guidance to support the video tutorials.



◀ Download the guide here

Third party certification scheme self-assessment

The department has also heard that some organisations are using third party certification schemes to implement traceability. The department has developed a certification scheme self-assessment tool to help schemes benchmark their practices against the National Framework for Recycled Content Traceability. Businesses can use the self-assessments to gain a better understanding of the extent to which these schemes align with the national framework. So far, International Sustainability and Carbon Certification (ISCC), SCS Assurance Systems and Good Environment Choice Australia (GECA) have completed their self-assessments.



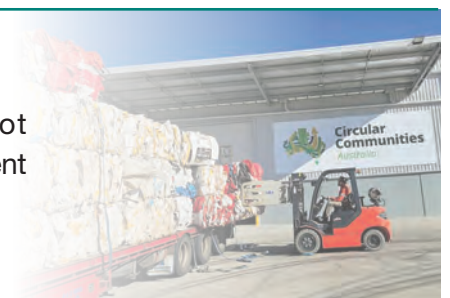
▲ Access the
self-assessments here



▲ View the Case
Study here

Case Study

Big Bag Recovery have participated in the pilot traceability case study, showcasing their commitment to a transparent and verified supply chain.



About

Food Entrée & Manufacturing

Food Entrée & Manufacturing is a comprehensive digital publication offering contents on the food and manufacturing industries. **Published in English five times annually**, the magazine covers a wide range of topics, including food automation, food processing and machinery, packaging and labeling, food ingredients and nutrition, nutraceuticals, snacks, confectioneries, food technology and innovation, beverage, milk and dairy, as well as news and trends in the food industry.

Our ultimate goal is to provide our readers and manufacturing businesses worldwide with the latest insights and information. With **over 47,000 readers from the Asia Pacific region and beyond**, our magazine is read by professionals, including managers, marketing executives, R&D professionals, business development managers, and marketing communication specialists.



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Head Office
Bangkok, Thailand

NSW is leading national action on plastics thanks to the second phase of a bold new plan

The NSW Plastics Plan 2.0 introduces a range of reforms to reduce waste and littering, protecting public health and keeping plastic out of landfill and the environment.

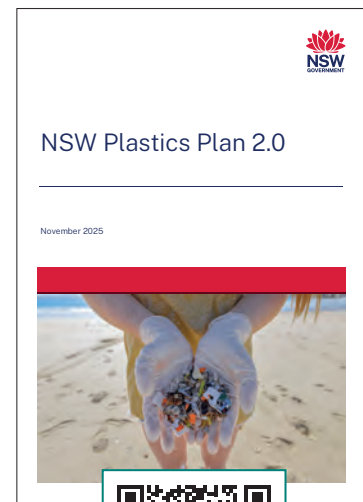
Under the Plan, highly littered problem plastics such as takeaway bowls with lids, sushi trays and soy sauce fish bottles will be redesigned to be recyclable.

Non-compostable plastic fruit and vegetable stickers and non-recyclable plastic bags, condiment containers and takeaway containers will be phased out in favour of recyclable options.

They are also banning the release of lighter-than-air (helium) balloons that pollute waterways and harm wildlife, driving reuse for single-use cups, and introducing tethered lids for plastic bottles.

Plastic makes up around 74% per cent of litter in our waterways. Currently, less than 16% of plastic waste is recycled in NSW, with the remainder taking up valuable space in landfill.

The new measures will phase out unnecessary and non-recyclable packaging, regulate harmful chemical additives in plastics and drive investment in recycling.



To review the complete plan



Find out more

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RECYCLABLE

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EXPLORING GLOBAL SOLUTIONS

We were proud to attend the AIP exhibit at ProPak Asia where global experts came together to share ideas on packaging innovation and sustainability. For us, this was another step in our ongoing mission to reduce environmental impact and deliver smarter, greener solutions for the future.



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SPSA News



Soft plastic recycling scheme receives exemption from certain competition laws

Soft Plastic Stewardship Australia (SPSA) and its industry members have been granted an eight-year authorisation by the ACCC allowing them to collect and recycle used soft plastic packaging under a voluntary scheme.

