Australasian Institute of Packaging

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Australasian Packaging Industry Monthly Newsletter

AIP intensive training Ministry of Thailand



AIP's EOS Defence Systems Packaging Training



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Whittaker's: Packaging Manager

About The Company

Whittaker's is New Zealand's biggest chocolate manufacturer and has won New Zealand's 'Most Trusted Brand' 15 times in a row. They live by the belief that 'best is always better', insisting on using only the finest ingredients, the best methods, most precise machinery, and the best people to keep making good honest chocolate.

About The Role

Great chocolate deserves great packaging. As Packaging Manager, you'll set the direction for Whittaker's packaging. You'll ensure that every pack protects the chocolate, runs smoothly on the line and stands out on the shelf.

It's a role for someone who enjoys both the hands-on, technical detail and the bigger picture. You'll lead and develop a Packaging Technologist and work alongside cross-functional teams to take projects from first idea through to the production line.

Responsibilities will include, but are not limited to:

- Leadership of packaging strategy, roadmaps and innovation, including packaging for new products, upgrades and changes.
- Maintenance of specifications and technical documentation, ensuring compliance with regulatory, customer and sustainability requirements.
- Oversight of packaging change management, approvals, risk assessment and artwork governance.
- Partnering with Operations & Engineering to reduce waste and improve packaging efficiency, quality and reliability.
- Building supplier relationships, supporting selection, qualification and managing performance.
- Coaching and developing a Packaging Technologist and leading on H&S, food safety and quality.

You, The Candidate: You're a practical, approachable leader who builds strong relationships and stays steady when priorities compete. You'll bring a solid technical grounding in packaging, built in FMCG or food manufacturing, along with a good feel for how materials and packaging systems behave on the line.

The ideal candidate will also bring:

- Proven experience in packaging development, packaging technology or packaging management.
- A track record leading packaging projects from concept to commercial implementation.
- Strong knowledge of packaging materials, systems and manufacturing processes.
- Demonstrated improvements in quality, performance, sustainability, cost or efficiency.
- Experience leading and developing people, and working across cross-functional teams.
- A qualification in Packaging Technology, Food Technology, Engineering, Materials Science or a related field.

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Australasian Institute of Packaging

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AIP Welcomes New Gold Corporate Partner BioPak

The AIP would like to welcome our newest Silver Corporate Partner, BioPak. BioPak is a global leader in packaging innovation, with a focus on reducing environmental impact and trusted by some of the world's biggest brands. Since 2006, BioPak has been redefining packaging for a circular world – working to reduce dependence on fossil plastics and minimise impacts on natural ecosystems, while still serving everyday convenience.

Today, the Global BioPak Group brings together four complementary brands: BioPak, Huskee, decent packaging and Bygreen, offering a comprehensive portfolio of compostable, recyclable and reusable foodservice packaging solutions for businesses at every stage of their sustainability journey.

As an AIP Corporate Partner, BioPak can support AIP members with practical insights into material selection, packaging design, manufacturing and product performance. Drawing on their experience developing and supplying foodservice packaging, they can help members understand the opportunities and limitations of different materials, assess environmental claims and match packaging to the collection and processing systems available. BioPak looks forward to sharing what they have learned and working with members to improve packaging outcomes.

Contact info:
info@biopak.com.au



BioPak
It doesn't cost the earth

PROUD AIP SILVER CORPORATE PARTNER
AIP Australasian Institute of Packaging

BioPak are proud to announce they are a new SILVER Corporate Partner of the AIP.

"Better packaging starts with informed decisions about how it's made, how it performs and what happens after use.

For BioPak, partnering with the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) is an opportunity to share our practical experience, learn from others and support the education that helps our industry move forward. We want to help turn good intentions into packaging solutions that deliver real environmental benefits"

Richard Fine FAIP
Founder, BioPack

Packaging That Puts The Planet First



BioPak is shaping the future of sustainable packaging. The Global BioPak Group brings together BioPak, Huskee, decent packaging and Bygreen to deliver compostable, reusable and recyclable solutions designed around real-world use and end-of-life recovery.

Together, we are reducing dependence on fossil-based plastics, supporting better end-of-life systems and accelerating the transition to a circular economy for foodservice packaging.



Better for People and the Planet

We're disrupting the take-make-waste model and leading the way toward a truly circular economy.

5% of Profits for Purpose
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AIP Packaging for Transport & the Supply Chain course held for EOS Defence Systems staff

The Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) recently tailored an in-house training day for 25 EOS Defence Systems staff in Canberra that covered Packaging for Transport and the Supply Chain. The trainer was AIP Education Director, Prof. Pierre Pienaar FAIP, CPPL.

The AIP recently had the opportunity to deliver in-house customised training for EOS Defence Systems that ensured that all participants understood and could implement all that is required to deliver delicate expensive armaments across the international supply chain, safely and in good order.

EOS has designed, manufactured and exported advanced technology systems for more than 40 years. Their product range covers remote weapon systems, high energy laser weapons, UAS interceptors and AI-enabled command-and-control for layered counter-drone capability, and ground-based space control capabilities for precision tracking, intelligence and deterrence.

The 25 attendees from all departments associated directly or indirectly in providing a packaging service to the supply chain. All were technically orientated and well academically educated.

The attendees were all employees of Electro Optic Systems (EOS). EOS is a prominent Australian aerospace and defence technology company that develops advanced electro-optic technologies for global military and space sectors. They specialise in remote weapon platforms, counter-drone systems, and laser weapons. This high-tech company requires the best in packaging that can meet the stringent requirements of the clients around the world.

The training with EOS Defence Systems was highly productive. The AIP covered essential topics including transport packaging, dangerous goods requirements for air and sea freight, Lithium-ion battery packaging, and ISPM 15 compliance.

The attendees were engaged, and the AIP successfully addressed their specific needs regarding export compliance and supply chain integrity.

The attendees were engaging, interested, participative and certainly were not short on questions that often lead to inspiring packaging debates.

The AIP covered topics that suited their needs and met the requirements of specialised defence systems, hardware and technology.

Topics commenced with the Functions and Goals of Transport Packaging, then Packaging Economics, Packaging and the Environment, the Design Process and how this all fits in with the Rules, Regulations and Guidelines of Transport Packaging.

Also of significant importance was discussing Packaging Materials (Corrugated Cartons, Wood Containers, Soft Plastics), along with Distribution Environment and Cushioning Systems.

We spent time on Corrosive Protective Packaging, Shipping systems and hardware and finished off Performance Testing.

Once we opened the floor to any general questions, it was rewarding to witness the open discussions, which told me that they had listened well and were that much more informed of the relevance and importance of correct sustainable packaging.

Prof Pierre Pienaar CPPL, FAIP
Education Director
Australasian Institute of Packaging





AIP's EOS Defence Systems Packaging Training



"The Packaging for Transport & the Supply Chain training was excellent and highly informative. The customised course provided valuable knowledge on packaging requirements, transport compliance, and industry best practices.

The practical insights and real-world examples will help us improve our packaging processes and support more efficient and compliant operations in the future."

> *"We all found the training both engaging and beneficial and would highly recommend the AIP training to others involved in packaging and supply chain management."*

Matilda Cope
Inventory Manager
EOS Defence Systems

"I found the AIP training day to be a very valuable and worthwhile experience, particularly in relation to my role at EOS Defence Systems. The course provided a practical understanding of packaging materials, sustainability, product protection, and supply chain considerations, with useful industry examples that can be applied to our procurement activities."

> *"I particularly appreciated the focus on how packaging choices can affect cost, quality, transportation, storage, and overall supply chain efficiency."*

The AIP trainer, Pierre, was knowledgeable and engaging, and the workshop has given me a broader understanding that I can apply when working with suppliers and making informed procurement decisions at EOS."

Stephen Kund
Procurement Manager
EOS Defence Systems



Packaging your customers can smile about.

The box is recyclable, but the tape usually isn‘t.

Most paper packaging is let down by one plastic detail, the tape. tesa‘s paper-based tape range recycles with the box, not against it. Carton sealing, reinforcement, easy-open tear and closing tapes that keep the whole pack in the loop so the brands you print for can stand behind every claim on the carton.

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AIP Packaging Technology Training with Thai Ministry of Industry's Dr Jiraprabha Khajornboon



Written by
Prof Pierre Pienaar CPPL, FAIP
Education Director, AIP

The AIP recently hosted a member from the Thai Ministry of Industry who will be leading the research into better packaging in the future for Thailand.

Dr Khajornboon (whom we affectionately called Moo) applied for a scholarship to study at a leading packaging training facility that has practical application. There was no such existing scholarship available, Dr Khajornboon created an application because of prior interest during previous studies in logistics.

It was during the logistics master's degree that she realised what impact that packaging had on the supply chain. Thailand needed to focus more on ensuring that suitable packaging was designed for the Thai industry that had less impact on the supply chain.

Dr Khajornboon is keen to take these learnings and methodically step-by-step approach industry to ensure that they too realise the impact and 'come on board' in improving the status quo in the packaging industry in Thailand.

This training was specifically designed to enhance the knowledge of one of their key stakeholders so that she could join, encourage and lead industry groups improving the packaging industry in Thailand.

The AIP is committed to providing packaging and related business education to countries in south-east Asia that indicate a true need for such training opportunities.

Packaging education is so important to help ensure that the world's resources are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and the AIP makes its contribution by improving knowledge and expertise in Southeast Asia.

The lead trainer and Education Director for the AIP along with key, global experienced trainers and educators undertook the two weeks of training and challenged Dr Khajornboon to elevate the packaging of local products so they can compete with international brands currently dominating the Thailand market.

We know that good packaging is key to accessing markets, and, together with product quality, plays an even greater role in sustaining those markets. Packaging is no longer a mere afterthought in value addition. It is a decisive factor in market competitiveness, food safety, environmental sustainability, and consumer trust.

This training is not the end of education in packaging for Thailand but rather the beginning of a journey in partnering with the industry groups and the Thai Department of Industry to ensure a continuous process that will require investment, technological innovation, collaboration, and policy support.

We conducted field evaluations of packaging design across various grocery categories, focusing on both individual pack structure and branding.

- Coles
- Woolworths

This 2-week intensive training introduced the concept of the role that packaging plays in the global society to ensure how best that can be achieved through informed decisions and how that impacts stability and longevity of a packed product, especially food and beverage. Dr Khajornboon was taught on the content of packaging technology but also the pedagogy to ensure how best to put theory into practice.

The trainers emphasised that which Dr Khajornboon has learned in this intense training should spark innovation and drive product excellence, export readiness, and competitiveness as Thailand pursues their critical policies of import substitution and export promotion,

The training commenced with the principles and functions of Packaging focussing on the Business Aspects of Packaging.

The training then moved into Barrier Properties to understand the Food Shelf-life Evaluation and ensured a comprehensive understanding of packaging testing and migration analysis in the supply chain.



The second day was a study of the various materials used in packaging, i.e.; paper, board, plastics (rigid and flexibles), glass, metal, teaching the importance of sustainable options.

This involved increased use of life cycle assessment (LCA) to help guide the use of packaging which reduces the environmental impact and ecological footprint.

On Day 3, food packaging design and innovation was closely studied along with the cold supply chain, anti-counterfeit packaging, tamper-evident packaging and smart packaging (Active and Intelligent). In addition, it was shown how important suitable specifications are once basic principles of components for e.g. closures are critical to the success of the ultimate pack.



In the second week, focus was on packaging economics, seeing what drives the commercial aspects of packaging, along with adhesives, and how best to choose the right adhesive for an array of applications in packaging.

Food safety is always paramount along with the importance of specifications and how to ensure that the packaging itself meets the needs and requirements of that desired specification. The day was concluded by the training in packaging design and brand identity strategies.

The final day was spent in the field to evaluate packaging in the context of packaging design and brand identity strategies but also with packaging specifications in mind. We visited and explored the following stores:

- Big W
- Target
- Kmart
- David Jones
- Myer

The importance of this field visit was to see how well the learnings of the previous theory days was being put into practice. Many products were taken from the shelves to study the functions of packaging and to see first-hand some of the familiar packs on the market but also where some packs had failed the fundamentals of packaging.

