

2026 Master of Food & Packaging Innovation degree



In partnership with



Australasian
Institute
of Packaging



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New Fundamentals of Packaging Technology Graduates



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AAIP



Sandini Vishmika
AAIP

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AIP Welcomes New Member from Yates Group

Maisha Maliha
AAIP



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PROPAK HANOI

2x AIP Training Courses

Tuesday 13 October 2026

Wednesday 14 October 2026

2026 Hanoi Packaging Forum

Thursday 15 October 2026

MEMBER



SUPPORTING SIGNATORY



CORE PARTICIPANT



FOUNDING PARTNER



SUPPORTER



PIABC APPROVED TRAINING ACADEMY



The AIP would like to congratulate our latest Fundamentals of Packaging Technology Graduates, Mark Eric Trinidad AAIP, R & D Specialist – Packaging, San Miguel Corporation and Sandini Vishmika AAIP, Quality Control Assistant, Caspak.

The internationally recognised on-line Fundamentals of Packaging Technology (FPT) bite-sized modules are available exclusively through the AIP in Australasia. The FPT Course is set up for the convenience of busy working professionals, and the training platform is functionally intuitive. Mark and Sandini kindly shared with the AIP what they learnt during their studies...

1. What is your current role? What are your areas of responsibility?

Mark: My current role is R & D Specialist – Packaging at San Miguel. My responsibility is to explore new packaging development projects for beer and beverage products of SMB and SMB International.

Sandini: I am currently working as a Quality Control Assistant at Caspak. My role involves conducting quality control testing, maintaining batch traceability records, reviewing product artwork and label compliance, coordinating supplier and customer quality documentation, investigating quality issues, and supporting quality assurance activities. These responsibilities help ensure that our products meet food packaging standards, regulatory requirements, and customer expectations.



Mark Eric Trinidad AAIP
R & D Specialist – Packaging
San Miguel Corporation

Sandini Vishmika AAIP
Quality Control Assistant
Caspak

2. What made you select the Fundamentals of Packaging Technology course through the AIP?

Mark: The Fundamentals of Packaging Technology Online Course through AIP has been selected based on its comprehensive curriculum, flexibility, and it is prestigiously recognised for its quality by the World Packaging Organisation. The self-paced learning structure of the course will also allow participants to balance the training with ongoing responsibilities.

Sandini: Working in the flexible packaging industry, I wanted to strengthen my technical knowledge and develop a broader understanding of packaging beyond my day-to-day responsibilities. The Fundamentals of Packaging Technology course is internationally recognised and provides a comprehensive overview of packaging materials, design, manufacturing processes, sustainability, regulations, and packaging performance. I saw it as an excellent opportunity to build a strong technical foundation and support my long-term career development within the packaging industry.



3. What did you learn along the way? Any favourite areas or topics?

Mark: Key takeaway from the Course was that gaining first the basics and the fundamentals of packaging materials and technology is one of the most important steps in building the packaging development skills of the professional. From there, we gained the leverage to move forward in our career.

My favourite learnings while undertaking this Course were more on the topics related to the packaging materials used in the brewery and packaging industry including glass bottles, cans, labels, corrugated cartons, etc. as well as the lesson on package development as it will greatly influence how to properly conduct packaging development module in our Brewing School.

Sandini: The course gave me a much deeper appreciation of the complexity of packaging and its critical role throughout the supply chain. I particularly enjoyed learning about flexible packaging materials, packaging design, sustainability, packaging testing, and barrier technologies. Since I work in flexible packaging, it was especially valuable to understand not only how packaging is manufactured, but also how material selection, product protection, transport, consumer expectations, and environmental considerations all influence packaging decisions.

4. What advice would you offer anyone looking to undertake the complete Fundamentals of Packaging Technology course?

Mark: My advice to other people looking to undertake this Course is that Fundamentals of Packaging Technology Course is a great first step in learning packaging technology. Taking this course is recommendable.

If given the opportunity, take the Course because it will provide you with a formal education about the fundamentals of packaging. Without the fundamental knowledge on packaging technology, handling roles in various packaging industries will be more challenging.

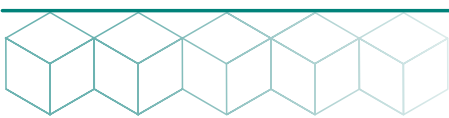
Sandini: My advice would be to approach the course with curiosity and consistency. The content is comprehensive, so setting aside regular study time and relating the concepts to real workplace examples makes the learning experience much more meaningful. Rather than rushing through the material, take the time to understand how the different topics connect. Whether you are new to the packaging industry or have years of experience, the course provides practical knowledge that can be applied in the workplace.

5. Would you consider now completing the Certified Packaging Professional designation as your next step?

Mark: Completing the Certified Packaging Professional designation will also be in my consideration in the coming years.

Sandini: Absolutely. Completing the Fundamentals of Packaging Technology course has strengthened my interest in continuing my professional development by pursuing the Certified Packaging Professional (CPP) designation.

I see the CPP as an excellent opportunity to further develop my technical expertise, gain internationally recognised credentials, and contribute more effectively to the packaging industry. It aligns closely with my long-term career goals of supporting sustainable, innovative packaging solutions, and I look forward to taking that next step.



FUNDAMENTALS OF PACKAGING TECHNOLOGY 2.0

Ideally suited for anyone new to packaging.
The first step to gain foundational packaging knowledge.

Australasian Partner



Australasian Institute of Packaging

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BUNDLES**

**ON-LINE
+ AIP
PACKAGING
TUTOR**

**COMPLETE
FULL COURSE IN
6 MONTHS**

**43 MODULES
+ NEW PACKAGING
LAW**

Fundamentals of Packaging Technology

If you are starting in the industry and need foundational knowledge and a general understanding on all materials and substrates then the Fundamentals of Packaging Technology course is for you. You have the option of just taking bite-sized lesson bundles to fill your knowledge gaps, or the full course.

+ Packaging Tutor

The AIP have introduced a Full Course + Tutor package that is designed to offer you 3 hours with a local packaging technical expert that can support you throughout the course.

+ Become a Certified Packaging Professional upon completion

The Tutor will also work with you to undertake your Certified Packaging Professional designation as soon as you graduate while the information is fresh. This means that you will have a foundational knowledge of packaging technology and a globally recognised Certified Packaging Professional designation when you graduate.



+ 6th Edition Textbook

The 6th edition contains sustainability, the circular economy, packaging law, in-depth discussion of e-commerce, additional on-line resources, and information on technical considerations, standards and testing procedures.



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**PACKAGING
PROFESSIONALS**



AIP Welcomes New Member Maisha Maliha AAIP



Maisha Maliha AAIP
Packaging Scientist
Yates Australia

The AIP would like to take this opportunity to welcome Maisha Maliha AAIP, Packaging Scientist at Yates Australia to the Institute and share a little bit about who she is and what she does in the industry. Please join with us in welcoming Maisha to the AIP.

1. Why did you join the AIP? What benefits do you believe the AIP offers all their members?

I joined the AIP to deepen my packaging knowledge, connect with like-minded professionals, and stay engaged with developments shaping the future of the industry. I believe the AIP provides members with valuable opportunities for networking, professional growth, helping stay current in a rapidly evolving industry, and industry recognition. For me having worked across both packaging research and commercial product packaging development, the greatest value is being part of a community that shares knowledge, drives innovation and works together to improve the impact of packaging.

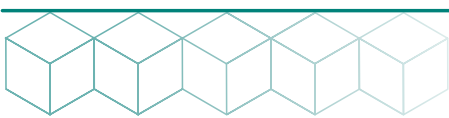
2. How long have you been in the industry? What are your areas of expertise?

I have over six years of packaging experience spanning both academic research and industry. My journey began during my PhD at Monash University, where I specialised in nanocellulose-based antimicrobial packaging materials and I currently work as a Packaging Scientist at Yates developing packaging solutions for consumer products.

My areas of expertise include sustainable and active packaging and fibre-based material research, packaging testing and validation, factory trials and commercialisation of new packaging technologies.