The soft plastic collection and recycling scheme has been developed by food and grocery industry stakeholders, including Woolworths Group, Coles Group, ALDI Stores Australia, Nestlé, Mars and McCormick & Company, but will be run by SPSA.

The scheme aims to increase the collection and recycling of soft plastic packaging from consumers, such as shopping bags and food wrappers.

“As the scheme aims to acquire and broaden the current instore and kerbside trial collection programs for soft plastic recycling, we’ve determined that it will likely result in some soft plastics being diverted from landfill,” ACCC Deputy Chair Mick Keogh said.

“We consider this is an environmental benefit.”



Soft Plastic Stewardship Australia (SPSA) is now inviting stakeholders across the soft plastics value chain to be a part of Australia’s future soft plastics recycling scheme

Soft Plastics Stewardship Australia (SPSA) has launched a national Request for Information (RFI) to gather potential market participants from across the value chain, including retailers, logistics providers, MRFs, recyclers, councils and end-market users.

This RFI is a critical step to implement a trusted, industry-led soft plastics recycling scheme for Australia. Responses will help ensure the model is informed by real-world capabilities and tailored to deliver practical, scalable outcomes.

We strongly encourage all organisations involved in the production, collection, transport, sorting, processing or end-use of soft plastics to participate. Your input will directly influence the shape of this important stewardship initiative.



Respond to the RFI by Wednesday 10 December 2025 and help lead the transformation of soft plastic into a valuable resource.

◀ Please access the Request for Information via the link



First global Food Pact Network Impact Report

The first global Food Pact Network Impact Report showcases collective progress to date, as well as a spotlight on the Network’s 10 global members: Australia, Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, South Africa, the United Kingdom and two initiatives in the United States of America.

Together these members represent **14%** of the global population, **38%** of global GDP and around **20%** of global food waste.



◀ Download the full report now

AIP & Empauer launch new LCA Decision Package for SME's Register your interest today

The AIP has joined forces with leading sustainability software company Empauer, to offer a comprehensive and cost effective LCA Decision Package for Small to Medium Enterprises (SME's). AIP and Empauer have entered into an exclusive MOU, providing Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs) to SME's to ensure that they are making informed and science-based decisions when selecting packaging materials. The driving force behind this collaboration is recognition of the challenges faced by SMEs. The AIP, through its SME training programs, identified a pressing need for affordable and customised LCA solutions that simplify the often-complex process of undertaking sustainability assessments for packaging design.

The report part of the package can then be utilised for internal decisions including selection of packaging materials, components and the shift towards more sustainable alternatives within the business.

This innovative LCA Decision Package will enable businesses to make informed and sustainable decisions when it comes to the packaging design they utilise and choices in selecting the most appropriate packaging material format. It will provide AIP Members and the wider industry, with access to the latest tools and expertise, enabling them to reduce their environmental footprint and make responsible choices in line with global sustainability goals.

The main benefit to SMEs in using the AIP / Empauer LCA Decision Package means you don't have to understand all the complexities of LCAs, as you will be provided with the comparison information and assistance to understand from your selected LCA parameters the environmental impact for each packaging material choice.

The LCA Decision Package for SME's provides four easy steps to complete your own Streamlined Lifecycle Assessment:

Step 1: Choose your packaging

Step 2: Choose your environmental indicators

Step 3: Data Collection

Step 4: Use the results for internal decisions including selection of packaging materials, components and the shift towards more sustainable alternatives within the business.

The AIP & Empauer LCA Decision Package for SMEs provides the information for sustainable packaging design decisions.



How can I get involved?

- Complete the online 'Expression of Interest' form www.empauer.com/lca-program/ and the brief questionnaire and then submit to Empauer.
- Upon submission, you will receive a confirmation email acknowledging receipt of your interest.
- The LCA will require you to provide some basic data about the packaging options being assessed. You will be provided access to a 'Data Collection Sheet' and a video with instructions by a follow-up email to help you provide the data.
- The LCA report will be provided within 2- 3 weeks of the submission of the Data Collection.

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TODAY

Please register your interest using the QR code or go to www.empauer.com/lca-program/



Should you have any enquiries please email info@empauer.com



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

Please make sure you let us know who you are so that we can take a photograph of the lucky recipient with your book.