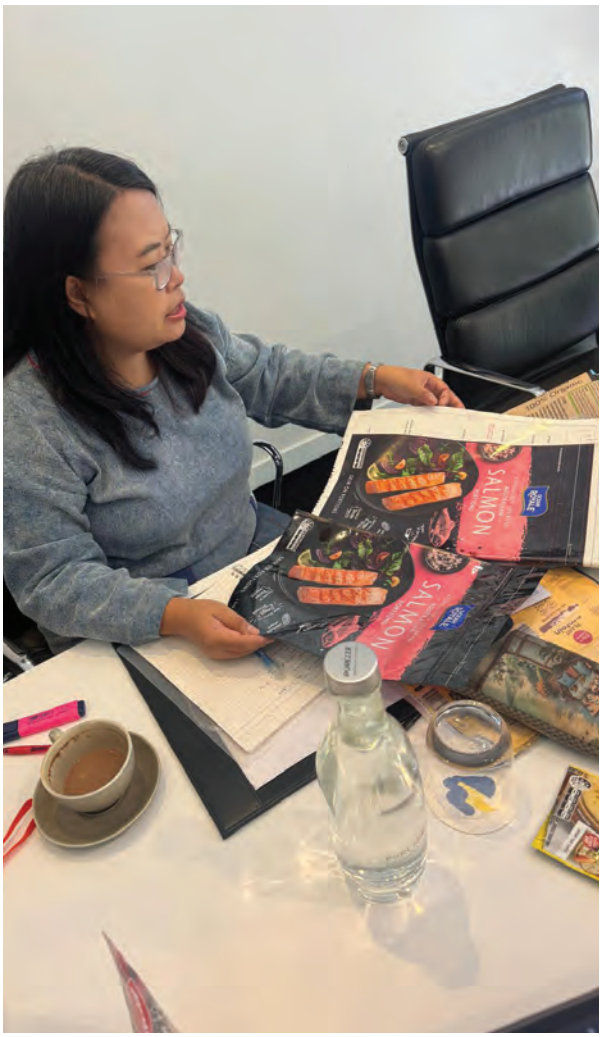
A wealth of knowledge was gained by this exercise. It was a pity when the afternoon session came to an end as there is always so much more to see and learn from such a practical experience.

The training was well received; Dr Moo Khajornboon was most engaging and appreciated that the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) had undertaken this training fortnight in the Brisbane, Australia.

May this be the beginning of packaging transformation in Thailand and roll out more specialised training programs focused on specific technical aspects of packaging technology along with value chains.


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My AIP Journey: A New Perspective on Packaging, Logistics and Sustainability

From Cold Chain Logistics to a New Understanding of Packaging and Sustainability

Written by
Dr Jiraprabha Khajornboon
Thailand Ministry of Industry

I came to Australia looking for knowledge about packaging technology and innovation. I returned to Thailand with something much more valuable: a new perspective.

Why I chose the AIP

In 2025, I was fortunate to receive a Thai Government Scholarship for professional development overseas. The scholarship provides Thai government officers with an opportunity to develop specialised knowledge with leading international institutions and bring that knowledge back to improve their organisations and contribute to Thailand. For me, choosing the right training program was especially important.

My professional background combines **Materials Science & Logistics** and **Supply Chain Management**. At the Department of Industrial Promotion (DIPROM), Ministry of Industry, Thailand, I have been involved in Cold Chain Logistics, including cold chain standards, innovation and cold chain packaging.

Although I had experience in logistics and materials, I realised that packaging was a specialised field in which I wanted to develop much deeper knowledge. Packaging plays an essential role in distribution, transportation, storage and product protection, particularly for food products where packaging can directly affect shelf life, food loss and food waste.

My interest in packaging developed further through my involvement with ProPak Asia in Thailand and my exposure to the WPO and the AIP. I became particularly interested in the relationship between packaging technology and logistics,

and in how better packaging solutions could help reduce product damage and food loss throughout the supply chain. **That was when I discovered the Australasian Institute of Packaging AIP stand at ProPak Asia..**

I contacted Nerida Kelton, Executive Director of AIP, and she responded very warmly and quickly. Nerida introduced me to Prof. Pierre Pienaar, Education Director, for an online discussion about my background, expectations and learning objectives.

I explained that I did not want to learn only from lectures. I wanted to understand packaging from both the technical and practical perspectives, including how packaging is actually designed, manufactured, used, transported, recycled and managed at the end of its life.

Prof. Pierre listened carefully and helped shape a customised program around my professional interests.

That was the beginning of my AIP journey.



▲ *Dr Khajornboon learning the principles of packaging technology in a practical way.*

A Learning Journey Designed Around My Needs

From the beginning, AIP's customised approach was one of the things I appreciated most.

Rather than simply following a standard training program, the content was adapted to connect with my background in materials and logistics and my particular interest in Cold Chain Packaging.

Over the course of the training, I explored packaging materials and technologies including polymers, plastics, paper and board, corrugated packaging, glass, metals and flexible packaging. We also covered barrier technology, shelf-life testing, packaging design, closures, tamper evidence, food safety, transportation packaging and sustainability.

What made the program particularly valuable was that these topics were not taught as isolated subjects. The lecturers continuously **connected materials, packaging performance, logistics, consumer needs, safety and sustainability**. This helped me understand packaging as a system rather than simply as a container.





Learning from Four Packaging Specialists

Prof. Pierre Pienaar CPPL, FAIP – Connecting the Knowledge

Prof. Pierre was not only my lecturer, but also my mentor throughout the program.

He helped me connect the different areas of packaging knowledge into one big picture. Prof. Pierre encouraged me to look at many materials from the perspective of packaging performance and real-world application.

We discussed polymer chemistry, different types of plastics, metal and glass packaging, barrier properties, shelf-life testing, closures, tamper-evident packaging and the relationship between packaging and logistics.

One topic that particularly interested me was **Tamper Evidence**.

I had seen tamper-evident packaging many times in everyday life, but I had never really considered the science and safety reasons behind it.

Prof. Pierre showed me how even something as simple as the sound of opening a beverage bottle can provide information about whether a package has been opened previously.

This was a good reminder that many ordinary packaging features are actually the result of careful engineering, safety considerations and technical knowledge.

Prof. Pierre also encouraged me to return to the fundamentals: What does the product need? What does the packaging need to protect? What does the consumer expect? And what should happen to the packaging after its useful life? These questions became increasingly important as the program progressed.

George Ganzenmuller FAIP, CPP — Discovering the Engineering Behind Fibre Packaging

George introduced me to the world of **fibre packaging**, particularly paperboard and corrugated packaging. Although fibre technology was not my original area of expertise, his practical explanations made it easy to understand the relationship between fibre materials, packaging design, manufacturing and logistics. The classroom learning became even more meaningful when I visited **Opal Fibre Packaging** in Brisbane.

There, I could see how corrugated packaging is designed, manufactured and tested before reaching customers.

I learned about the importance of packaging performance and mechanical testing, including compression and crushing tests, to ensure that packaging can withstand the demands of transportation and handling. This experience changed the way I look at a corrugated box. It is not simply a box.

It is an **engineered logistics solution** designed to protect a product throughout transportation, storage and distribution. I also learned about specialised fibre packaging solutions for temperature-sensitive products, including Arctic Box concepts designed to help maintain temperature through insulation. This was particularly relevant to my own work in Cold Chain Logistics.



rida Kelton FAIP — A New Perspective on stainability

My learning with Nerida was one of the moments that changed my thinking most significantly. Before coming to Australia, I was interested in new materials and environmentally friendly packaging. I often thought about sustainability in terms of biodegradable or alternative materials. Nerida encouraged me to think more deeply.

One of the most important lessons I took from AIP was that **'eco-friendly' does not automatically mean sustainable**. Sustainability needs to be considered across the entire packaging life cycle.

We discussed **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), recyclability, mono-material packaging, packaging waste hierarchy and the importance of designing packaging with its end-of-life pathway in mind**.

I became particularly interested in the movement towards packaging with fewer material types and the development of mono-material solutions that can support recycling.

I also observed how sustainability principles can be communicated directly to consumers through the **Australasian Recycling Label**.

This simple approach showed me that sustainability is not only the responsibility of packaging manufacturers. Producers, retailers, consumers and government all have important roles to play.

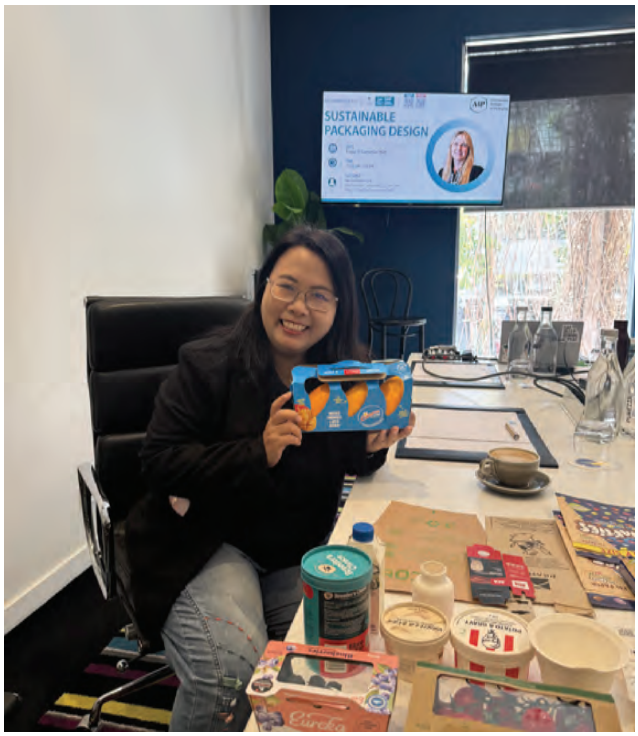
Nerida also challenged me to think about the difference between reducing packaging waste and reducing the environmental impact of food itself. This connected strongly with my work in Cold Chain Logistics.




Recovery Bag
CURBY




Organisations can use an opportunity prioritisation assessment framework to focus their strategy


SUSTAINABLE
PACKAGING DESIGN


BRISBANE
FESTIVAL



Packaging has a responsibility not only to reduce packaging waste, but also to **protect food, extend useful life and reduce Food Loss and Food Waste**. That was a major shift in my perspective.

Joe Foster FAIP — Entering the World of Flexible Packaging

Joe introduced me to the fascinating world of **Flexible Packaging**. His knowledge and practical experience were impressive. He could identify different films and explain their properties, applications and limitations with remarkable ease.

I learned about flexible packaging materials, printing technologies including flexographic, gravure and digital printing, film lamination, sealing, barrier properties, shelf-life considerations and end-of-life challenges.

One of the most interesting discussions was about the relationship **between engineering and sustainability**.

I realised that improving sustainability does not



always mean simply replacing a material with another material that sounds more environmentally friendly.

Learning Beyond the Classroom

One of the greatest strengths of my AIP experience was the opportunity to learn outside the classroom. The site visits allowed me to connect technical knowledge with real packaging applications and real supply chains.

Seeing Packaging in Everyday Life

Our practical learning began with visits to grocery and department stores, including Woolworths, Coles, Harris farm in Brisbane.

Prof. Pierre encouraged me to look carefully at the packaging around me and consider why each material, structure, closure, label and design had been selected.

I began to see everyday packaging differently. A package is not simply something that holds a product. It protects, communicates, supports distribution, influences purchasing decisions and eventually becomes part of a waste management system.

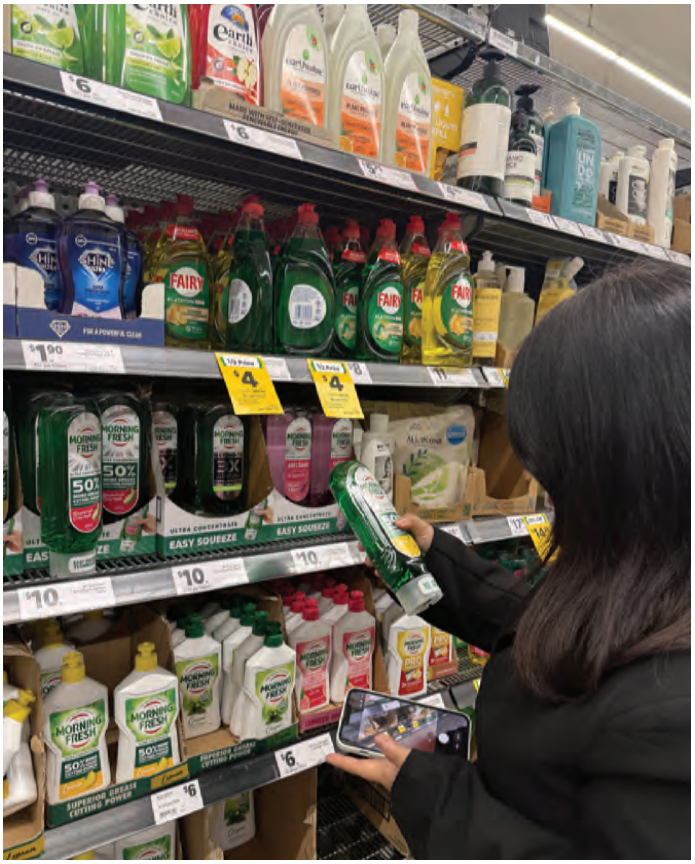
Sometimes the solution is better engineering and better design. By improving the structure or manufacturing process, it may be possible to achieve the required strength, barrier properties, sealability or protection with fewer materials or a more recyclable structure. It reminded me that innovation should not be separated from function, safety and sustainability.