3. What is your current job role and what are your responsibilities?

I am a Packaging Scientist at Yates, part of Dulux Group Australia. My role involves developing and improving packaging for gardening and home pest products, supporting new product development, and ensuring packaging is safe, functional, compliant, and fit for purpose. My responsibilities stretch from packaging ideation to launch and beyond. This includes product-packaging compatibility testing, driving sustainable materials and recycled content, evaluating opportunities to improve recyclability and reduce environmental impact across the packaging portfolio, artwork compliance, factory trials, and contribute to continuous improvement in packaging and manufacturing.





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**At Confoil, performance,
price, and sustainability
go hand in hand.**

Our trays are engineered to perform at every stage, from cold chain to table and into the waste stream.

As import costs continue to rise, our locally made Smoothwall, SupaFoil and DualPak trays stand out as the smart, economically sound choice.

They offer a reliable, high-quality alternative to imports without compromising price or performance.

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for makers of good food

AIP Welcomes New Gold Corporate Partner Confoil

The AIP would like to welcome our newest Gold Corporate Partner, Confoil. Confoil are a proudly Australian-owned food packaging manufacturer with 60 years of local manufacturing experience. What began as a family business has grown into a trusted partner for leading food manufacturers, processors and retailers across Australia and beyond.

Their portfolio spans foil, paperboard and moulded pulp, giving customers genuine choice to suit their product, budget and sustainability goals. Confoil continue to invest in smarter, sustainable packaging, exploring new materials and formats to support their customers for years to come.

Confoil brings a rare mix of manufacturing expertise, cost stability, and sustainability to today's packaging market, backed by real local production. As global costs continue to shift, that combination of reliability and value is what sets us apart.

Their locally made SupaFoil and DualPak trays reflect that value in practice. Both are engineered to perform at every stage of the supply chain, from cold chain storage through to the table, while remaining a cost-effective alternative to imported trays. It's this pairing of consistent technical performance and competitive pricing that positions them as a packaging partner you can rely on.

Contact us: P: +61 3 8720 1966 | confoil.com.au



"We are proud to announce that Confoil has joined the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) as a Gold Sponsor. This partnership reflects Confoil's ongoing commitment to supporting the Australian packaging industry, driving innovation, sustainability, and excellence across the sector."

Scott Henschke, Director of Sales & Marketing, Confoil Australia & New Zealand

As a Gold Sponsor, Confoil looks forward to strengthening our engagement with the AIP community, collaborating with industry leaders, and supporting initiatives that help shape the future of packaging. We are excited to be part of the AIP community and look forward to contributing to a stronger, more innovative, and sustainable packaging industry."





IPE & PACK

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Product categories:

- Shrink Bag
- Shrink Film
- Plastic casing



IPE Pack is global leading barrier shrink packaging producer.

By focusing on a single segment and striving for continuous improvement, we deliver flexible packaging solutions that are not only thinner and stronger, but also more sustainable.

Our Core Values:

- Leading through Innovation
- Consistency through Automation
- Excellence through Specialization



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AIP Welcomes New Gold Corporate Partner IPE Pack

The AIP would like to welcome our newest Gold Corporate Partner, IPE Pack & Technology. With more than 30 years dedicated to barrier shrink packaging, IPE Pack & Technology brings specialist knowledge, advanced manufacturing, and technical expertise to customers across the meat, smallgoods, poultry, cheese and seafood industries.

Established in 1998, IPE has grown into one of the world's leading specialist manufacturers of barrier shrink bags, films and casings. With advanced manufacturing capabilities spanning multilayer extrusion, printing, and converting, including structures up to 13 layers, IPE develops high-performance packaging solutions designed to extend shelf life, improve product protection and presentation, reduce food and packaging waste, and support the transition towards more sustainable packaging.

IPE Pack & Technology Oceania provides customers across Australia and New Zealand with local technical, commercial and supply-chain support, backed by IPE's global manufacturing, R&D and innovation capabilities.



IPE Pack are proud to announce they are a new Gold Corporate Partner of the AIP.

As Barrier Shrink Specialists, their focus is not simply on supplying packaging, but working alongside processors, retailers and industry partners to develop practical solutions for the changing requirements of food safety, sustainability, recyclability, and packaging performance.

Contact: info@hq-plastic.com

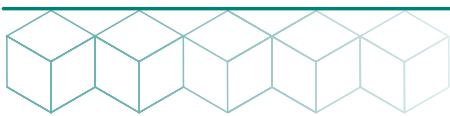
"IPE Pack & Technology joined the AIP as a Partner because we believe the future of packaging will be shaped through education, collaboration and the sharing of technical knowledge across our industry.

As barrier shrink specialists, we have significant experience in shelf-life extension, food-waste reduction, material optimisation, and the transition towards more sustainable flexible packaging structures.

Partnering with the AIP gives us the opportunity not only to continue learning, but also to contribute our knowledge and experience to the broader packaging community.

For IPE, the partnership is about being an active participant in the industry—working together to develop better packaging solutions, support the next generation of packaging professionals and help move the industry towards a more sustainable future."

Warwick Armstrong, Managing Director – Oceania, IPE Pack & Technology





AIP to Partner with Packaging Cockpit: *One system for the entire supply chain*



We can now issue
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of Conformity**
according to Regulation (EU)
2025/40 (PPWR)

Official. Compliant. Future-ready.
Supporting the Packaging and Packaging
Waste Regulation.



REGULATION
COMPLIANT



OFFICIAL
DOCUMENTATION



READY FOR
THE FUTURE



Supporting Australasian Companies who export to Europe to meet Packaging & Packaging Waste (PPWR) regulations

What is the Packaging Cockpit?

The AIP is pleased to introduce the Packaging Cockpit, a Global Packaging Specification Management Software. With the Packaging Cockpit you can manage your packaging worldwide intuitively and more importantly the basic version is available free of charge. The Packaging Cockpit is a tool that calculates the technical recyclability, as well as the life cycle assessment of packaging systems, scientific calculations, data interface with suppliers and brands. The goal with the tool is to make the recyclability of packaging systems transparent and help companies to make the right decisions when optimising their packaging portfolio.

The Packaging Cockpit is intended to be applied both internally within companies and to entire supply chains. The team integrates a scientific database and scientific methods into software that is suitable for mass data.

The Packaging Cockpit will :

- Support PPWR compliance.
- Help you to calculate recyclability and life cycle assessment.
- Help you to build a supplier platform for structured data exchange.
- Help you to create the Declaration of Conformity and Technical Documentation required under the PPWR.
- Help you to interface with your suppliers via the tool so that you can access real-time data.
- Teach you how to use the Packaging Cockpit to build packaging specifications across your company.

***Register: Sign up for the basic version today
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the webshop.***

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AIP Welcomes New Bronze Corporate Partner Detpak

The AIP would like to welcome our newest Bronze Corporate Partner, Detpak. Detpak is a leading provider of paper and board packaging solutions and part of the global Detmold Group. For more than 75 years, they have partnered with businesses across foodservice, FMCG, retail and industrial sectors to develop packaging that delivers on performance, quality, and sustainability. Through our manufacturing expertise, technical knowledge, and innovation capabilities, they help customers navigate evolving market requirements while improving packaging outcomes across the supply chain.

As a Partner of the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP), Detpak is committed to supporting the advancement of the packaging industry through knowledge sharing, education, and collaboration. Our team brings practical expertise in packaging design, materials, sustainability, repulpability, recyclability and regulatory considerations, helping AIP Members make informed packaging decisions and stay



ahead of industry developments. We look forward to contributing to the professional development of packaging professionals and supporting innovation across the Australasian packaging community.

Key Contact: Mark Rohrlach
Regional Sales Manager Industrial – Australasia
Mark.Rohrlach@detpak.com

"Detpak is proud to partner with the Australasian Institute of Packaging, an organisation that has played a vital role in advancing packaging education, professional development and industry excellence for more than 60 years. As packaging continues to evolve, collaboration and knowledge sharing are

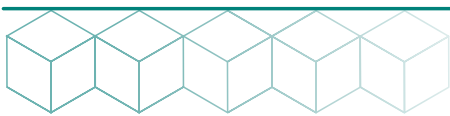
more important than ever. Through this partnership, we look forward to supporting AIP Members, contributing our expertise, and working alongside industry peers to encourage innovation and help shape the future of sustainable packaging."