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

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THANK YOU IN ADVANCE



Discovering New Zealand first packaging at Foodtech Packtech

At a biennial packaging tradeshow in New Zealand, executive director of Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) noted her highlights.

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

Roaming the halls of a tradeshow is always one of my favourite things to do as you get the opportunity to see what is new and innovative in the world of packaging.

I recently attended the biennial Foodtech Packtech tradeshow in Auckland, New Zealand, which was sold-out, and saw participation from 240 exhibitors.

Wandering the halls, I not only discovered some stand out packs but soon realised that many of the solutions were either made by small local businesses in New Zealand, or in Australia especially for Aotearoa. It was refreshing to see custom-made solutions designed for the New Zealand markets.

NZ's 100 per cent recycled content pallet wrap: Rewrapt

New Zealand-owned business Stretchwrap launched the new Rewrapt 100 per cent recycled content pallet wrap at the event.

Rewrapt is the first pallet wrap in New Zealand to incorporate recycled content and also maintain high-stretch and strong puncture resistance so that the goods are not compromised. By incorporating recycled content, Rewrapt enables customers to lower their environmental footprint and reduce the amount of single-use plastic wrap used in their facilities. Winning the People's Choice Award at the inaugural Sustainability Spotlight

Awards held at FoodTech PackTech 2025, Rewrapt is a more sustainable solution for the New Zealand market.

Award-winning packaging, engineered in New Zealand: Forward Plastics

Sometimes when you walk down an aisle something will grab your attention and make you stop. Usually for me it is a robot, or a moving machine, or a really cool packaging format. In this instance it was two gorgeous trophies – an Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design (PIDA) trophy and an equally attractive blue WorldStar Packaging Award trophy. The trophies were on the Forward Plastics stand, as they were the business behind the material that

formulated the only WorldStar award-winning pack for 2025 in New Zealand for Apex Brands Only Good range of personal care products.

Forward Plastics worked with the team at Apex Brands to create a recyclable, refillable and reusable bottle that is made with a blend of sugar cane and recyclable plastic that has been sourced in New Zealand.

Bottle design, material and finish were carefully considered utilising a range of different HDPE options, such as sugar cane HDPE and recycled HDPE across all products.

I spent some time on the stand also looking at some of the other sustainable solutions that are offered by Forward Plastics, and I was really excited to see the creativity and

Nerida Kelton attended the Foodtech Packtech tradeshow in New Zealand.



Images: Australasian Institute of Packaging



innovation from so many small businesses in New Zealand.

Forward Plastics is a New Zealand-owned company based in Auckland. Since 2018, the business has repurposed more than 1.2 million kilograms of New Zealand kerbside recycled milk bottles into high-quality packaging.

It is an expert in recycled and bio-based plastics, post-consumer recycled HDPE and PP and renewable bio-resins and it will work with businesses, just like its did with Apex Brands to create award-winning sustainable packaging.

Fibre-based thermal insulator & shock protectant: Visycell

I had heard about Visycell previously, but I had never seen a sample in real life. Visycell is an Australian-designed fibre-based thermal insulated, shock protectant pack that eliminates the need to use Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) boxes. What makes this pack stand out is that it is a kerbside recyclable solution, using recycled content and designed to withstand harsh cold chain environments in our region.

Interestingly a Lifecycle Assessment was undertaken on Visycell comparatively against a traditional EPS carton. Visycell offers a lower environmental impact across greenhouse gas emissions, lower

water usage, and less burden on the aquatic environment should it be littered or end up in the waterways.

Suitable for wet environments the solution comes in a range of thicknesses making it flexible and adaptable to suit anything from fresh produce to seafood, wine to pharmaceuticals, personal care to meat. Visycell ticks the boxes for ecommerce and home-delivery.

NZ kerbside-compliant paper rewind solution: ADM & Detpak

I always love to visit Detpak stands to see what new fibre-based, suitable solution it has for fresh produce and the samples I saw did not disappoint. I was especially interested in the Perfection Fresh fibre-based, kerbside recyclable punnets for tomatoes and strawberries.