Recycling in Practice

During a visit around Queen Street with Nerida, I observed collection points where used packaging could be returned for recovery and recycling.

I was particularly interested in the approach to flexible and soft plastic recovery and the participation of retailers in supporting collection systems.

This helped me understand EPR not simply as







a policy concept, but as a system that requires practical participation from different parts of the value chain.

St Johns Packaging

At St Johns Packaging in Parkinson with Joe, I was able to see flexible packaging production in practice. The visit helped me connect Joe's classroom discussions with the real manufacturing process, from film handling and storage through printing and production to finished packaging.

It also helped me appreciate the complexity of flexible packaging and the importance of balancing material properties, production requirements, product protection and end-of-life considerations.

Pacific Fair — Packaging as Brand Communication

Another memorable experience was visiting **Pacific Fair on the Gold Coast** with Prof. Pierre. Rather than focusing only on technical packaging properties, we looked at **Brand Identity** and **Packaging Design**.

I observed how colours, fonts, logos, product positioning and shelf presentation communicate the identity of a product and its target customers.

This reminded me that packaging is also a communication tool. It does not only protect what is inside. **It tells consumers what the product is, who it is for and what the brand represents**.

Opal Fibre Packaging

Packaging must respond to temperature, humidity, handling, stacking, transportation, storage and product sensitivity. The goal is not simply to make the packaging attractive.

It is to protect the product, reduce physical damage, maintain quality and ultimately minimise **Food Loss and Food Waste**.



And the main character in this story is **Corrugated Packaging**, which plays an essential role in holding, protecting and transporting fruits and vegetables throughout this industry.

This experience naturally led to my following visit to **Opal Fibre Packaging in Rocklea**, with the help of George. He completed the picture for me by showing me how packaging engineering translates these logistics requirements into practical fibre-based solutions.

I also gained a deeper understanding of **how important packaging design and testing are to both production and customers** — ensuring that the packaging performs as intended before it reaches the supply chain.

From Packaging Technology to Sustainability

When I first prepared for my training in Australia, my main objective was to learn about n**ew materials, new technologies and new innovations for Cold Chain Packaging**.

I achieved that objective. But I also gained something much bigger. I learned that the future of packaging cannot be separated from sustainability. A package must perform its primary function: protecting the product.

For food and other temperature-sensitive products, it must also help maintain quality and safety throughout the supply chain. But at the same time, we need to ask what happens after the product has been consumed.

Can the packaging be reduced?

Can it be redesigned?

Can it be reused?

Can it be recycled?

Can materials be recovered?

And only after these possibilities have been considered should disposal become the final option. This changed the way I think about packaging innovation. The most sustainable packaging is not necessarily the packaging made from the newest or most “natural” material.

Sometimes the better solution is to redesign the system, reduce unnecessary materials, improve

functionality, increase recyclability and ensure that the packaging can actually be managed after use. This is a perspective that I believe is highly relevant to Thailand.

Bringing the Knowledge Back to Thailand

The knowledge I gained from AIP will be particularly valuable for my work at DIPROM.

Thailand has strong capabilities in agriculture, food production, manufacturing and logistics. However, packaging development needs to be considered across the entire supply chain.

Similarly, packaging sustainability should not focus only on whether a material is biodegradable.

We need to look at the entire system — from material selection and packaging design to manufacturing, distribution, consumer use, collection, recycling and recovery.

I hope to apply the knowledge gained from AIP to the development of projects and initiatives related to **Cold Chain Logistics, Transportation Packaging, Packaging Innovation and Sustainable Materials**.

I also hope to share this knowledge with colleagues and Thai entrepreneurs, particularly SMEs, so that the benefits of this international training can extend beyond my own work.

A New Perspective

When I look back at my time in Brisbane, I realise that the most valuable outcome was not one particular material, technology or packaging solution. It was the change in the way I think.

I came to Australia looking for knowledge about packaging technology and innovation. I returned to Thailand with something much more valuable: a new perspective. A perspective that packaging is not simply about protecting a product.

Packaging connects **materials, logistics, food safety, consumer needs, sustainability and the future of our planet**. And perhaps the most important lesson I will carry forward is this:





Packaging is not only about protecting the product. Packaging is also about protecting our world.

My AIP Experience

I am sincerely grateful to AIP for creating a customised executive training program around my professional background and learning objectives.

The opportunity to learn directly from **Prof. Pierre Pienaar**, **Nerida Kelton**, **George Ganzenmuller** and **Joe Foster** was an exceptional experience.

Each lecturer brought a different area of expertise, but together they helped me connect materials, packaging, engineering, logistics, food safety and sustainability into one bigger picture.

Prof. Pierre was a wonderful mentor throughout the program. He continuously encouraged me, reviewed my understanding and helped me connect the knowledge from each lecturer.

Nerida opened my eyes to a broader understanding of packaging sustainability and the importance of looking beyond individual materials to the entire system.

George showed me the depth of fibre and corrugated packaging technology, while Joe introduced me to the fascinating world of flexible packaging and made me want to continue learning more about it.

What made the experience particularly special was the opportunity to ask questions, discuss ideas and learn directly from specialists with extensive industry experience.

For anyone working in packaging, logistics, supply chain, food, manufacturing or sustainability, I would highly recommend this style of customised training. You do not simply attend lectures.

You learn, discuss, observe, question and connect the knowledge with your own professional challenges.

And you do not return home with only a

certificate. You return home with **knowledge, inspiration, professional connections and a new perspective**.

With Gratitude

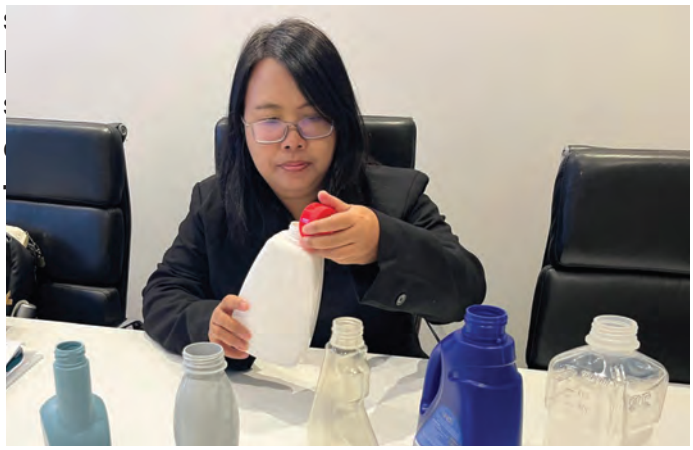
Thank you to Prof. Pierre Pienaar, Nerida Kelton, George Ganzenmuller and Joe Foster, and everyone at the Australasian Institute of Packaging for your kindness, patience, expertise and friendship throughout my time in Brisbane.

Thank you for welcoming me into the AIP community and for sharing your knowledge so generously.

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to the Ministry of Industry and the Office of the Civil Service Commission (OCSC), Thailand, for giving me the opportunity to undertake this professional development program in Australia.

My nine days with AIP may have ended, but the learning journey has not.

I hope to bring what I learned back to Thailand,






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Download the Everyday Rewards app and get 5 bonus credits!
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THERMOFORMING
COLD FORMING
↑ COST


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FAMILY SIZE
E-COM







Written by
Joe Foster FAIP
Education Team, AIP

I must say, I really enjoyed the day with Moo and it was my first one-on-one training session which allowed me to have excellent quality time with her. Moo was an excellent student and very engaging with all points discussed. I like the practical way she took her notes, as I feel she understood and got the point quite quickly.

Where things were not clear Moo was happy ask for further explanation, which was a good way to show a live example. There was a lot for her to take in considering all the aspects we covered from the basics of flexibles to where we are heading into the future with these materials. No doubt Moo is a quick learner and extremely clever, who knows, perhaps she could be helping the AIP in Thailand with our training exercises.

The plant visit was a great way to put things that Moo learned into perspective (which she acknowledged) as things became a bit clearer.

We visited St Johns Packaging Brisbane known as FPS, we were hosted by Darren Smith, General Manager and Craig Ralph the Managing Director.

The plant tour encompassed raw material goods inwards and warehouse of finished goods, Flexo Printing of 8 colours, Plate mounting, Ink mixing section, Lamination, Slitting with micro perforation and various style pouch making.

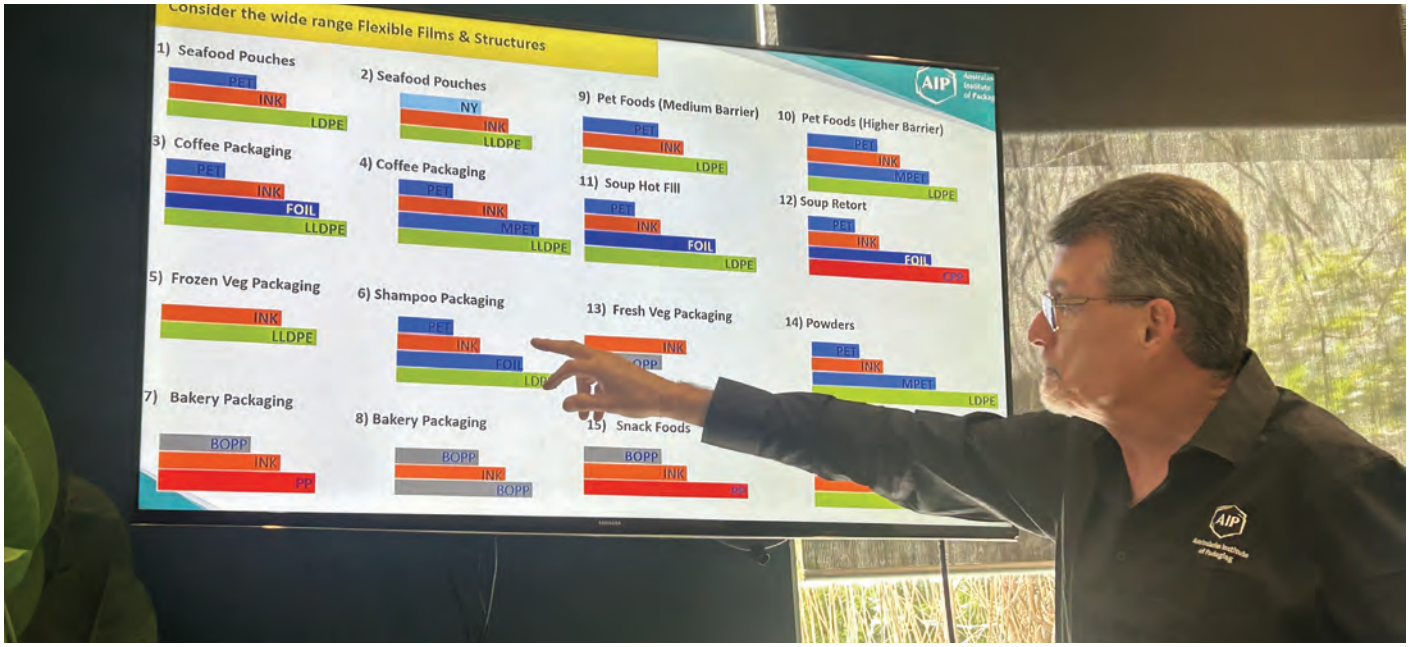
The visit to Woolworths in Parkinson was worthwhile as were able to identify different materials, especially the films we have been discussing in detail. Surprisingly quite a lot of packs were made in mono style materials.

We were also able to identify what was deemed to be good vs bad packaging in terms of the materials used and even printing.