Mark Rohrlach
Regional Sales Manager Industrial – Australasia

Detpak Sustainable Packaging Solutions

Detpak designs, manufactures and supplies sustainable paper and cardboard packaging solutions to the QSR, Food Service, Grocery & Convenience, FMCG and Industrial sectors worldwide.

Explore our Sustainable Packaging Solutions: detpak.com



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International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste (IDAFLW)



29 September 2026

**STOP FOOD LOSS
AND WASTE.
FOR THE PEOPLE.
FOR THE PLANET.**

AIP to recognise International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste on 29 September 2026

The Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) will once again be observing the International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste on the 29th of September, which is coordinated by Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

The International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste is designed to make a clear call to action for both the public and private sectors to prioritise actions and move ahead with innovation to reduce food loss and waste.

SAVE FOOD PACKAGING DESIGN CRITERIA GUIDELINES

1

**DESIGN TO
CONTAIN
& PROTECT
THE PRODUCT**

FROM SPOILAGE &
DAMAGE THROUGH
MANUFACTURING,
WAREHOUSING & VARIOUS
STAGES OF DISTRIBUTION



2

**DESIGN TO
PRESERVE
& EXTEND
SHELF LIFE**

& ENHANCE
PRODUCT APPEAL



3

**DESIGN TO
PROVIDE
CONSUMER
CONVENIENCE**

TO NOT WASTE FOOD
DURING HANDLING IN
THE HOUSEHOLD



4

**DESIGN TO
COMMUNICATE
TO CONSUMERS**

& PROMOTE HOW TO
HANDLE, STORE, PREPARE
& REUSE FOOD PRODUCTS



5

**DESIGN TO
BALANCE
FOOD &
PACKAGING
WASTE TARGETS**

FOR OPTIMAL PACKAGING



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The AIP's work within the area of Save Food Packaging sits at the intersection of Australian research now becoming international practice.

According to AIP Executive Director, Nerida Kelton FAIP, ***“Over the last eight years the AIP have driven the global and regional discussions about the true role that packaging plays in minimising food loss and waste.*”**

The development of the Save Food Packaging design guidelines, in partnership with End Food Waste Australia and RMIT University, was the catalyst for change in the industry and something we are very proud of,”

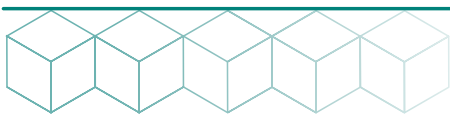
“Since then, the AIP have developed Save Food Packaging Design awards, case studies, workshops, training courses, spoken at hundreds of events and have seen the impact of the new guidance reach over 16,500 people directly across the world,”

“The AIP have been very lucky to have seen the World Packaging Organisation (WPO) work with AIP to globalise the Save Food Packaging design guidelines and help raise the voice for the true role that packaging plays in minimising food loss and waste,”

“The partnerships the AIP have developed across the globe have enabled the guidelines to be included in the first Global Position paper on the Paradox between Food & Packaging Waste developed by UNIDO and Wageningen University, the AIP are an active member of the Save Food Initiative, work with interpack on the Save Food Awards and forums across the world, support FAO and Foundation FSSC and WPO Members,”

“The most recent milestone for the AIP is that the Save Food Packaging design guidelines are now built into FSSC22000 V7 which means that 40,000 food and feed companies will have to review product and packaging design as a part of the safety management standard.

The work with FSSC is the impetus for change that is needed for food companies to really understand the true role that packaging plays.” Mrs Kelton said.



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The AIP invited some key stakeholders across the value chain to also share what the International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste means for them...

"RMIT and the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) have enjoyed a decades long collaboration in driving sustainability outcomes across the nation and beyond. In recent times, this has focused on the role of packaging in helping supply chain actors and households reduce food loss and waste (FLW).

This has resulted in a 'Save Food Packaging' (SFP) Criteria co-designed with industry to integrate packaging design principles to reduce FLW, delivering evidence-based assets that are being adopted into training for food manufacturers, packaging technologists, designers, managers, and brands.

Over 16,500 industry professionals have been engaged to date through

the AIP and the World Packaging Organisation. The SFP Criteria has also been integrated within the global certification scheme FSSC on the 22000 Scheme Food Safety Management System certification Version 7 to include the guidelines as a part of the certification process and auditing of food companies across the globe.

The AIP are now working with us to help small and medium enterprises navigate packaging choices for better shelf life, functional, and environmental credentials in a newly launched Centre.

AIP will also be crucial as we launch a new project to transform date labels and storage advice on and off pack, to help households waste less in the home. In short, AIP are an indispensable partner in our fight to end Food Loss & Waste globally."



**Prof Simon Lockrey,
National Reduce Program Leader
End Food Waste CRC**





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FSSC 22000 SCHEME
Food safety management system certification
fssc.com

V7
MAY 2026

At FSSC we also understand that packaging plays a vital role in reducing FLW, particularly in relation to the design of packaging material, which resulted in the incorporation of aspects of the Save Food Packaging design requirements in Version 7 of our Scheme. Now potentially over 40,000 organisations will be required to consider these principles if they design primary packaging/packaging material, further supporting the reduction of Food Loss and Waste."



Kelly Mulholland,
Technical Manager Safety & Quality, FSSC

"With the release of FSSC 22000 Version 6 in 2023, FSSC introduced requirements related to Food Loss and Waste (FLW) as the first step towards creating impactful change at organisational level. This led to more than 30,000 organisations at the time needing to implement policies and strategies to address FLW, contributing to progress on SDG 12, Responsible Consumption and Production, and specifically on target 12.3.



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"Observing the International Day of Food Waste is a vital reminder that combating food loss requires intentional, collaborative action from paddock to plate. For the wider industry and the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) community, this day underscores our shared responsibility to protect precious environmental and economic resources. Across the Australasian region, the AIP continues to elevate this crucial discussion by empowering packaging technologists, manufacturers, and brand owners with practical, scientifically backed frameworks such as the Save Food Packaging design guidelines."

By embedding smart packaging design strategies, from advanced barrier protection to intuitive portion control and clear consumer communication, directly into the product development process, we can actively engineer waste-reduction solutions and drive meaningful, long-term change."

**Prof Pierre Pienaar, Education Director
AIP and Immediate Past President, WPO**

"Bringing the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) into our 2026 Packaging Innovation Studio in the Industrial Design Program at RMIT University is an important part of educating the next generation of

packaging designers to understand that packaging is not simply about protecting and presenting a product—it can play a critical role in preventing food loss and waste."

Through the AIP's expertise in Save Food Packaging Design Criteria, our Industrial Design students learn to consider packaging across the entire food system, including protection, preservation, portioning, accessibility, communication, consumer behaviour and end-of-life. The success of this industry-embedded approach was demonstrated through the 2024 Packaging Innovation Studio, where every student team received recognition at the Packaging Innovation & Design Awards (PIDA), with two teams subsequently achieving WorldStar Student Awards in 2025, including one team receiving the Overall Student Bronze WorldStar Student Award.



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These achievements demonstrate what is possible when emerging designers are equipped with industry knowledge and challenged to address complex global issues through design. The collaboration between RMIT University and the AIP is helping to educate and equip future design leaders with the knowledge, skills and responsibility to create packaging solutions that make a positive difference – not only within Australia, but on a global stage.”

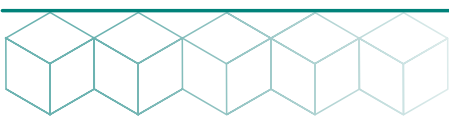
Dr Caroline Francis
Senior Lecturer of Industrial Design
School of Design, RMIT University

“The International Day of Food Loss and Waste is important to Result Group because reducing food waste is closely connected to the work we do every day. At Result Group, we continue to bring forward technologies and packaging solutions that can help protect food, extend shelf life, improve traceability and reduce unnecessary loss across the supply chain.

That includes solutions such as Reclose by Sealstrip, which help consumers reseal packs after opening and keep products protected for longer: a simple design feature that can make a very practical difference to food waste in the home. What is also important is that this is not just a new idea. Reclose by Sealstrip already has a strong foundation with long-term customers such as Mission Foods and True Foods, where resealability has become part of how the product is used and protected after opening.

The opportunity now is to take that thinking further and look at where else resealable packaging can help reduce waste across other food categories. We have also seen this kind of thinking recognised through Simplot’s PIDA Gold-winning packaging in 2026, demonstrating what can be achieved when packaging is designed around both the product and the way people actually use it.