The standout solution on the Detpak stand was a moving ADM piece of equipment that had a kerbside recyclable fibre-based potato bag being showcased in real-time.

Officially launched for the first-time at Foodtech Packtech 2025, Detpak introduced a commercially viable paper rewind solution that is 100 per cent New Zealand Kerbside Compliant. The new paper rewind solution is suited for products that do not require extended shelf life, or where the contents are already

pre-packaged, such as fresh produce including potatoes, carrots, and onions, as well as confectionery items like wrapped sweets, crisps, and biscuit multipacks.

The Detpak & ADM solution stood out to me because it showed how the kerbside recyclable fibre-based potato packaging intersects with the ADM system to offer more sustainable systems-approached solutions. The new solution has also been designed to eliminate the need for any barrier or lining to achieve heat sealability.

The intuitive packaging system not only streamlines adoption and

implementation for any company looking for a more sustainable kerbside recyclable alternative to say traditional potato packaging, but for fresh produce and confectionary.

Walking the Foodtech Packtech halls was a great opportunity to see what is happening in New Zealand and I have to say there were a lot of exceptional packs that should be entered in the Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design (PIDA) awards for the 2026 round. I would love to see more New Zealand companies and people entering the PIDA awards as they deserve the recognition for all their hard work.

New Zealand packaging industry shows up for Foodtech Packtech

The anticipation leading into the biennial Foodtech Packtech tradeshow is always palpable and this year's show did not disappoint, writes **Nerida Kelton**, executive director of AIP.



Left: (l-r) Raewyn Bleakley, CEO NZFGC; Shaun Lewis, GM – Waste Systems & Operations; Ministry for the Environment NZ; and Nerida Kelton, executive director, AIP.

Opposite: AIP sessions at NZ Foodtech Packtech were well attended.

FROM A SOLD-OUT exhibition space, through to high numbers attending the educational programs, the three-day show is a must-attend for everyone in the New Zealand food and packaging industries.

Supported by the Ministry of Environment New Zealand, the New Zealand Food & Grocery Council, the Packaging Forum, Plastic New Zealand and Kai Commitment, the New Zealand Packaging Forum is a true testament to the collaboration occurring in the country, and cross-Tasman. As someone who travelled 'over the ditch', I could see how much hard work and effort has been undertaken in the last two years by many of the key organisations that were in the room.

The industry is taking great strides towards improving packaging design at the start, increasing the use of domestic recycled content for packaging, developing take-back and drop-off programs for materials that cannot

be collected through traditional materials recovery facilities, improving access to collection, recycling and reprocessing, and trying to create a more circular economy for packaging.

While the programs are a mix of voluntary and mandated product stewardship and extended producer responsibility programs, what is clear is that the industry is working together to achieve realistic outcomes for the country.

There were so many learnings from the New Zealand Packaging Forum that it is difficult to summarise all of them in the space available; here are a selected few.

NEW ZEALAND MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT (MfE)

The Kerbside Standardisation regulations for New Zealand are continuing to be reviewed, and the government website provides a list of accepted materials for kerbside collection. The list specifies currently accepted, discretionary and excluded materials and applies to all

council that manage kerbside collections of recycling, food scraps, and combined food and garden organics. The regulations aim to improve recycling rates, reduce contamination and simplify recycling for all residents. The MfE is currently trialling materials in kerbside that are not standard materials, such as soft plastics.

The MfE also mentioned it is discussing proposed amendments to waste legislation including to the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 and the Litter Act 1979. It is also focusing on extended producer responsibility, waste levy allocation and use, compliance, and clarifying roles and responsibilities, with the Minister seeking Cabinet approval later this year.

RECYCLING LEADERSHIP FORUM (RLF)

The Recycling Leadership Forum (RLF) was established in May 2024 and brings together brand owners and representatives from the retail, packaging, food and grocery, recycling, and local government sectors.

The purpose of the RLF is to improve the recyclability and recovery of packaging materials in New Zealand's resource recovery system. The RLF also provides expert advice to the MfE on improving the recyclability and recovery of packaging materials.