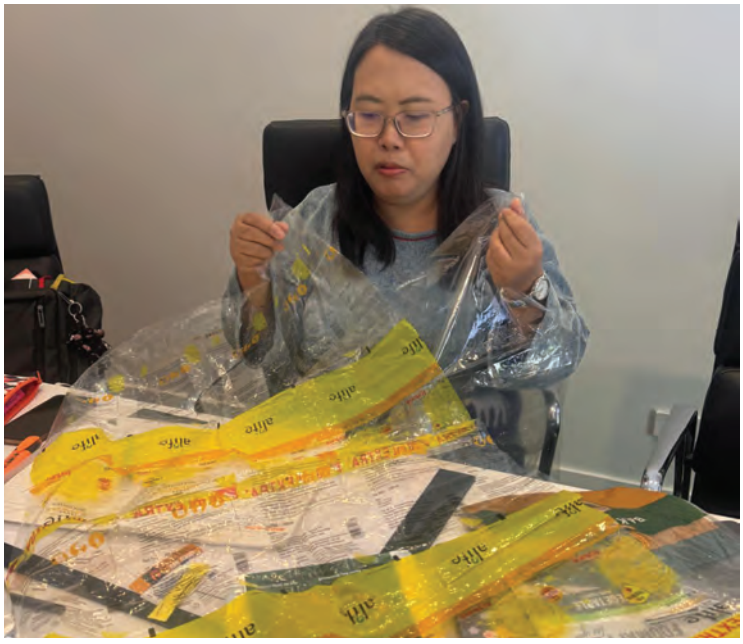
Moo was also quite capable of identifying quite a number of packs specially made from Polyethylene and Polyethylene materials.

All up, it was full day on for Moo, I believe she enjoyed the session and did comments that we could have spend more time on some of the specific topics but respected that point that we need to cover everything.

Thanks for involving me in a topic that I really enjoy.


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LLDPE
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INK
LLDPE
6) Shampoo Packaging
PET
INK
FOIL
7) Bakery Packaging
BOPP
INK
PP
8) Bakery Packaging
BOPP
INK
BOPP
9) Pet Foods (Medium Barrier)
PET
INK
LDPE
10) Pet Foods (Higher Barrier)
PET
INK
MPET
LDPE
11) Soup Hot Fill
PET
INK
FOIL
LDPE
12) Soup Retort
PET
INK
FOIL
13) Fresh Veg Packaging
INK
14) Powders
PET
INK
MPET
LDPE
15) Snack Foods
BOPP
INK
AIP


Vegasoil
Pure Worm Castings






HALSON
Panadol
Fill me up with empty blister packs

AIP intensive training Ministry of Thailand





Written by
George Ganzenmuller FAIP, CPP
Education Team, AIP

The breadth and dynamic nature of fibre based packaging was covered during an interactive session looking at the materials, conversion processes, printing processes and packaging solutions of the main formats including sacks, cartonboard, microflute and corrugated packaging. Following a broad introduction into the packaging components and designs, a more focussed review of applied packaging technology for fibre looked at Engineering for Success as well as for Sustainability.

Supply chain optimisation including insulation and ventilation was also covered. Finally looking to the future, the program looked at Sustainability Driven Innovation for fibre packaging.

To complement these sessions, a visit to an Aldi Supermarket was undertaken and finally a visit to Opal Fibre Packaging at Rocklea where a large scale corrugating plant is in operation and the manufacture of various corrugated solutions was observed.







Written by
Nerida Kelton FAIP
Executive Director, AIP

What a wonderful experience lecturing Moo was! Moo is one of the most eager students I have ever experienced. She asks questions, she asks more questions and she is like a sponge for learning. A lecturer couldn't ask for more!

I had the opportunity to train Moo in 'Introduction to Sustainable Packaging design' and 'Sustainable Food Systems: The paradox between Packaging & Food Waste'. What struck me was that Moo had not really taken a step back to really look at the overarching challenges and barriers companies face with packaging and waste regulations, true recyclability and recovery in the country, best choice of material for end of life and circularity and more. It was such a great opportunity for Moo to really deep dive into these issues and to go away looking at packaging differently.

When we looked at Sustainable Packaging and went through many examples of what types of packaging this covers Moo's eyes lit up. She really enjoyed seeing all the different options from recycled content, to reuse and refill, to mono material, to paper alternatives and certified compostable packaging. One of her tasks was to go back to Thailand with new alternatives and I truly think her views changed once we looked at Sustainable Packaging design from a higher lens.

We then discussed how to find the balance between food and packaging waste and looked at innovative Save Food Packaging design. This was a great area for Moo to really assess the right choice of materials for the product, the shelf life, the flavour etc and then also to challenge her thinking on how to find the right balance between packaging materials and food waste from an environmental impact perspective.

Then the fun began when I took her on excursions across Brisbane city to show her rubbish bins, the Australasian Recycling Label on pack, soft

plastics recycling drop offs, blister pack in-store drops offs, refillable solutions, paper based alternatives and some really great examples of Sustainable Packaging design and Save Food Packaging design.

After spending 7 hours with Moo it was clear that she was keen to learn, to take knowledge back to Thailand and to contribute to changes in her country. I have no doubt that I changed her lens and perspective and showed her a much wider view of the world.

I am honoured to have been able to contribute to her educational journey and look forward to meeting her again in Thailand in 2027








BOARD ROOM
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION
Dr Jiraprabha Khajornboon


Nerida Kelton FAIP
Executive Director, AIP
Vice President-Sustainability & Save Food, WPO
nerida@aipack.com.au
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GLOBAL ENDORSEMENT

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AIP Australasian Institute of Packaging

AIP Australasian Institute of Packaging CPP CERTIFIED PACKAGING PROFESSIONAL

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

5 GENDER EQUALITY

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

V1 03.26

Find your name on the CPP Wall at PACK EXPO

Calling all AIP Certified Packaging Professionals - find your name on the CPP Wall on the Institute of Packaging Professionals (IoPP) stand at PACK EXPO.

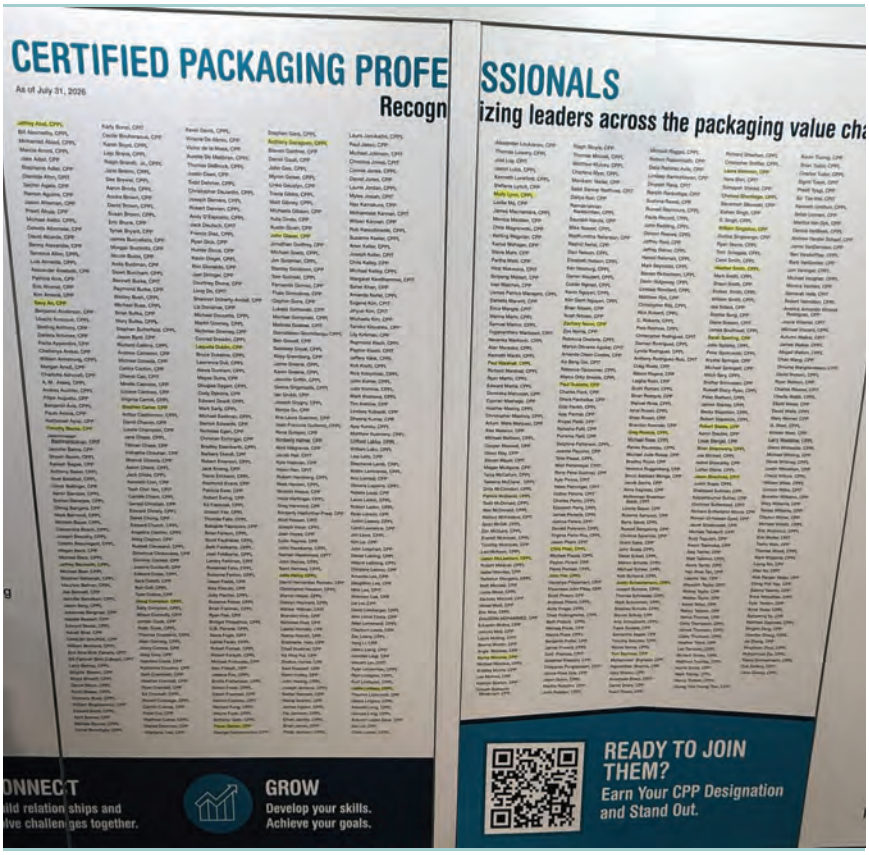
Thanks to AIP Australasian Institute of Packaging Member Lindy Hughson, for visiting the IoPP stand on our behalf, and highlighting some of our CPP's in the Australasian region.

The AIP are the exclusive partner of the IoPP Certified Packaging Professional program in Australia, New Zealand and South East Asia and the community continues to grow every year. Many of our CPP's are busy working towards attaining their Lifetime CPP designation and we also have some CPIT's being undertaken right now.

Please reach out to the AIP for more details on the globally recognised designation and why it is so important for packaging professionals in Australasia to become CPP's.







AIP TEXTBOOK
PAY IT FORWARD
RETURN PROGRAM

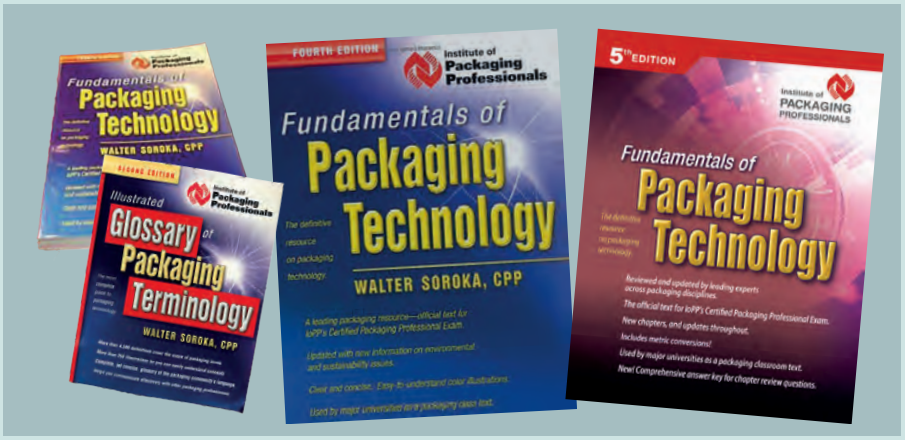
Institute of PACKAGING PROFESSIONALS

Australasian Institute of Packaging

Do you have any old

Fundamentals of Packaging Technology

textbooks that you no longer use?



The AIP is looking to **REUSE** 3rd, 4th and 5th editions of the FPT textbook and share them with our overseas Members & Colleagues who cannot afford these textbooks.

If you have one or these textbooks lying around gathering dust please send them to:

PO BOX 400
Mount Ommaney 4074
Queensland, Australia

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.

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

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE

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www.ikonpack.com



November 2026



interpack China

NEW AIP Corporate Partner

PROUD TO BE A AIP CORPORATE PARTNER
Australasian Institute of Packaging

interpack PROCESSING & PACKAGING 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.

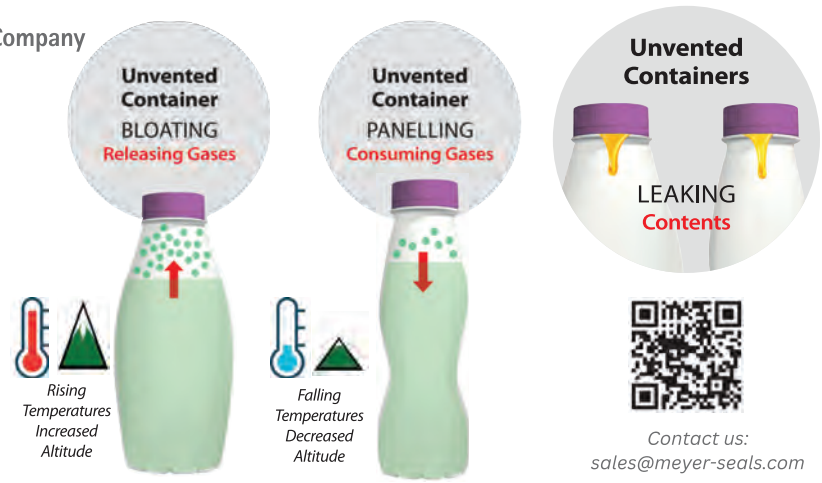
As a member of the interpack alliance, interpack China deeply explores cutting-edge fields such as artificial intelligence, intelligent/automated/digital packaging, sustainable/personalised/lightweight packaging, processing and packaging machinery, innovative materials and products, components, printed 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!



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16-18 NOVEMBER 2026

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Ms. Ivania Portillo
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Tel. +49 211 4560 7781
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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

WHY INTERPACK CHINA ?