The AIP plays an important role in keeping food waste high on the industry agenda through education, knowledge sharing, and practical discussion across the Australasian region.



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The Save Food Packaging Design Guidelines are a valuable part of this work, encouraging industry to look beyond the packaging material itself and consider how design can better protect the food, support consumers and reduce loss throughout the supply chain.

For Result Group, the focus is simple: keep learning, keep collaborating and keep putting practical solutions into the market. There is no single answer to food waste, but every better design, every better technology and every better decision moves us in the right direction."



**Michael Dossor, Managing Director
Result Group**

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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



29 September

International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste

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www.unep.org/events/un-day/idaflw
#FLWDay



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Master of Food and Packaging Innovation

AIP-Led Packaging Innovation Intensive at the University of Melbourne

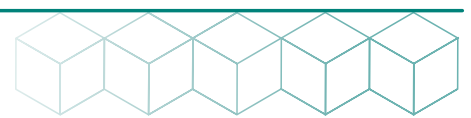
by Pierre Pienaar FAIP, CPPL, AIP Education Director

During the July 2026 winter break, the University of Melbourne (UoM) hosted an intensive one-week program on campus, curated by the Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP). Designed to bridge academic theory with real-world technical application, the course featured lectures delivered exclusively by AIP industry experts covering a broad spectrum of modern packaging technologies. The AIP provided over 24 hours of content with 10 technical packaging experts.

The program brought together 72 students from across the Asia-Pacific region—including Australia, China, Brunei, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, India, Indonesia, New Zealand, Taiwan, and Thailand. The immersive format sparked high engagement: multiple students expressed strong interest in pursuing PhD research in packaging science and engineering following their Master's degrees.

Each day delivered rigorous technical content, followed by dedicated evening review. To complement classroom instruction with operational context, students participated in two technical field visits:

- **Advanced Print Technology:** Hosted by CMYKhub, the design students toured and observed modern commercial printing machinery in action giving them insights to live production environments. Guides from CMYKhub demonstrated state-of-the-art print hardware, helping students connect core theoretical concepts with industrial-scale execution. Industry experts from CMYKhub and Currie Group demonstrated how technical partnerships drive performance and innovation across the printing sector.





▲ CMYKhub Site Visit.

- **Recycling Infrastructure & Circular Economy:** Hosted by Close the Loop, packaging technology students experienced and examined advanced material recovery processes firsthand, gaining direct insight into the environmental impact and lifecycle management of packaging materials.

Returning to the lecture hall with practical perspectives, students engaged deeply, driving extended Q&A sessions with the lecturers into early evenings. Many noted that the experience completely reshaped their view of everyday packaging, highlighting the complex engineering,

material science, and cross-industry integration required to bring functional packaging solutions to market.

These operational insights significantly boosted classroom engagement, prompting detailed technical discussions and extended Q&A sessions.

Students walked away with a newfound appreciation for packaging not just as an everyday product, but as an intricate, highly engineered field at the intersection of material science, design, and supply chain technology.



▲ Close the Loop Site Visit.



As a part of the partnership with the AIP Australasian Institute of Packaging and the University of Melbourne the AIP coordinates practical site visits to some of our Member companies each year for the Master of Food & Packaging Innovation and Food Science students.



CMYKhub Site Visit

The AIP coordinated a tour of CMYKhub for the first time for the students. This would not have been possible without the support of AIP Partner Currie Group, who arranged the visit.

CMYKhub had the pleasure of hosting students from the **University of Melbourne's** Master of Food and Packaging Innovation and Food Science & Nutrition (Food Chemistry) programs for a behind-the-scenes look at modern print manufacturing.

Thanks to **Mark Daws** from **Currie Group**, through his involvement with **AIP Australasian Institute of Packaging**, the University was looking for a manufacturing business that could demonstrate how ideas are brought to life in a real production environment.

While packaging isn't a major part of what we do (labels certainly are!), the students were incredibly engaged, asking thoughtful questions about our technology, automation, workflows and production processes. It was also great to hear a few asking how they could build a career at CMYKhub.

Finally, a big thank you to **Mark Daws** for making the connection, **Glen Francis** and **Paul Norton** for leading the factory tours and sharing their knowledge, and **Michael Ellis** for coordinating today's visit. We love opening our doors and helping the next generation see that print is a high-tech, innovative manufacturing industry with exciting career opportunities.



“As a Food & Packaging Innovation student at the University of Melbourne, I had the opportunity to visit CMYKhub – one of Australia's leading commercial printing and packaging companies.

It was fascinating to see advanced offset printing, digital printing, finishing, and packaging technologies in action. I was truly impressed by the scale of the operation and the wide variety of products they produce for different industries, including food packaging, apparel, consumer products, labels, promotional materials, and many well-known branded products.

Seeing how innovative ideas are transformed into high-quality commercial packaging gave me a much deeper appreciation of the packaging industry and its role in our everyday lives.

A big thank you to CMYKhub for the warm hospitality and to the AIP for organising such a valuable industry visit. Looking forward to learning even more throughout this journey.”



HP Indigo 200K Digital Press

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

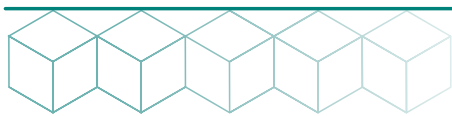
Meeting brands' vision for standout packaging, multi-SKU production, fast turnarounds, and sustainable solutions, requires digital printing agility. The HP Indigo 200K Digital Press provides that agility, turning complexity into opportunity and enabling converters to deliver shelf-ready packaging in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

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



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Close the Loop Site Visit viewed from a UOM MFPI student

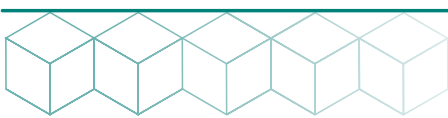
Last week, I attended the course Food Packaging Materials and Processes, where we learned from a series of industrial speakers, each focusing on different aspects of the field.

What made this experience especially valuable was the opportunities to meet those industry professionals. Compared to academic courses, this course gave us a clearer understanding of current industry landscape and real-world challenges, helping me better imagine my future career path in the food and packaging industry.

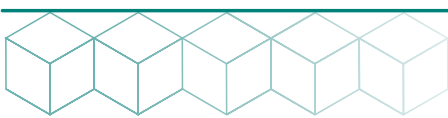
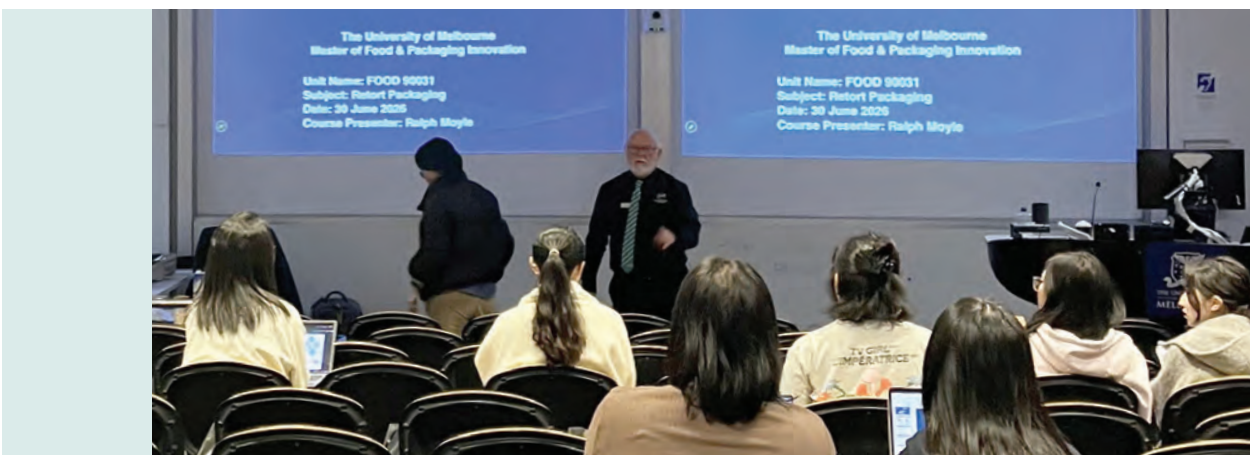
One highlight was visiting Close the Loop, where I gained my first insight into plastic recycling technologies and the current technical limitations. This experience prompted me to rethink how food packaging design can be improved to better support recycling efficiency and sustainability.