What is great to see is that the RLF is designed to bring all key stakeholders from across the entire value chain to the same

table for open dialogue and to develop deliverable outcomes for the industry that can be achieved collaboratively and not in silos.

The RLF is also working on new projects such as an industry roadmap, and Material report recommendations for caps and lids and secondary material thresholds for complex fibre and aerosols.

Something interesting to note is that the RLF has taken over the coordination role for the roll out of the Australasian Recycling Labelling (ARL) program for New Zealand. This is a positive step to bring all of industry together to ensure that it is fit-for-purpose for New Zealand. The RLF working group is working on on-pack recycling labelling, including the Australasian Recycling Label (ARL) and disposal instructions on all product packaging.

It is important that the ARL logos are tailored to suit the collection, sorting, recycling and reprocessing for New Zealand so that the logos on pack are accurate. A great example of this is Australia uses Check Locally for soft plastics whereas New Zealand can use the NZ Soft Plastic Recycling logo, as they have a return to store program across over 80 per cent of the country. The ARL system needs to be flexible enough to be nuanced to suit New Zealand requirements.

PLASTIC PACKAGING PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

The Plastic Packaging Product Stewardship Scheme (PPPS) aims to create a producer-led system to manage and reduce the environmental impact of plastics packaging. The group aims to create a local circular economy where plastic packaging in

New Zealand is more sustainably collected and recycled by investing in better infrastructure and advanced recycling technologies.

The stakeholders aim to design a plastic packaging stewardship scheme through which producers pay for the plastic they use in New Zealand; including the cost of recycling.

The Plastic Packaging Product Stewardship scheme report, which outlines a proposed producer-led system to manage and reduce the environmental impact of plastic packaging, is now available at the PPPS website.

The report has been officially submitted to the Ministry for the Environment and outlines a proposed product stewardship scheme for plastic packaging in New Zealand including:

- The scheme is designed to achieve a 50 per cent recovery of plastic packaging within 10 years.
- The report recommends that a PPPS scheme would operate more effectively and efficiently under an EPR framework inclusive of all packaging materials
- Suggests further research may be required; the Ministry is working with the sector on next steps.

SOFT PLASTICS RECYCLING PROGRAM

The Soft Plastics Recycling program in New Zealand is a voluntary Product Stewardship Program that now has 200 members paying fees to fund collection, baling, transportation and gate fees to reprocess post-consumer soft plastics.

There are now drop-off bins at over 320 locations, including retail stores and councils, which equates to 87 per cent of the New Zealand population now having access to the scheme. There are over 100 collection points between scheme members and councils.

One of the speakers reminded the attendees that recycling requires re-processors and she asked the poignant question 'Are you really recycling if you don't buy recycled?'

CAPS & LIDS PROGRAM

In February 2024, the New Zealand Government banned the recycling of caps and lids through kerbside collection because of the standardised collection of materials announced by the Ministry for the Environment in 2023.

As the materials of caps and lids are valuable the industry worked together to create the Caps & Lids recycling programme, which was launched in September 2024. In fact, one of the first meetings to discuss the notion of the new scheme was held at Foodtech Packtech in 2023. I remember sitting in the back of the room learning about the start of the scheme.

Fast forward two years and the Caps & Lids product stewardship program has been designed to ensure as many metal and plastic caps & lids as possible do not end up in landfill. An additional aim is to ensure that are also not littered in the environment and instead are recycled into new products.

The scheme is funded by organisations that are members



of the programme, and is run by The Packaging Forum, which also operates the Soft Plastic Recycling Scheme, the Food and Beverage Container Recycling Scheme and the Glass Packaging Forum Scheme. Other organisations involved in the programme include industry groups such as NZ Food and Grocery Council, Plastics NZ, NZ Association of Metal Recyclers.

The Packaging Forum is a true force in developing successful product stewardship programs and often goes unnoticed globally for their work. I often say that some of the best product stewardship programs are run in New Zealand.

The AIP team left New Zealand with many ideas for projects and we are hoping to support not only our Members, but also our partner associations in the industry even more in 2026. A cross-Tasman approach really is better for our region. ■

Showcase

One of my favourite sessions of the Forum was showcasing innovative, small businesses, like We Love Local. It curates gift boxes for personal and corporate gifting that only feature New Zealand-made products. The products in the gift crates are primarily small businesses, which is a great way to not only showcase their products, but also support the growth of these businesses.