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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

interpack
PROCESSING & PACKAGING
CHINA

16-18 NOVEMBER 2026
SHANGHAI NEW INTERNATIONAL EXPO CENTRE
www.interpack-cn.com

Organized by

Messe Düsseldorf Shanghai

ADSALE 雅式

December 2026

AIP State of Industry Webinar: Global View of On-Pack Recycling Labelling

WHEN: **9 December 2026, 10.00 am AEDT**

WHERE: On-line

WHAT: **One of the most critical pieces of the consumer education and communication puzzle for accurate recycling is on-pack labelling. Clear, intuitive logos and labels that help to guide consumers to recycle correctly is what we need across the globe. This webinar will explore other continents on-pack labelling programs and will bring together experts in their field from the United States of America, the United Kingdom and Europe.**

Attendees will be able to learn more about the Nordic Labelling program and the intersection with the new labelling program being discussing under the Packaging & Packaging Waste Regulations for all European member States, the successful programs OPRL in the United Kingdom and How2Recycle in the United States of America.

The experts will discuss their programs, next steps and why it is important for governments and brands to support these programs.

Whether the programs are voluntary or regulated, truthful on-pack labelling that determines true recyclability in the country the pack is sold in, has been proven to improve recycling rates, engage consumers in recycling, reduce contamination and minimise litter. The programs you will hear about have evolved from simple kerbside recycling labelling to now having check locally, container deposit schemes, drop off and collection points for niche materials, not yet recycled labels. The programs are dynamic and adapt to the regulatory frameworks that are being developed across the globe, including the stricter regulations around misleading and greenwashing claims on packaging. Join the AIP to hear how the rest of the world labels their packaging.

Meet the Experts



Thomas Pollock
Director, Strategic Partnerships
Greenblue
United States of America



Emily Williams
Director
How 2Recycle
United States of America



Alice Harlock
Director, Technical & Member Services
On Pack Recycling Label (OPRL)
United Kingdom



Kari-Lill Ljøstad
Head of Communication
Gront Punkt Norge
Norway

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

AIP Australasian Institute of Packaging CPP CERTIFIED PACKAGING PROFESSIONAL



February 2027



ProPak Philippines 2027

AIP - Proud Packaging Education Partner

PROPAK PHILIPPINES

WHEN: **24-26 February 2027**

WHERE: World Trade Centre, Metro Manila, Pasay City, Philippines

With supportive governance, the Philippines has forecasted strong and dynamic growth across its industries with the backdrop of rising incomes, expanding & changing consumer demands, and increasing export potential.

WHAT: ProPak Philippines is the leading international processing and packaging trade event for the Philippines. It is the perfect platform for market trends, investments and industry networking through product exchange and a variety of conferences, seminars and technical workshops offering sustainable solutions for the country's enterprises.

The event provides various industries with access to the latest development in packaging and processing machines and technology from leading companies across the globe. The exhibition delivers a brilliant industry-focused event connecting international suppliers to local and regional buyers in food, drink and pharmaceutical manufacturing industries.



2 x AIP Training Courses @ ProPak Philippines 2027

To be held alongside PROPAK PHILIPPINES

CPD Accredited CPP Points

WHEN: **24 February 2027**

WHERE: Alongside ProPak Philippines, World Trade Centre, Metro Manila, Pasay City, Philippines

The AIP will be running two training courses alongside of ProPak Philippines 2027.

2027 Philippine Packaging Forum @ ProPak Philippines

CPD Accredited CPP Points

To be held alongside PROPAK PHILIPPINES



WHEN: **25 February 2027**

WHERE: Alongside ProPak Philippines, World Trade Centre, Metro Manila, Pasay City, Philippines

The Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP), in partnership with Informa Markets, will be holding the 6th edition of the annual Philippines Packaging Forum on Thursday the 25th of February, alongside of ProPak Philippines 2027. The Philippines Packaging Forum will bring together local, regional and global packaging experts that will discuss a wide array of packaging-related topics including sustainability, food packaging, regulations, trends and new innovations. Attendees will receive a Certificate of Attendance and points towards the Certified Packaging Professional designation.

2027 Drinktech Forum @ ProPak Philippines

CPD Accredited CPP Points

To be held alongside PROPAK PHILIPPINES

DRINKTECH

WHEN: **26 February 2027**

WHERE: Alongside ProPak Philippines, World Trade Centre, Metro Manila, Pasay City, Philippines

March 2027



ProPak Vietnam 2027

WHEN: **10-12 March 2027**

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

WHAT: The year 2027 marks a remarkable milestone – celebrating 20 years of ProPak Vietnam accompanying the industry in Vietnam, reaffirming its position as the leading exhibition for the processing and packaging sectors.

Over the past two decades, ProPak Vietnam has been a trusted partner in the growth of the manufacturing industry, actively contributing to the green transition and raising awareness of sustainable development.

AIP - Proud Packaging Education Partner

PROPAK VIETNAM

With a vision towards a circular economy, ProPak Vietnam serves not only as a platform to showcase cutting-edge technologies and solutions but also as a forum for knowledge exchange, inspiration, and collective action toward a more sustainable manufacturing future in Vietnam.





2027 Drinktech Forum @ ProPak Vietnam

CPD Accredited CPP Points

To be held alongside PROPAK VIETNAM

DRINK TECH

WHEN: **10 March 2027**

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

2027 Vietnam Packaging Forum @ ProPak Vietnam

CPD Accredited CPP Points

To be held alongside PROPAK VIETNAM



WHEN: **11 March 2027**

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

2 x AIP Training Courses @ ProPak Vietnam 2027

CPD Accredited CPP Points

To be held alongside PROPAK VIETNAM

WHEN: **12 March 2027**

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

The AIP will be running two training courses alongside of ProPak Vietnam 2027.

March 2027



APPEX 2027

CPD Accredited CPP Points

appex

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.





April 2027



Food & Hospitality Asia (FHA) 2027

WHEN: **20-23 April 2027**

WHERE: Singapore Expo, Changi Business Park

WHAT: **Food & Hospitality Asia (FHA) has cemented its position as the premier authority and trendsetter for the food and hospitality industries in Asia. From its humble beginnings in a car park in 1978, FHA has grown into Asia's leading international trade event, renowned for its scale, influence, and industry impact.**

In 2026, FHA returns as a mega event at Singapore Expo, occupying all ten halls and showcasing the best in food & beverage, hotel, restaurant, café/catering, retail, and ProWine Singapore. This iconic platform has consistently evolved with industry trends and emerging technologies, making it an essential event for professionals and businesses seeking brand exposure, innovation, market insights, business leads, and unparalleled networking opportunities.

FHA FOOD & HOSPITALITY ASIA

As FHA enters its 49th year, the upcoming FHA 2027 promises an extraordinary experience at Singapore Expo from April 20 to 23, 2027. The next edition will feature three exciting new launches—FHA Manufacturing, FHA Private Label, and FHA Travel Catering, designed to uncover fresh innovations, sourcing opportunities, and avenues for business growth. Additionally, the introduction of Chef Festival and Immersive Drinks will bring a new wave of business opportunities and event festivity. FHA 2027 is set to host over 2,750 exhibitors and welcome 60,000 attendees from more than 100 countries and regions, reaffirming its status as the must-attend event for the global food and hospitality community.

June 2027



CPD Accredited CPP Points

Loupe Southeast Asia (formerly Labelexpo Southeast Asia)

WHEN: **9-11 June 2027**

WHERE: IMPACT Muang Thong Thani, Bangkok, Thailand

WHAT: **LOUPE Southeast Asia is the region's largest event for label, mid-web flexible packaging, and inline folding carton converting where the world's leading suppliers showcase live demonstrations of the latest presses, substrates, and converting systems.**

The event attracts the region's most influential buyers and decision makers, ready to invest in solutions that drive growth. It is a platform to connect with experts, compare technologies, and explore trends shaping the future of labels and packaging in Southeast Asia.

LOUPE Southeast Asia formerly Labelexpo

For anyone serious about competing in this fast-growing market, it is the place to be. Join us at ProPak Asia 2027 and stay on the forefront of the manufacturing industry.



FHA FOOD & HOSPITALITY ASIA

20-23 APR 2027
SINGAPORE EXPO

ASIA'S LEADING INTERNATIONAL FOOD & HOSPITALITY EVENT

Bringing together the global food & hospitality community, FHA 2027 is where industry professionals connect, discover new products and solutions, and uncover opportunities shaping the future of the industry across Asia.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT FHA 2027

- **60,000+** ATTENDEES
- **70,000** SQM EXHIBITION AREA
- **70** COUNTRIES/ REGIONS
- **1,820+** EXHIBITORS

MORE TO EXPLORE AT FHA 2027

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FHA MANUFACTURING



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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



CPD Accredited CPP Points

9th edition Annual Global Packaging Forum

CPD Accredited CPP Points

To be held alongside PROPAK ASIA

WHEN: **9 June 2027**

WHERE: Alongside ProPak Asia, IMPACT Muang Thong Thani, Bangkok, Thailand

WHAT: Organised by Informa Markets & the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP), the 9th edition of the Global Packaging Forum is the pinnacle event for ProPak Asia and brings together global and regional experts to discuss the future of packaging, design, materials, regulations, sustainability and more.



SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION
English & Thai

June 2027

AIP Walking Tour x2 @ ProPak Asia

WHEN: **9 June 2027**

WHERE: Alongside ProPak Asia,
IMPACT Muang Thong Thani, Bangkok, Thailand

To be held alongside PROPAK ASIA

AIP Mini Training Courses x2 @ Propak Asia

CPD Accredited CPP Points

WHEN: **10 June 2027**

WHERE: Alongside ProPak Asia,
IMPACT Muang Thong Thani (Challenger Halls 1-3),
Bangkok, Thailand.

WHAT: The AIP will be running two training courses alongside of ProPak Asia. Topics to be confirmed soon.

To be held alongside PROPAK ASIA



AIP Walking Tour x2 @ ProPak Asia

WHEN: **10 June 2027**

WHERE: Alongside ProPak Asia,
IMPACT Muang Thong Thani, Bangkok, Thailand

To be held alongside PROPAK ASIA

AIP Workshops x3 @ Propak Asia

CPD Accredited CPP Points

WHEN: **11 June 2027**

WHERE: Alongside ProPak Asia,
IMPACT Muang Thong Thani (Challenger Halls 1-3),
Bangkok, Thailand.

WHAT: The AIP will be running three workshops alongside of ProPak Asia. Topics to be confirmed soon.

To be held alongside PROPAK ASIA



AIP Walking Tour x 2 @ ProPak Asia

WHEN: **11 June 2027**

WHERE: Alongside ProPak Asia,
IMPACT Muang Thong Thani, Bangkok, Thailand

To be held alongside PROPAK ASIA

2027 WorldStar Global Packaging Awards Ceremony

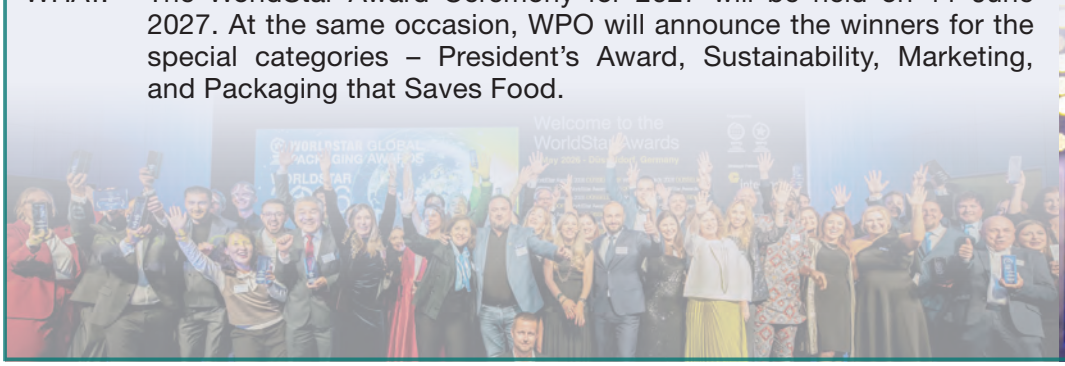
WHEN: **11 June 2027**

WHERE: TBC

WHAT: The WorldStar Award Ceremony for 2027 will be held on 11 June 2027. At the same occasion, WPO will announce the winners for the special categories – President's Award, Sustainability, Marketing, and Packaging that Saves Food.