It was inspiring to see how packaging, sustainability, and technology intersect in practice – not just in theory. Lastly, I would like to sincerely thank Prof Hafiz, Prof. Pierre Pienaar, the other lecturers and the AIP, for giving us such a wonderful course.











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September 2026

International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste (IDAFLW)

WHEN: 29 September 2026

WHAT: **The seventh observance of the International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste (IDAFLW) is approaching, now is the time for everyone to get involved and take action. How will you mark the day?**

Observed annually on September 29, the International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste is a global United Nations initiative. Co-convened by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), it highlights the urgent need to cut food waste, conserve natural resources, and fight global hunger.

Why It Matters

- About 14% of the world's food is lost after harvest
- Roughly 17% is wasted at retail and consumer levels
- Food loss and waste generate 8% to 10% of global greenhouse gas emissions.
- Reducing waste supports Sustainable Development Goal Target 12.3, which aims to cut per capita global food waste in half by 2030.

The 2026 theme will focus on the "Transformative Potential of Reducing Food Loss and Waste". Tackling FLW, in fact, can generate a triple win: improving food security and nutrition, reducing pressure on natural resources and greenhouse gas emissions, and enhancing productivity and economic growth.

The world's population, currently at 8.2 billion, is expected to grow to close to 9.7 billion people by 2050 (UNDESA, 2024). Ensuring a food secure world – where current and future populations have access to sufficient nutritious food – crucially requires new ways of working, and concerted efforts to improve the sustainability and resilience of agrifood systems globally.

Reducing food loss and waste (FLW) helps to protect natural resources and biodiversity, reduce pollution and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and maximise the use of food produced. It is therefore central to securing efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems, and to improving food security, nutrition and health.



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Embracing innovation and fostering circular economy approaches in agrifood systems to prevent, reduce, reuse and repurpose FLW also serves to create new job opportunities, improve livelihoods and generate financial benefits for a range of stakeholders.

No single entity can solve the problem of FLW reduction. From government and civil society to businesses, consumers, and research and academia, a range of targeted approaches are required. Cross- food chain collaboration, network-building, awareness-raising, stakeholder dialogue, and the scaling up of tried and proven solutions to reduce food loss and food waste are all key.

Now is the time for everyone – from producers, investors, businesses and supply chain stakeholders to consumers of all ages, as well as academia and research, civil society, and the private and public sectors – to take urgent action to expand and strengthen efforts both individually and collectively, to reduce food loss and waste towards ensuring a food secure world – now and in the future. For the People and the Planet.



September 2026

WPO Webinar: SusPAM: Sustainable Food Packaging Intervention Tool for Sustainable Food Systems

WHEN: 29 September 2026, 11: 00 am CEST

WHERE: On-line via zoom

WHAT: Join the World Packaging Organisation on the seventh International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste to launch the new **SusPAM: Sustainable Food Packaging Intervention Tool for Sustainable Food Systems** that has been developed by UNIDO and Wageningen Food & Biobased Research.

The SusPAM methodology has been designed with scientific research to help guide stakeholders in the assessment of the sustainability of a packaging intervention. The new methodology will provide a structured framework, outlining the steps required to objectively and holistically assess the sustainability of packaging interventions in food systems particularly in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

No single entity can solve the problem of FLW reduction. From government and civil society to businesses, consumers, and research and academia, a range of targeted approaches are required. Cross- food chain collaboration, network-building, awareness-raising, stakeholder dialogue, and the scaling up of tried and proven solutions to reduce food loss and food waste are all key.

The assessment is based on the three P's model that considers the effects of human activity on three levels: People, Planet and Profit and includes key principles, steps and criteria to determine the feasibility and expected impact of packaging interventions.

Supported by:



International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste (IDAFW)

29 September 2026



STOP FOOD LOSS AND WASTE. FOR THE PEOPLE. FOR THE PLANET.

SusPAM will serve as a foundation for developing interventions that enhance sustainability by reducing food losses and waste, reducing packaging environmental impact and supporting circular economy principles.

Join this webinar and hear from Wageningen University & Research and UNIDO leading experts behind this project. Also hear from FSSC and WPO about why it is important that they get involved in globalising this methodology.



Registration Required



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Moderator

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



Panellist

E.H. (Eelke) Westra
Manager Partnerships
Wageningen University & Research



Panellist

Aldin Hilbrands
Chief Executive Officer
FSSC



Panellist

Ali Badarneh
Division Chief
UNIDO

SusPam Methodology Developed by:



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
Progress by innovation



WAGENINGEN
UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH



Sponsored by:

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October 2026

ProPak Hanoi

WHEN: 13 - 15 October 2026

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

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

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

Expanding coverage in the northern market

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

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

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Take advantage of the strong wave of FDI

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

Modern venues, international standards

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



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★ 13 - 15 OCTOBER 2026

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

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Co-located Event
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★ 13 – 15 OCTOBER 2026

Vietnam Exposition Center (VEC),
Dong Anh, Hanoi

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ĐÓNG GÓI BAO BÌ** **TẠI HÀ NỘI**

The International Processing and Packaging Exhibition and Conference in Hanoi



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October 2026

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

WHEN: **Tuesday 13 October 2026**
Day 1 ProPak Hanoi

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

TIME: 1.15 pm arrival, 1.30 pm start, 4.30 pm finish

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

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

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

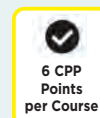
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Translation -
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& English

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



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

WHEN: **Wednesday 14 October 2026**
Day 2 ProPak Hanoi

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

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

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

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

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

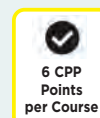
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Ralph Moyle FAIP
Education Coordinator
Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP)



October 2026

2026 Hanoi Packaging Forum

WHEN: 15 October 2026, Day 3 ProPak Hanoi
9.15 am arrival, 9.30 am to 12.30 pm

WHERE: ProPak Room, Hall H Vietnam Exhibition Centre Dong Anh, Hanoi, Vietnam

Informa Markets, in partnership with the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP), is pleased to launch the inaugural Hanoi Packaging Forum that will be held alongside the inaugural ProPak Hanoi trade exhibition.

The packaging forum will be held on Thursday, 15th of October and panellists will come from across the Asian region bringing global and local packaging expertise to this important educational event.

The packaging forum will cover a broad range of topics, including packaging waste and recycling regulations, extended producer responsibility, the move away from single-use plastics to renewable and fibre-based alternatives, mono-materials, recycled content, kerbside collection of materials, finding the balance between food and packaging waste and ensuring that packaging remains fit for purpose and functional, and more...

HELD ALONGSIDE

**PROPAK
HANOI**



Nguyen Anh Dang
Manager
Viet Nam National Plastic Action Partnership



Huangyi Chen
Sustainability Manager AP-S
SIG Group



Hong Anh Nguyen
Senior Manager | Deals Restructuring Services
PwC Tax and Advisory (Vietnam)



Shovick Mitra
Technical Expert
Taghleeff Industries



Dr Vu Tan Phuong
Director
Vietnam Forest Certification Office (VFCO)



James Walker Dip. Pack Tech MAIP
Manager, Technical Service Emerging Markets
Metsä Board Singapore Pte Ltd



Le Luong
Senior Sales Manager
UPM Vietnam Co.Ltd



Son Nguyen Truong
Industrial Business Manager, Vietnam & Cambodia
Detpak



Devaki Rajendran MAIP
APAC Regional Sustainability Manager
MCC Label



Dery Ardiansyah
TS and NPD Manager
PT Toppan Plasindo Lestari



Tien-Thinh Nguyen (Tim)
Head of Business – Adhesive Packaging Unit
Henkel Vietnam



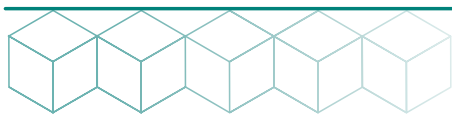
Thanakharn Suebsubhap (TK)
Managing Director
Meyer Seals Asia Ltd.