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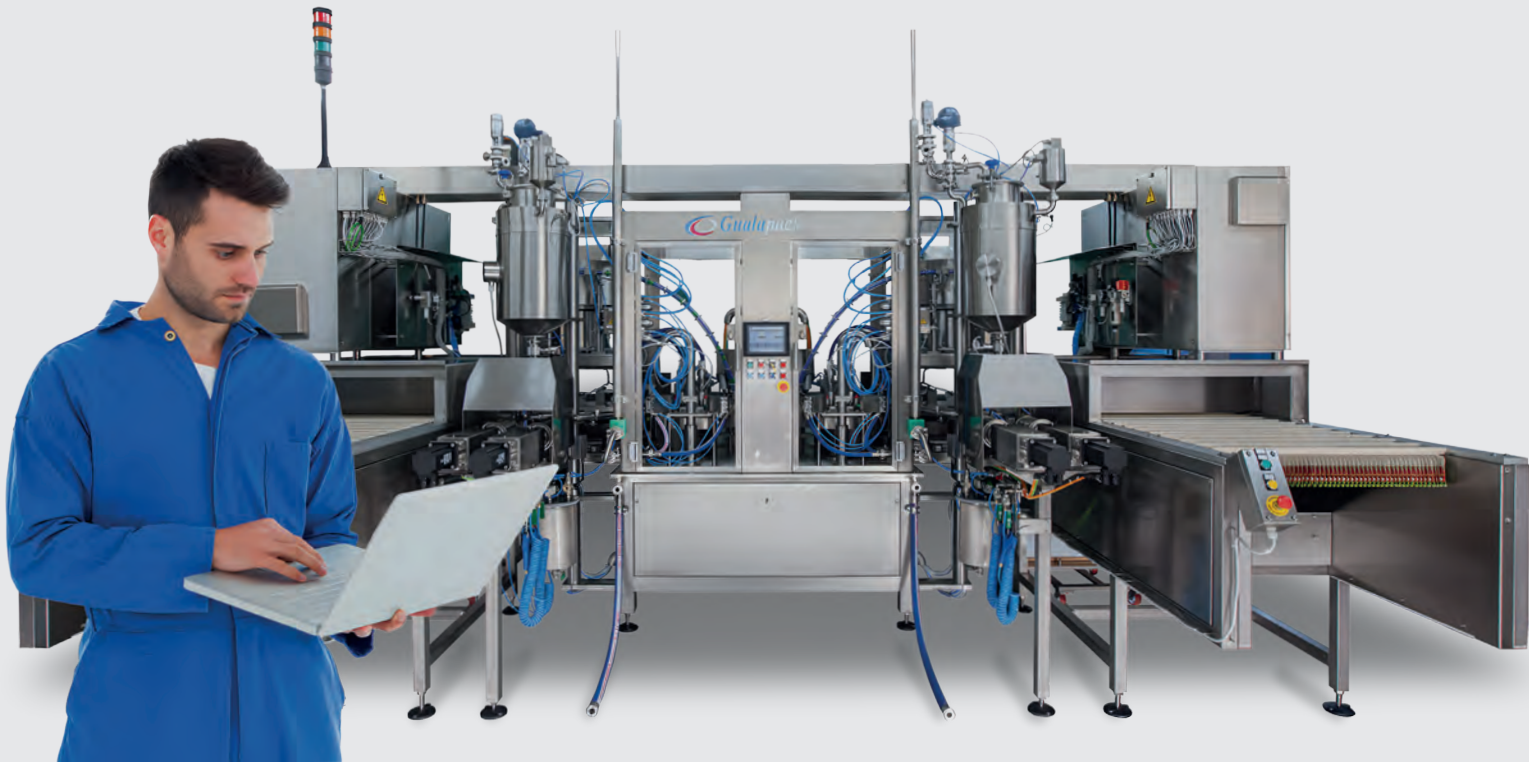
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