WPO WORLD PACKAGING ORGANISATION

WORLDSTAR GLOBAL PACKAGING AWARDS





PROPAK ASIA

AIP Australasian Institute of Packaging

2027 Australasian Delegation to visit ProPak Asia

9 > 12 June 2027
IMPACT, Muang Thong Thani, Thailand

Unlock your **Asian market potential** by joining the **Australasian Delegation** hosted by the AIP at ProPak Asia 2027





The Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) is pleased to invite AIP Members and Industry Colleagues and their teams to join their dedicated group delegation at the 2027 edition of ProPak Asia which will be held the 9 – 12 June in Bangkok, Thailand. ProPak Asia at the new venue; IMPACT MUANG THONG THANI, Thailand. ProPak Asia outgrew BITEC exhibition centre and in 2026 moved to the newer and larger venue in Muang Thong Thani.

Experience a week of unparalleled educational opportunities, network with like-minded packaging professionals and visit the largest packaging and processing show in the Southeast Asian region which saw almost 80,000 visitors in 2026.

Join the Australasian Delegation & GAIN:

ASK ABOUT DELEGATION BENEFITS

- **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 are eligible for complimentary accommodation and breakfast for a seamless experience. Ask the AIP how.**
- **Access to the Buyers lounge during the four days.**
- **AIP coordinated dinner with the delegation.**



To book your place on the 2027 delegation email info@aipack.com.au

PROPAK ASIA

Australasian Institute of Packaging

9 > 12 June 2027
IMPACT, Muang Thong Thani, Thailand

With the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) being the leading educational partner of ProPak Asia, anyone joining the Australasian Delegation will be able to attend, for free, the following activities coordinated by the Institute, in partnership with Informa Markets.

Free Educational Offerings during ProPak Asia:

- 9th June: The 9th edition of the annual Global Packaging Forum; the pinnacle conference for ProPak Asia each year.
- 10th June: 2x mini training courses to enhance your skills and knowledge.
- 11th June: x workshops that will be discussing current trends and innovations across multiple packaging types.
- 9 - 11 June: Coordinated walking tours of the show. Three separate tours covering Sustainability, Labelling, Smart packaging.
- Experience a week of unparalleled educational opportunities, network with like-minded packaging professionals and visit the largest packaging and processing show in the Southeast Asian region.

ASK ABOUT DELEGATION BENEFITS

- Join the Australasian Delegation to tour the show and meet with preferred exhibitors at the show exclusively.
- Visit the PIDA Australasian Packaging Innovation and Design Awards showcase area and see the latest physical samples of award-winning designs from the region. This will include PIDA Student designs and 2027 ANZ WorldStar Award winners.
- Attain points towards the globally recognised Certified Packaging Professional (CPP) designation.
- Receive Certificates of Attendance for the Global Packaging Forum and Certificates of Completion for the training courses.



To book your place on the 2027 delegation email info@aipack.com.au

PROPAK ASIA

AIP Australasian Institute of Packaging

9 > 12 June 2027
IMPACT, Muang Thong Thani, Thailand

What 2026 delegates said about ProPak Asia...



"Attending ProPak Asia was one of the most enlightening experiences in my journey of exploring the career path of becoming a packaging technologist. As someone who did not have many connections to the industry before starting my Master's at the University of Melbourne, I did not quite grasp the scale of the industry and community that has been created around packaging. I also have never met a group of people so eager to keep learning about new developments in packaging, regardless of position or seniority within the industry. The passion for sustainable packaging, shown by both presenters and attendees, was contagious."

"It was 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!"



"Attending ProPak Asia as a part of the Australasian Delegation was a joyful experience with my new AIP network. Packaging is indeed a complex topic with different people from across the continent and across different subsets of the field.

ASK ABOUT DELEGATION BENEFITS

I had the opportunity to not only meet people from my own specialty in plastic, but also from the 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!"

"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."

"Beyond the technical insights, the networking opportunities and knowledge sharing across Australasia made this an incredibly invaluable experience. I look forward to continuing these connections and would welcome the opportunity to participate in next year's delegation. Thank you once again to the AIP for your support and for making this opportunity possible."

Join the 2027 Australasian Delegation
Send your expression of interest to info@aipack.com.au

PROPAK ASIA

9 > 12 JUNE 2027

IMPACT MUANG THONG THANI, THAILAND (10.00-18.00 Hrs.)



If your next market is Asia then the platform is ProPak Asia 2027

The 2027 edition of ProPak Asia which will be held the 9-12 June in Bangkok, Thailand. Due to the rapid growth of the show, ProPak Asia has moved to a new venue; IMPACT MUANG THONG THANI, Thailand.

Experience a week exhibiting at the largest packaging and processing show in the Southeast Asian region which saw almost 80,000 visitors in 2026.

Join the ProPak Asia 2027 – Australasian Pavilion

- **Australian & New Zealand innovation & ingenuity.**
- **Asian opportunity.**
- **Your products, packaging, systems and technology deserve a global audience.**

Unlock your Asian market potential by joining the Australasian Pavilion which is an area for Australian and New Zealand companies to exhibit at ProPak Asia 2027.

Australian and New Zealand packaging and processing companies already have strong technology, innovation and sustainability credentials. The challenge is getting those solutions in front of the right international customers and distributors. ProPak Asia is the solution.

The Australasian Pavilion has a few stands remaining so email info@aipack.com.au for more information on the stand sizes and pricing.





July 2027



FoodBev Tech Indonesia 2027

WHEN: **21-24 July 2027**

WHERE: JIEXPO, Jakarta, Kemayoran, Indonesia

WHAT: **Bring your technology closer to Indonesia's Food & Beverage Industry.**

FoodBev Tech Indonesia 2027 is a dedicated B2B platform connecting the food & beverage manufacturing industry with the latest technologies, equipment, and solutions for processing, production, packaging, automation, materials, and sustainable manufacturing.

More Connections. Greater Business Potential.

As part of Food & Hospitality Indonesia (FHI), FoodBev Tech Indonesia connects manufacturing technology with the wider food and hospitality ecosystem.

From production to market, connect across the F&B value chain and discover greater opportunities for collaboration and business growth. Position your technology where the F&B industry comes to discover new solutions, build connections, and explore new business opportunities.

August 2027

FoodTech Sydney 2027

WHEN: **17-18 August 2027**

WHERE: ICC, Sydney

WHAT: FoodTech Sydney 2027 will be held on the 17 & 18 August and will bring together NSW food manufacturers, processors, technologists and R&D teams at the point where they are actively optimising lines, integrating new technology and building capacity.

Put your technology in front of Australia's second largest food manufacturing market. These operators who aren't just browsing; they're evaluating, and they're ready to invest in making their operations perform.





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September 2027



Foodtech Packtech

FOODTECH PACKTECH

AIP - Proud Packaging Education Partner

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 decision-makers in the food and beverage manufacturing, packaging technology, and logistics sectors. With more than 250 exhibiting companies, a three-day educational program, special features, and interactive displays, this is the must-attend industry event.

New Zealand Forum @ Foodtech Packtech NZ

To be held alongside FOODTECH PACKTECH

WHEN: **21 September 2027**

WHERE: Alongside Foodtech Packtech, Auckland Showgrounds, North Island, New Zealand.

WHAT: The AIP hold the New Zealand Forum alongside of Foodtech Packtech.



AIP Training Courses x2 @ Foodtech Packtech NZ

To be held alongside FOODTECH PACKTECH

WHEN: **23 September 2027**

WHERE: Alongside Foodtech Packtech, Auckland Showgrounds, North Island, New Zealand.

WHAT: The AIP will be running two training courses alongside of Foodtech Packtech.



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21 - 23 September 2027

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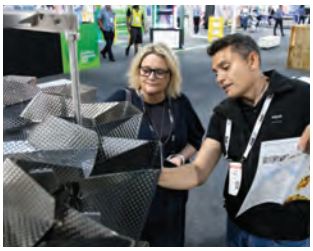
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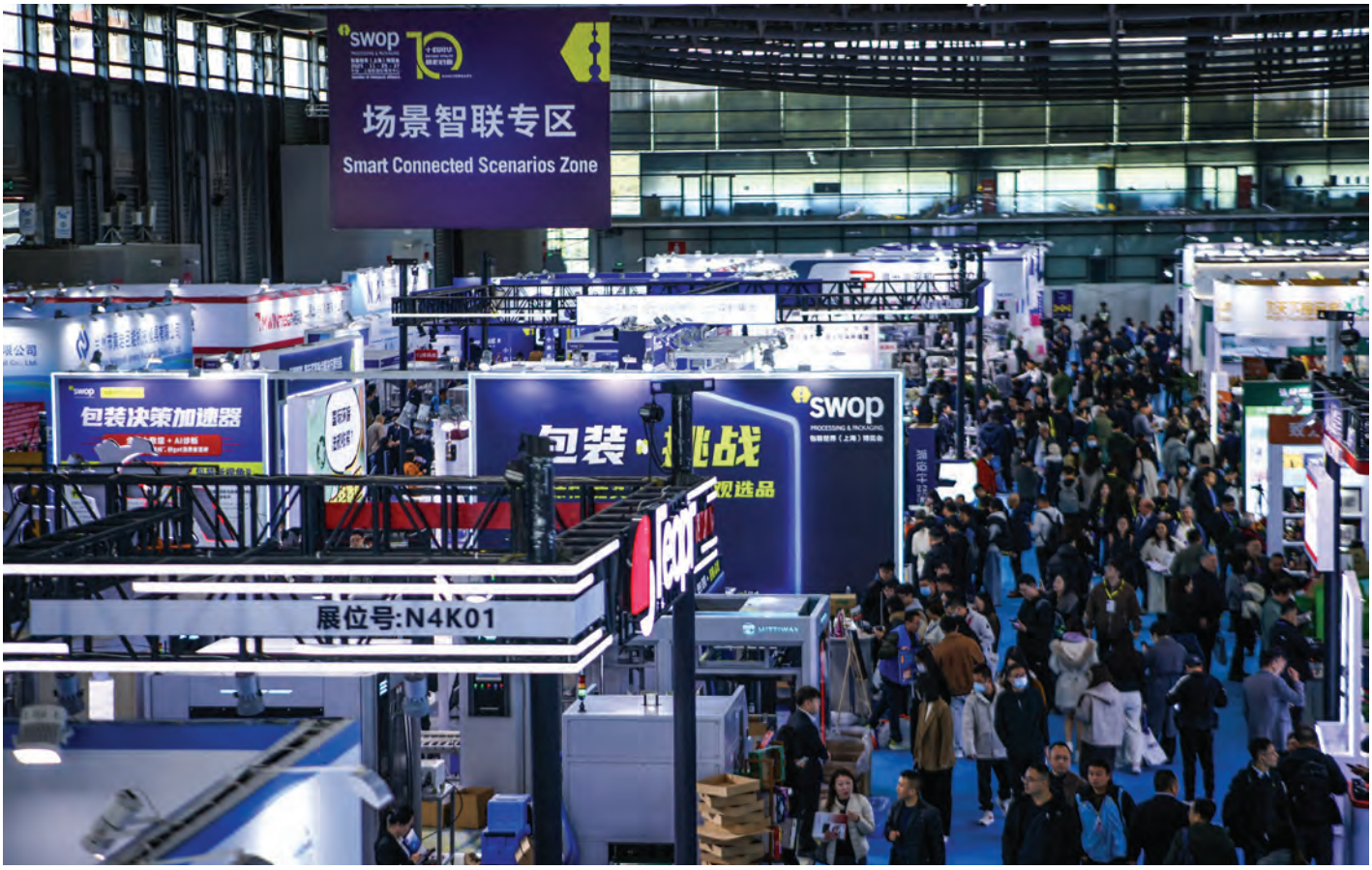
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Australasian Institute of Packaging

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interpack China 2026 Preview: Spotlight on Export Compliance, Cross-Border Fulfillment, and High-Volume Paper Packaging

interpack China 2026 will take place from 16–18 November 2026 at the Shanghai New International Expo Centre (SNIEC). As the food and beverage, cosmetics, personal care, and e-commerce retail sectors continue to evolve, the role of packaging is expanding far beyond its traditional boundaries. From product protection and intralogistics to transit fulfillment, material innovation, and international market expansion, corporate demand for diverse, highly specific packaging solutions is intensifying.

At the same time, shorter product life cycles, lengthening logistics chains, and complex foreign market entry requirements are compelling companies to rethink their packaging strategies. They must strike a precise balance between operational efficiency, material performance, packaging functionality, and regulatory compliance. To address these real-world pressures, interpack China 2026 will bridge the gap between cutting-edge technology, products, and concrete applications through live demonstrations and expert consultations. By delivering practical insights and agile solutions, the exhibition empowers you to position your business for early growth.