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Simultaneous Translation
- Vietnamese & English

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October 2026

Pack Expo International 2026

WHEN: 18-21 October 2026

WHERE: McCormick Place, Chicago, Illinois, USA

The Largest, Most Comprehensive Packaging and Processing Event in the Americas

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This singular event brings the entire packaging and processing ecosystem together—2,600 exhibitors, 40+ industries and countless solutions under one roof. If you're looking for fresh ideas, new equipment, automation or digitalisation strategies that will give you a competitive edge, PACK EXPO International should be at the top of your list. Don't miss the opportunity to experience live machinery demos and evaluate products firsthand before making important decisions.



WPO Webinar: Packaging Updates from China

WHEN: 27 October 2026, 11.00 am CEST

WHERE: On-line via zoom

Latest packaging trends and innovations coming out of the region

Join the World Packaging Organisation (WPO), Interpack China, Messe Düsseldorf and WPO Board Member, China National Export Commodities Packaging Research Institute (CEPI) at a webinar that will discuss the latest packaging industry updates for China including regulations, packaging advancements and industry trends. This panel discussion will also showcase the up-coming interpack China trade exhibition that will be held from 16–18 November 2026 at the Shanghai New International Expo Centre (SNIEC). interpack China will welcome around 970 exhibitors across 70,000 square metres, attracting more than 47,000 professional visitors.



中国出口商品包装研究所
China National Export Commodities Packaging Research Institute

Highlights for the 2026 edition of interpack China will include the World Packaging Organisation (WPO) Board Meetings, the 2026 International Summit on Green Packaging Development, a Spotlight Forum that will include global discussions. The show will also have a unique international pavilion and international delegations visiting from all corners of the globe.



Scan for Link



Nerida Kelton FAIP

Vice President

- Sustainability & Save Food
World Packaging Organisation



Panellist

Thomas Dohse

Director interpack

Portfolio Processing & Packaging
Messe Düsseldorf



Panellist

Larry Chen

Senior Project Director

Messe Düsseldorf (Shanghai)



Panellist

Jasper Liu

Associate Director

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insights from 150+ free
educational sessions.**

**October 18-21, 2026
Chicago, Illinois, USA**

November 2026

interpack China

WHEN: **16 - 18 November 2026**

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

WHAT: Messe Düsseldorf (Shanghai) Co., Ltd. and Adsale Exhibition Services Ltd. will join hands to present the interpack China (formerly known as 'Shanghai World of Packaging' from 16th to 18th November 2026

at Shanghai New International Expo Centre (SNIEC). In 2026, interpack China will celebrate its 11th anniversary milestone.

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

NEW AIP
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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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interpack China 2026 Layout



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

70,000 sqm
Exhibition Area

970+
Exhibitors

47,000+
Trade Visitors

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ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES IN CHINA

Explore the No.1 packaging market in Asia



INTERNATIONAL PAVILION

Premium position to showcase innovations



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February 2027

ProPak Philippines 2027

WHEN: **24-26 February 2027**

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

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.

AIP - Proud Packaging
Education Partner

**PROPAK
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.



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.



March 2027



APPEX 2027

WHEN: 16-19 March 2027

WHERE: MCEC, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

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



appex.

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.

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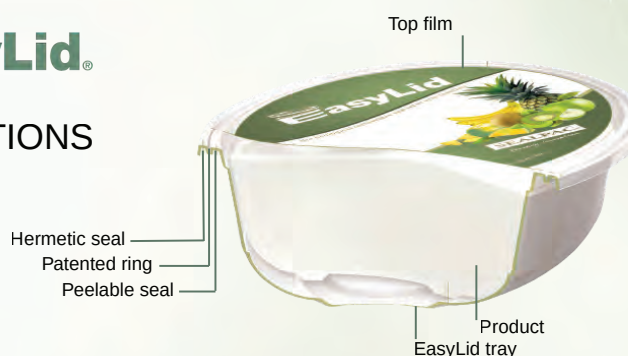
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April 2027

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

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.





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June 2027

ProPak Asia 2027

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

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

**PROPAK
ASIA**

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**



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- Investigation of plastic materials & supply consistency



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

Australasian Delegation to visit ProPak Asia



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:

- 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.

**ASK ABOUT
DELEGATION BENEFITS**



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



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: 2x workshops that will be discussing the trends and future of paper and fibre and the future roadmap for rigid and soft plastics.
- 12th June: An AIP coordinated walking tour of the show.
- 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.
- 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.

**ASK ABOUT
DELEGATION BENEFITS**



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

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.

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!”

ASK ABOUT
DELEGATION BENEFITS

“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

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 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.

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



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

WHEN: 21 - 23 September 2027

WHERE: Auckland Showgrounds, North Island, New Zealand

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

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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.



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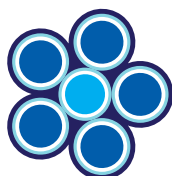
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21 - 23 September 2027

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95% Returning Visitors

86% Increased Reach



**Stronger together, Foodtech Packtech New Zealand & AIP
delivering innovation across Australasia.**

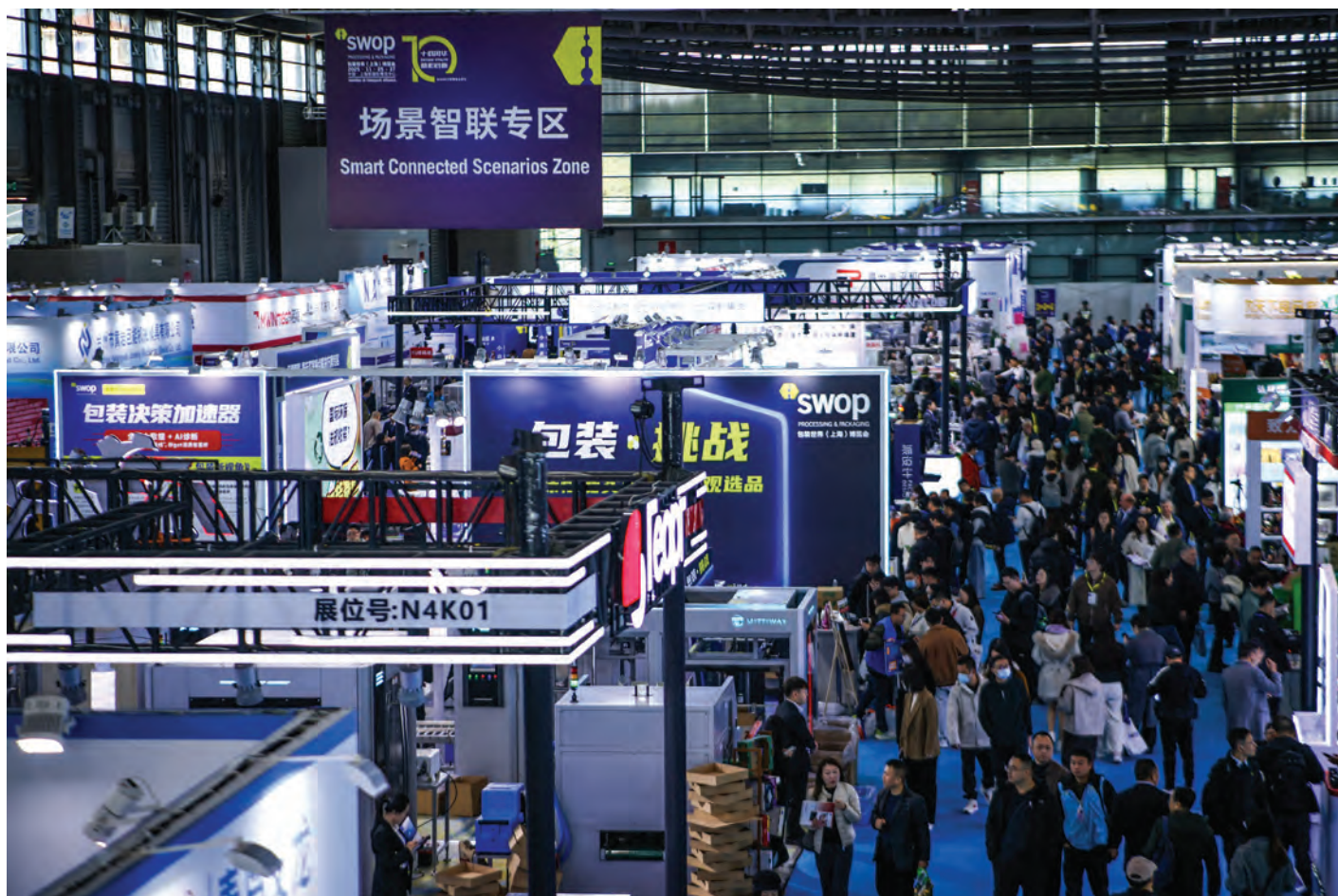


Australasian Institute
of Packaging

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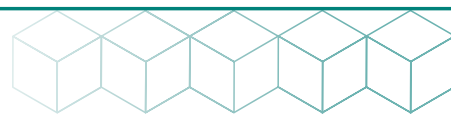
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interpack China 2026 Preview: Tackling Packaging Challenges with Actionable Solutions

In today's rapidly evolving market, packaging companies face an increasingly complex set of challenges. Fluctuating raw material prices and supply chains, the ongoing balancing act between cost and quality, and the need for frequent line changeovers to accommodate multiple SKUs are putting heavy pressure on operations. When combined with stricter mandates for automation, compliance, and sustainability, these factors are profoundly shaping production strategies and business decisions.

Scheduled for 16–18 November 2026 at the Shanghai New International Expo Centre (SNIEC), interpack China 2026 will showcase equipment, materials, and technologies spanning the entire packaging industry chain. As a member of the interpack alliance—the global network for processing and packaging trade fairs—this year's event focuses on live, practical technology demonstrations. You will discover a highly relevant, real-world content program designed to help you source actionable solutions you can immediately implement on the shop floor.



Discover Global Packaging at the World of Packaging: interpack China 2026 Unveils International Exhibitor Lineup

Connecting global packaging innovations with the Chinese market, interpack China 2026 will host exhibitors from 12 countries and regions. The trade fair offers comprehensive, one-stop processing and packaging solutions for buyers across key sectors, including food, beverages, confectionery, bakery, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, consumer goods (non-food), and industrial goods.

Leading international brands including Multivac, INCOE, Earflap, Unicontrols, KOCH, Waldner, LAWER, sykell, Langguth, KYCZ, NUEVOPAK, Aasted, SUPER DRY, Knack, NAMYANG, HANWA, Stora Enso, ASTRONOVA, NORDMECCANICA, SATO, Hansin, TG, Papkot, KYORAKU have confirmed their participation.

Meet them this November



interpack China 2026 Introduces Navigation Routes to Tackle Packaging Pain Points

Driven by new material trends, rapid product iterations, and shifting production models, the packaging industry must be more agile than ever. Manufacturers are asking critical questions: Can our production lines handle new materials? Is our equipment flexible enough for faster changeovers? How do we maintain strict quality control despite rising costs? Furthermore, priorities vary significantly by sector. Food and beverage producers focus on shelf-life and high throughput; Cosmetics brands must balance multi-SKU flexibility with premium aesthetics; and pharmaceutical companies prioritise stability, requiring flawless barrier protection and clear labelling. Meanwhile, logistics and cross-border e-commerce rely heavily on transit durability and processing efficiency.

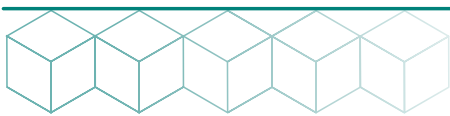
To address these diverse needs, interpack China 2026 is introducing dedicated navigation routes. Designed around real-world production scenarios, these curated routes directly target the industry's most pressing concerns—from navigating material price hikes and supply cuts, to achieving cost efficiency, meeting new compliance standards, and safely ramping up capacity.

The program features nine specialised tracks: AI & Smart Packaging, Plastic Packaging, Paper Packaging, Food & Beverage, Home/Personal Care/Cosmetics, Foodservice/Coffee/Tea, Logistics/Cross-Border E-Commerce, Pharmaceuticals/Healthcare, and Pet Food. Each route guides you to the most relevant machinery and material suppliers, ensuring a highly efficient, customised sourcing experience that aligns with your business requirements.



Packaging Extreme Challenges: Live Demonstrations to Overcome Real-World Production Hurdles

Many packaging professionals face a common dilemma: no matter how thoroughly technical specifications are reviewed or physical samples inspected, unforeseen issues often arise once full-scale production begins. Under intense real-world conditions—such as heavy-duty filling, high-temperature sterilisation, long-haul transit, and frequent line changeovers—packaging failures frequently lead to significant capacity loss and inflated operational costs.



To give attendees firsthand visibility into how technologies truly perform, interpack China 2026 is upgrading 'Packaging Extreme Challenges' sector. By replicating shop-floor environments right on the exhibition floor, this interactive area puts materials, products, and machinery to the ultimate stress test, validating their reliability where it matters most. You will experience a powerful lineup of live demonstrations at interpack China 2026. Highlights include spouted pouch capable of withstanding up to 100 kg of applied pressure without bursting, resealable lidding film that maintains its hold after 50 uses, and multi-format packaging machine that completes full line changeovers in just 30 seconds.

The event will also showcase hot-melt box sealer running at 40–100 boxes per minute, pan-AI X-ray inspection system detecting foreign bodies as small as 0.1 mm, automatic thermoforming machine achieving 80–90% sheet utilisation with an energy draw of just 11 kWh, powder packaging machine executing 80+ cuts per minute, and sanitary incline conveyor designed for 30-second cleaning cycles.



Moving far beyond the limitations of traditional brochures and technical spec sheets, this immersive experience allows you to instantly verify how well solutions will perform on your own production lines, helping you pinpoint exactly what you need to overcome your specific operational bottlenecks.

Discover the future of packaging at interpack China 2026, taking place 16–18 November 2026 at the Shanghai New International Expo Centre (SNIEC). Register today to secure fast-track entry, visitor gifts, and special rewards for group delegations!

Claim your free ticket



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PIDA High Commendation (Sustainable Packaging Design)