Compliance Consulting Services: Don't Let Packaging Delay Your International Orders | Customs Compliance · Navigating Foreign Buyer Needs · Unlocking New Markets

For packaging suppliers entering the global arena, the greatest hurdle is rarely the initial decision to expand. Instead, the true challenge often strikes when products are already in the pipeline and clients are on board—only to discover a maze of market-specific access requirements, certifications, and material regulations that must be navigated. Whether a specific material is permitted, how to secure a mandatory certification, and what regulatory barriers exist in a target market can directly dictate the success or failure of a packaging rollout.

To help companies navigate these cross-border complexities, interpack China 2026 is debuting the 'Compliance Consulting Services'. Featuring on-site specialists from SGS, Intertek, TÜV AUSTRIA, and TÜV Rheinland, the hub will focus on three core pillars: target market access, sustainable packaging verification, and material risk assessment.

The experts will share critical insights on the workflows, procedures, and tariff regulations relevant to Chinese exporters, backed by hands-on experience and real-world case studies from the European market. Attendees are encouraged to bring active projects, physical packaging samples, or preliminary compliance inquiries directly to the show floor.



Through one-on-one consultations with international market and certification authorities, you can systematically resolve technical roadblocks and streamline every stage of your project's pathway to compliance.

Smart Scenario Integration: Linking the Entire Cross-Border Fulfillment Chain Through a Single Order

For cross-border e-commerce companies, a single product must pass through multiple packaging stages from the warehouse to the consumer's hands. Every stage can impact fulfillment efficiency, while the consumer's unboxing experience further extends the value of the packaging itself. How to control packaging redundancy while meeting the protection requirements of cross-border transport, and how to balance easy opening, recyclability, and brand presentation through structural design and material selection – all of this must be managed holistically across the entire fulfillment chain.

The Smart Scenario Integration Zone at interpack China 2026 will present these interconnected stages within a single fulfillment chain. Covering six steps—in-warehouse routing, packing and palletising, outbound verification, packaging material selection, long-haul transport, and consumer unboxing—the zone showcases the complete journey of goods from inbound storage to unboxing, providing you with highly operational optimisation approaches. Starting from real-world business scenarios, exhibitors such as Rito, Smartc, Disheng, Fusi and Warsonco will offer live demonstrations of how equipment and packaging materials operate in synergy. From order processing and automated packing to dynamic weighing, sealing, and dispatch, you can intuitively observe the data integration and coordinated movements between equipment at each stage, enabling you to deliver goods from the warehouse to the consumer more smoothly and steadily, even during peak seasons.

Paper-Based Packaging Zone: Adapting to Diverse Market Demands, Driving Supply Chain Synergy, and Leading the Paper Packaging Transition

As consumer goods packaging becomes increasingly specialised, the application of paper-based materials is evolving far beyond basic containment and structural support to offer advanced, value-added functionalities.

Today, thinner substrates must maintain uncompromised strength, and source reduction cannot come at the expense of packaging integrity. Furthermore, barrier requirements—such as grease and moisture resistance—place new demands on material combinations and converting methods.

For packaging manufacturers, innovating with paper is no longer just about modifying the substrate itself; ensuring that new materials integrate seamlessly into existing production lines and achieve stable, high-volume runnability is now a critical factor in product development.



interpack China 2026 will feature a dedicated Paper-Based Packaging Zone. Built around the core matrix of 'Paper Substrates × Functional Materials × Packaging Products × Paper Packaging Equipment', the zone bridges the gap between R&D, functional technology, and end-use applications. It showcases the complete commercialisation journey of paper-based materials—from functional design to market-ready deployment.

The zone will highlight industry trends such as barrier properties, environmental sustainability, formability, and mass scalability, serving sectors spanning food and beverage, cold chain logistics, foodservice delivery, cosmetics and personal care, and e-commerce retail.

Companies including Stora Enso, Ruize Creative Arts, Papkot, Greenwich, Guangdong Fowa, Mingcai, and Yueyang Forest & Paper will showcase cutting-edge materials and solutions. Highlights include plastic-free cold-chain paperboard, grease-resistant carton board, water-based coatings, and seaweed-based transparent films.

From fibre selection and functional coating design to downstream converting and machinability, the Paper-Based Packaging Zone will present targeted material solutions for a wide range of application demands. Whether you are seeking lightweight options, advanced functional solutions, or materials optimised for large-scale manufacturing, you will find the exact strategies and solutions to match your production needs on-site.

interpack PROCESSING & PACKAGING 2029 · 6 · 10 - 15 德国 · 杜塞尔多夫 Düsseldorf, Germany
interpack PROCESSING & PACKAGING CHINA 包装世界（上海）博览会 2026 · 11 · 16 - 18 中国 · 上海新国际博览中心

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)

Banksia FOUNDATION

PIDA AUSTRALASIAN PACKAGING INNOVATION & DESIGN AWARDS 2023
MARKETING DESIGN OF THE YEAR GOLD WINNER

WPO WORLD PACKAGING ORGANISATION
WORLDSTAR WINNER 2024

Read about Bunzl's Sustainability Strategy:

BUNZL

www.bunzlasiapacific.com





TNA Solutions helps Muscat Chips pioneer a greenfield snack production line in Oman

TNA Solutions partnered with Mohammed Riaz & Partner LLC (MR) to support its seamless entry into Oman's snack food market with the launch of Muscat Chips and Muscat Chips Crinklz.

As its complete solutions partner, TNA delivered a full line for potato chips, capable of producing 300 kg per hour, supporting 24 SKUs and packaging speeds of 120 packs per minute. The integrated line covers every stage of the process, from washing, peeling, slicing, blanching and frying through to seasoning, distribution, weighing, metal detection, date coding and packaging.

Beyond equipment supply, TNA provided end-to-end guidance for the greenfield project, ensuring a confident market launch.

"TNA's full responsibility and accountability for the entire project gave us peace of mind. We are now building on this momentum and planning a second line to support future growth," **said Fahad Mohammed Riaz, Vice Chairman, Mohammed Riaz & Partner LLC.**

A new entrant with big ambitions

Fahad Mohammed Riaz, Vice Chairman, Mohammed Riaz & Partner LLC, has led the strategic expansion of MR into the FMCG sector. Under his vision, the group evolved from a trading enterprise into a modern industrial powerhouse. He launched the company's first greenfield snack production line, in partnership with TNA Solutions.

As a first-time snack manufacturer, MR required more than machinery. The company sought a complete solutions partner with a single point of accountability for the entire line, deep application expertise, strong local support and reliable aftermarket capabilities.

"TNA's consultative and collaborative approach was critical to the execution of the project," said Fahad Mohammed Riaz. "The team supported us at every stage, from designing the layout to running the line, enabling a smooth product launch."

Managing greenfield complexity

Developing a greenfield facility presented additional challenges. Factory layouts evolved several times, and the line needed to accommodate future expansion while avoiding bottlenecks and integrating seamlessly with other on-site operations.

Working closely with MR, TNA optimised layout, utilities and line configuration to ensure long-term scalability. The line incorporates the tna conti-pro PC 3 fryer, tna intelli-flav® OMS 5.1 seasoning system, tna roflo® VM3 vibratory motion distribution systems, the tna robag® 3e vertical form fill and seal system and other auxiliary equipment. It delivers speeds of up to 120 pillow bags per minute for 12g packs, ensuring consistent output and pack quality. Multipack formats are also supported through a dedicated stack.

"With TNA as our partner, we've been able to enter the snack market with confidence," **added Fahad Mohammed Riaz.**

Flexibility for a competitive market

With legacy brands dominating the sector, Muscat Chips needed to differentiate through quality and variety. The line was therefore designed to handle multiple formats, including 12g and 65g packs, at consistently high speeds.

The impact was immediate; Muscat Chips and Muscat Chips Crinklz successfully entered the Omani market. The new line supports multiple SKUs, maintaining consistent quality and production speeds across all variants. Building on this strong market entry, MR has already placed an order for a second potato chip line, underscoring both the success of the launch and the strength of its partnership with TNA Solutions.

"Supporting Mohammed Riaz & Partner LLC on its entry into the snack market was about more than delivering machinery," said Palani Karai, General Manager – MENA, TNA Solutions. "We worked side by side to understand their ambitions, design a line that could evolve with the business and share the application know-how needed for a successful launch. For us, the real triumph is seeing a new brand like Muscat Chips establish itself on a strong footing in a competitive market and knowing the foundation is already in place for continued growth."

Read the case study here



FSSC 22000 V7 now includes Save Food Packaging Design Guidelines

Foundation FSSC, the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) and the World Packaging Organisation (WPO) unite to introduce Save Food Packaging into FSSC 22000 V7.

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.

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, is a Full Member. The design requirements in Version 7, are based on aspects of the AIP's Save Food Packaging Design Principles, which have been globalised the World Packaging Organisation (WPO).

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 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.



DEVELOPED BY: AIP Australasian Institute of Packaging · RMIT UNIVERSITY · END FOOD WASTE AUSTRALIA

GLOBALISED BY: WPO WORLD PACKAGING ORGANISATION



Renewable bio-gas has the potential to fuel the Maryvale Mill

An innovative feasibility study has highlighted an exciting opportunity to produce renewable bio-energy at Opal Australian Paper's Maryvale Mill in Gippsland, marking a step toward more sustainable manufacturing.

Partnering with Delorean Corporation ASX:DEL, a leading Australian bioenergy company, the feasibility study confirmed the possibility of constructing a large scale anaerobic digestion facility, which would use other organic residues and potentially bi-products from paper manufacturing and convert it into renewable bio-gas.

The bio-gas would replace natural gas used by the rotary lime kiln at the Mill and is aligned with Opal's net zero strategy.

The next phase of the project involves the front end engineering and design to complete the project proposal, regulatory approvals and source the necessary organic feedstock and residue off-take agreements. These activities will enable a final investment decision to be evaluated.

Subject to the engineering and design, the project is estimated to require a $35 million investment for construction and design and could create approximately eight FTEs in addition to flow on jobs.

Joseph Oliver, Managing Director of Delorean, said the outcome of the study was very promising.

"Delorean is committed to a pipeline of new, renewable energy projects across Australia and New Zealand. Subject to the outcome of the front end engineering and design for the proposed project, the same model could be used to roll out more projects for Opal at a number of its other sites," Mr Oliver.

David Jettner, General Manager Environment and Sustainability at Opal said the bio-gas project had the potential to bring another new energy industry to the Latrobe Valley.

> ***"Exploring the feasibility of replacing natural gas with bio-gas is aligned to Opal's drive towards a new energy future. The outcome of the study is exciting because it has the potential to be replicated across other Opal sites that have traditionally been high consumers of natural gas."***

***"We're optimistic about the potential of bio-gas as a renewable alternative to gas,"* said David Jettner.**



Close The Loop Packaging crosses the Tasman, strengthening it's core

Expansion into New Zealand and a new National Sales leadership appointment signal the next chapter for flexible and rigid packaging.

Close The Loop Packaging (CTL) is entering its next growth phase with expansion into New Zealand and a strengthened leadership team across the Tasman. For more than ten years, New Zealand customers and their growth have been part of CTL's success.

The expansion into New Zealand is, at its heart, a commitment to those relationships. Rather than servicing the market from a distance, CTL is placing dedicated leadership on the ground to deliver the responsiveness, innovation, technical support, and continuity its New Zealand partners have come to expect.


Michael Shen

Leading that effort is **Michael Shen**, who joins CTL to head and steer the continued growth of Flexible and Rigid Packaging in New Zealand.

Michael brings decades of experience spanning chemical, industrial and rigid packaging, with key management roles across each area.

That breadth gives CTL a rare combination of technical and sales management capability, as

well as established relationships across both Australia and New Zealand.

For customers, this means a local leader who understands the technical demands of the product as well as the commercial realities of the market. For CTL, it means a stronger bridge between the two countries' operations and opportunities.

A Key Appointment: Ryan Raquel Steps Up as National Sales Manager


Ryan Raquel

Alongside the New Zealand expansion, CTL has appointed **Ryan Raquel** as National Sales Manager, Flexible Packaging.

Ryan has structured the Sales Strategy and is now executing on the vision, driving continued growth across the sales team.

Ryan's background spans across pharmaceuticals, rigids, and flexibles, underpinned by foundational expertise in supply chain logistics. That combination of commercial drive and supply chain understanding is well suited to a market where reliability and responsiveness matter as much as the product.

Supporting the next phase of growth

Together, these appointments reflect a clear direction: invest in people, deepen customer relationships, and open up innovation needed in competitive consumer developing markets. It is a direction that sits naturally with the Close The Loop name.

Resource recovery is part of how CTL thinks about packaging, and building the right team on both sides of the Tasman is how that commitment gets carried into new markets and customer partnerships.

> ***"We are excited about the future of flexible packaging,"* Ryan said. *"These steps strengthen the core of what we do best here at Close The Loop."***

With new leadership in place across Australia and New Zealand, CTL is well positioned to build on its recent growth.

By investing in its people, backing developing markets and keeping resource recovery central to its approach, the company is carrying that momentum into the years ahead.

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Futamura cuts cellulose film carbon footprint by 24%

Futamura UK Ltd. is proud to announce significant progress in reducing the carbon footprint of its cellulose films, demonstrating a continued commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility.

Since 2019, Futamura has delivered a cumulative carbon saving equivalent to removing ~70,000 cars from UK roads for an entire year. This figure represents avoided CO_2e emissions associated with lacquered (based on NatureFlex™ NVS) and plain film production between 2019 and 2025, calculated using IPCC AR6 GWP100 values from an independent third-party life cycle assessment from ERM*. This resulted in an average reduction of 24% of the carbon footprint of their NatureFlex™ films.

Building on this success, additional major investments are now underway and scheduled for implementation by 2027/28. One example is the recently announced, internally known, Wet Sulphuric Acid (WSA) project. The installation will divert waste gases from the production process to generate a valuable raw material via an oxidation process. Heat generated as a byproduct of the chemical reaction will then be used to generate steam, the main form of energy utilised in the production process.

Once operational, this asset will generate 15% of the total energy requirement of the Futamura site. These investments are projected to reduce Futamura's CO_2e emissions even further, the equivalent to removing an additional ~4,000

cars from UK roads every year (based on 2025 production volumes). This represents another major step in reducing the carbon footprint of their products.

A key contributor to recent carbon reductions has been the investment in a new, high-performance compressed air system to strengthen their energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions, and improve operational resilience. An independent air survey confirmed that this new system is outperforming expectations. To further enhance the sustainability, Futamura integrated a heat-recovery system utilising waste heat from the compressors to pre-heat their thermotanks, this reduces the steam required for the production process. The new system has proven highly dependable, with no major issues to date. These two improvements have delivered a substantial reduction in Futamura's carbon emissions of over 400 tCO2e per year.

Beyond large-scale investments, Futamura has implemented a range of targeted energy efficiency initiatives across its site. In 2022, air conditioning units in the administration block were reprogrammed to operate only when needed and within controlled temperature limits. Ongoing lighting upgrades have replaced inefficient fluorescent systems with modern LED technology. These improvements have reduced both energy consumption and the number of fixtures required, while maintaining or improving lighting quality. Currently 80% of the site has been upgraded to LED lighting which have led to a notable decrease in energy usage, achieving full payback within the first year.



Futamura conducted energy monitoring in their laboratories which identified further opportunities for efficiency. Equipment such as ovens, previously operated continuously, are now used only when required. Weekend shutdowns and improved energy management practices have delivered a notable energy saving per year.

These combined efforts highlight Futamura's holistic approach to sustainability, combining strategic investment, technological innovation, and operational discipline to achieve measurable environmental and economic benefits. Futamura remains committed to continuous improvement and to supporting its customers and partners in reducing environmental impact across the value chain.

Lucy Cowton, Futamura's Sustainability Manager commented:

"The reductions in our operational and product carbon footprints reflect the dedication of our workforce and their commitment to continuous improvement. We see this as just the beginning, with future investments, such as the WSA plant, expected to reduce our operational emissions even further. We are incredibly proud of the progress we are making."

References to cars removed from UK roads are illustrative equivalences based on average annual CO_2 emissions per UK car, using data from the UK Department for Transport. These figures do not represent actual cars taken off the road; they are provided solely to help contextualise the scale of avoided CO_2e emissions within our defined operational boundary.

*The calculation is based on the difference in the carbon footprint between 2019 and 2025. Based on this, the actual amount of CO2e saved was ~100,000 tonnes.



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Soft plastics recyclers seek supply lifeline



▲ *Soft plastics recyclers call for more industry support as capacity sits idle.*

Australia's soft plastics recyclers are seeking more material and greater industry participation in product stewardship, with IQ Renew reporting that its household soft plastics processing facility is operating only two days a week on a single shift.

Moderated by industry veteran and flexible packaging expert Joe Foster, the Australasian Institute of Packaging's State of Industry webinar, held on 7 October, examined the future of soft plastics in Australia and New Zealand.

IQ Renew managing director Danial Gallagher said the company's SPEC facility for mechanical recycling of soft plastics could process around 14,000 tonnes a year, but received only approximately 100 tonnes in September.

During processing of legacy soft plastics stockpiles [from the REDCycle collapse], the facility had operated five days a week, 18 hours a day, handling between 900 and 1000 tonnes a month.



Danny Gallagher
Managing Director
IQRenew

"We are screaming out for material so that we can utilise this piece of infrastructure that we now have here in Australia," Gallagher said.

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Soft Plastics Stewardship Australia (SPSA) chief executive officer Barry Cosier said the scheme had completed its legal, governance and operational requirements, secured contracted recyclers and established a collection network reaching 70 per cent of the country. However, membership remained below the level needed to support its planned operations.



Barry Cosier AAIP, CEO
Soft Plastics Stewardship Australia

Cosier said SPSA had 37 members, representing approximately 10–15 per cent of the potential membership of soft plastic end users in Australia. He emphasised that SPSA needed to double membership to reach 30–40 per cent within eight weeks.

SPSA would write to industry participants in the coming weeks to establish whether they intended to support the scheme, inform forecasting and set the levy for the following year.

"It is absolutely pointless making your packaging, your flexible packaging, recyclable if there are no recyclers and they don't survive," Cosier said.

Gallagher said IQ Renew's facility, north of Taree in NSW, sorts household soft plastics into material suitable for chemical and mechanical recycling. Its outputs are used in applications including film, bin caddies, fence posts and water pipes.

He said government grant funding secured late last year would support an increase in processing capability to 24,000 tonnes a year, but the existing infrastructure needed more feedstock.

Packaging applications demonstrate demand

Australia Post circular innovation partner Faina Kerr discussed the organisation's involvement in the development of a satchel made from 100 per cent Australian post-consumer recycled LDPE sourced from household soft plastics.

IQ Renew produced the recycled resin pellets, Signet manufactured the film in Brisbane, and a partner in Melbourne [RollsPack] completed printing and satchel production.



Faina Kerr
Circular Innovation Partner
Group Sustainability Officer
Australia Post

The mono-material satchel uses 65-micron film and weighs approximately 20 grams. Kerr said it matched the weight of an equivalent virgin-film satchel and passed through Australia Post's lodgement, sorting and delivery network without special handling or reported bursts.

Developed for a clothing recovery program involving R.M. Williams, the satchel moved from concept to market in under 10 weeks. A QR declaration recorded its contents, while postal tracking recorded its movement through the network.

Kerr said the project demonstrated an end market for recovered household soft plastics, with further work focused on recovery pathways, data and traceability.

Policy certainty needed for investment

Viva Energy's Vanessa Lenihan said the company had demonstrated processing of imported soft plastics pyrolysis oil at its Geelong refinery, including management of ISCC Plus certification through the supply chain to produce recycled polypropylene.

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The trial involved approximately 10 tonnes of oil and packaging partners Nestlé, Taghleef and Amcor.

Viva Energy is also working with Cleanaway on a proposed pathway linking household collection, sorting and pre-treatment with pyrolysis and refinery processing.



Vanessa Lenihan
Head of Fuels & Decarbonisation
Viva Energy

Lenihan said feasibility work had been completed and two preferred technology suppliers identified. Subject to policy certainty, the project could operate by 2030, with an initial phase processing around 50,000 tonnes of soft plastics annually and a potential expansion to 100,000 tonnes.

She called for extended producer responsibility, mandatory packaging design standards and minimum recycled-content requirements to support investment and demand.

New Zealand develops processing options

The Packaging Forum's soft plastics recycling scheme manager Lyn Mayes said New Zealand was developing domestic processing alongside additional outlets in Australia.

A container of New Zealand soft plastics had arrived in Sydney for processing by IQ Renew after an export approval process taking almost a year.

Mayes also outlined a Pact recycling trial at East Tamaki, involving 20 tonnes of soft plastics over three months, with recycled pellets used in products such as underground cable covers.



Lyn Mayes
Soft Plastic Recycling Scheme Manager
The Packaging Forum NZ

In Nelson, a kerbside trial involving 1000 households had collected more than two million pieces of soft plastic packaging. More than half of participating households had not previously used store drop-off collections, and 98 per cent wanted the trial to continue.

Mayes identified extended producer responsibility, better data on packaging placed on the market, and investment in domestic processing supported by demand for recycled products as priorities.

The situation for soft plastics In Australia needs urgent attention if the recycling industry is to remain feasible. The panellists pointed to the need to connect collection and processing capacity with demand for recycled materials, supported by industry funding and policy certainty. For Australian recyclers, the immediate call was for businesses to support SPSA and help increase the flow of household soft plastics into existing facilities.

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Held on 29 September 2026 to mark the International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste, the webinar explored the methodology, its objectives and potential applications.

The discussion highlighted how collaboration across the food and packaging value chain can help reduce food loss and waste, minimise environmental impacts and advance more sustainable food systems.

Watch the recording and follow WPO in social media channels for updated news!

Data Silo Tax webinar - recording now available

Missed the webinar on 'The Data Silo Tax: What Fragmented Packaging Data Is Really Costing You'? The recording is now available.

The panel discussion which included Nerida Kelton, Vice President Sustainability & Save Food, WPO, Keiko Tago, Managing Director, KURO-ENSO Consulting and Danielle Goad, Director EMEA, Specright, discussed what fragmented and siloed packaging data is actually costing organisations: portfolio analytics that don't exist because nothing is standardised across brands or regions, data integrity that erodes every time a spec lives in five places.

The webinar closed with what a future-proof foundation looks like – one built once, that scales across every regulation and market instead of getting rebuilt at every deadline.

Please feel free to share with your own network.



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APPEX 2027 registrations open for Australia's must-attend Processing and Packaging Expo.

Three years of industry innovation. Four days to experience it.

Registrations are now open for APPEX 2027, Australia's largest processing and packaging exhibition, returning to the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) from 16 to 19 March 2027.

Held only once every three years, APPEX brings together the latest in automation technologies, equipment and machinery, industry expertise and ideas shaping the future of processing and packaging, giving the Australian industry four days to experience just how much the sector has evolved since 2024.

In 2027, APPEX will take over all 20 bays of the MCEC, creating a dedicated 30,000m² industry showcase and making it the largest manufacturing exhibition in Australia.

A newly envisioned exhibition floor will deliver a dynamic, 'European style' show experience packed with working machinery, live demonstrations, end-to-end applications, networking hubs and opportunities to get hands-on with the latest equipment and technology.

Visitors will be able to see applications first-hand and speak directly with the people developing and applying the solutions transforming the Processing and Packaging sector.

APPMA CEO Michael Moran says that APPEX taking place every three years is timely and pivotal for the industry. ***"Three years is a long time in technology; the experience for visitors walking into APPEX in 2027 will be very different from the one they left in 2024,"*** Moran says.

> ***"APPEX provides us with four days to bring together industry development and progress in one place. Visitors get to see machinery operating, experience the technology, talk directly with experts and understand what these developments could mean for their own operations."***

Discover what's next in processing and packaging

From turnkey automation projects to machine building, robotics, digital technology, materials, logistics and food processing solutions, APPEX will bring together innovation from Australia and around the world.

For manufacturers facing pressure to increase productivity, improve efficiency, reduce waste, address labour challenges and become more sustainable, APPEX provides the opportunity to explore potential solutions in a live environment and compare technologies side by side.

"If you are planning your next investment, looking to solve a production challenge or want to understand where processing and packaging technology is heading, APPEX is the place to do it," Moran says.

"You can achieve in four days what could otherwise take months of research, meetings and supplier visits. You can compare technologies, resolve questions, see solutions operating and talk with the experts who understand how they can be applied."

Presented by the Australian Packaging and Processing Machinery Association (APPMA), APPEX spans the complete processing and packaging ecosystem and serves industries including food and beverage, meat, dairy, bakery, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, FMCG, chemicals, household products, logistics and manufacturing.

It also brings together organisations and experts from across the sector to exchange ideas, build relationships and explore new business opportunities.

Recognising the importance of the sector to the state's economy and its future, the Victorian Government joins APPEX as Major Partner in 2027.





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