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



MASTERFOODS SQUEEZY PET SAUCE BOTTLES

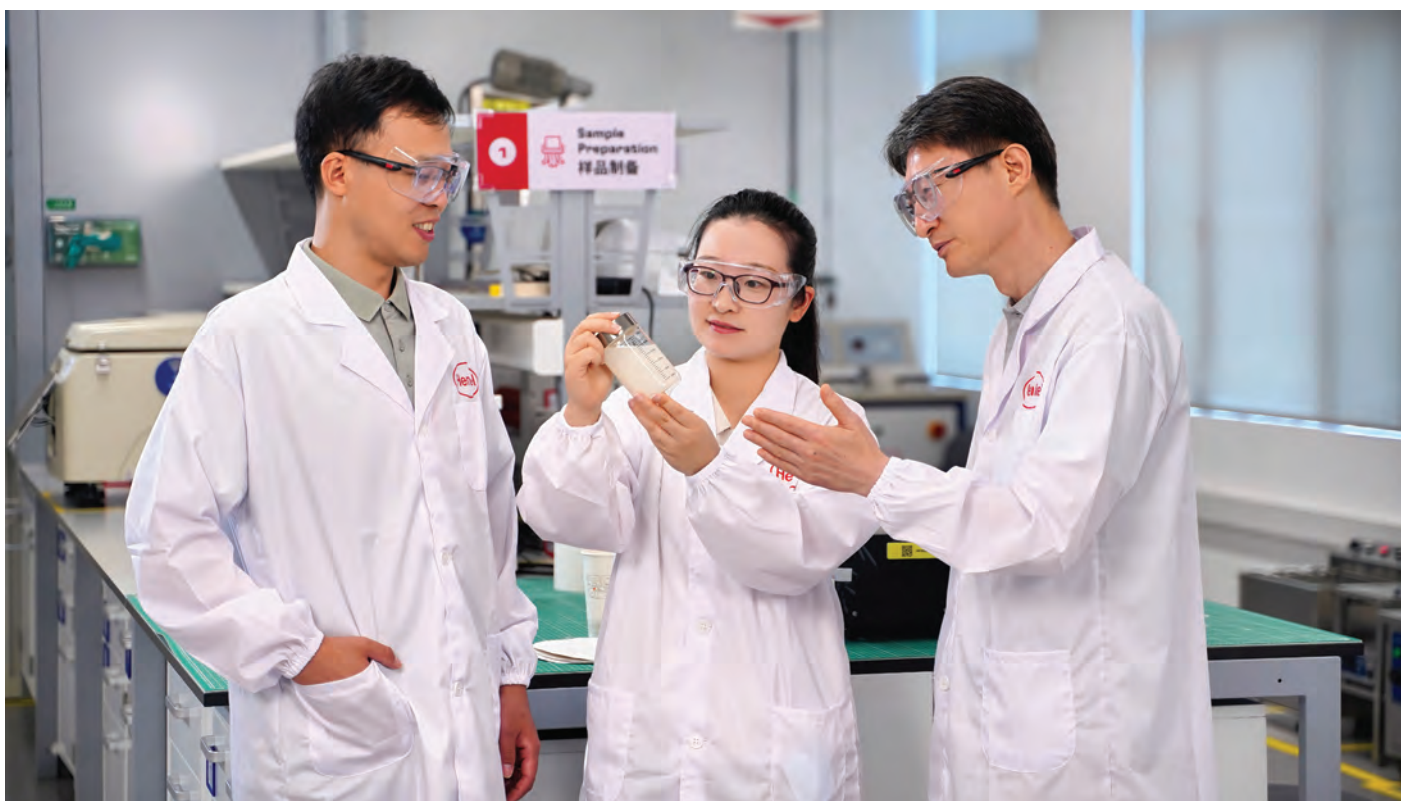


WELLMAN THERMOCUP™



Supporting packaging compliance in Asia-Pacific

Henkel's Packaging Recyclab in Shanghai now accredited for EU recognised paper packaging recyclability testing



Shanghai – Henkel has opened a new route to certified packaging recyclability testing in Asia-Pacific. The Henkel Packaging Recyclab Shanghai has passed the official audit of the cyclos-HTP Institute (CHI). The accreditation authorises the site to carry out EU paper packaging recyclability testing and to issue EU recognised external test assessment reports for customers across the region.

The accreditation further strengthens Henkel's local support for packaging manufacturers, converters, and brand owners as they prepare for the European Union's Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR) and increasingly complex recyclability requirements. It also positions the Packaging Recyclab Shanghai as

a key part of Henkel's growing global Packaging Recyclab network, alongside the facility in Düsseldorf, Germany. Integrated into Henkel's global Inspiration Centre experience, these laboratories help customers explore, test, and optimise packaging solutions from concept development through recyclability assessment.

The Packaging Recyclab Shanghai now applies two recognised European paper packaging recyclability test protocols, CEPI/4evergreen and CHI. Asia-Pacific exporters can test and assess to EU standards locally instead of sending samples to Europe. That cuts development time and gives customers earlier clarity for market access planning.



Supporting compliance through local testing

The PPWR sets requirements across packaging design, recyclability performance, recycled content, hazardous substance limits and reuse criteria, alongside strengthened Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) obligations for producers placing packaging on the EU market. For companies exporting to Europe, packaging compliance is now part of market readiness rather than a downstream check.

Asia-Pacific plays an essential role in global packaging supply chains across electronics, consumer goods, food, light industry and other sectors. Until now, many regional companies have relied on European laboratories for recognised paper packaging recyclability testing.

Henkel Packaging Recyclab Shanghai helps address this challenge by providing local access to internationally aligned testing capabilities and technical expertise.

“PPWR will reshape the competitive landscape of the packaging industry,” said Alejandro Schoenhoff, Vice President, Packaging Adhesives, Henkel Asia Pacific.

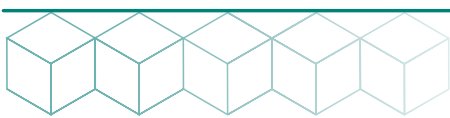
“CH1’s accreditation of the Packaging Recyclab in Shanghai marks an important milestone in bringing Europe’s authoritative recyclability assessment and testing capabilities closer to customers in Asia-Pacific. It underscores Henkel’s long-term commitment to China and the wider region, and it represents another significant step in helping local businesses meet stringent global market entry requirements.”



Designing for recyclability, globally

For packaging exporters, evolving regulation creates both compliance obligations and an opportunity to rethink packaging design from the start. Design for recyclability moves beyond asking whether a material is theoretically recyclable. It requires companies to understand how packaging performs in real recycling processes and to consider material selection, coatings, adhesives and structural design as part of one system.

The Packaging Recyclab Shanghai supports this shift by enabling a more integrated workflow across design, testing, assessment and optimisation. Rather than relying only on post-production checks, customers can work with Henkel experts earlier in the development phase to identify improvement opportunities, generate technical data and support documentation for recyclability assessment.





“Given the enormous export volume of China and Asia-Pacific, addressing these challenges is not optional; it is imperative,” said Yanjie Zheng, Sustainability Manager, Packaging Adhesives, Henkel Asia Pacific.

“Henkel has built an integrated, end-to-end solution covering the packaging lifecycle, from design and manufacturing applications to end-of-life recycling and regulatory compliance. Henkel Packaging Recyclab Shanghai gives packaging exporters an efficient and reliable path to international compliance.”

Driving industrial transformation across packaging

Henkel is one of the largest suppliers of industrial adhesives worldwide, with a portfolio spanning commercial packaging formats across the value chain. The Packaging Recyclab Shanghai currently focuses on paper packaging, with preparatory work underway to add plastic packaging recyclability assessments. The site plans to widen its testing scope over time to cover further export packaging categories.

Alongside its testing capabilities, the Packaging Recyclab Shanghai generates data on how packaging structures actually perform, informs design-for-recyclability practice and shares what it learns with the wider industry. Asia-Pacific customers get local expertise, internationally aligned testing and a clearer route to circular packaging design.

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SCAN HERE

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John Bigley retires after 41 year packaging career

Zipform Packaging CEO John Bigley will retire at the beginning of October, bringing to a close a long career spanning metal and fibre packaging, industry leadership and manufacturing innovation. Wayne Purcell has been appointed as his successor.



▲ Zipform Packaging CEO John Bigley, will retire in October.

Bigley has led Zipform Packaging since joining the company in 2018, following his role as managing director of Jamestrong Packaging. During his eight years as CEO, he has guided the fibre packaging business through Covid-related disruption and other market challenges while overseeing significant growth in volumes of its kerbside recyclable packaging.

His tenure has also included the development of Zipform's manufacturing base in Melbourne, which showcases the company's linear-formed fibre technology, and the introduction of new business processes to support its growth.

"John is the epitome of professionalism and has been a pleasure to work with," said David Edwards, founder and chair of Zipform Group.

Since 2021, Zipform has received nine Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design Awards and three WorldStar Packaging Awards. Recent developments include the PapeR Bottle and a dry-moulded fibre meat tray.

The company has also maintained a strong presence across industry organisations and collaborative initiatives.

It has participated in several Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation committees, engaged with the Fight Food Waste Cooperative Research Centre and supported Australian Institute of Packaging initiatives. Zipform is also a founding member of the recently established Australian Paper-Based Packaging Alliance.

Bigley recently completed a three-year term as president of the Australasian Institute of Packaging, where he was instrumental in reframing its strategic direction.

His packaging career began as a service engineer troubleshooting metal can-making machinery around the world. Reflecting on the four decades since, Bigley said leading Zipform had been the most enjoyable period of his career.

"I have learnt so much from my team, who I thank enormously for their hard work and support," he said. "I would especially like to thank David Edwards and Simon Backhouse from Zipform for their unwavering support for what we want to achieve with the business."

This article was published with permission from PKN Packaging News



Bigley and his wife, Conchita, moved from the UK to Australia in 2011 on what was initially intended to be a three-year contract.

“We fell in love with Australia, and the Australian packaging industry became family,” he said. “Fifteen years on, and now approaching 63, I look forward to a long retirement based here, with regular trips to the UK to see our ever-expanding family.”

Incoming CEO Wayne Purcell brings more than 38 years of experience in senior operational and commercial roles across the Australasian packaging industry. He spent the past 16 years with Pact Group, most recently working in a group commercial and strategy role.

The AIP would also like to wish John well in his retirement and look forward to having him stay on as Treasurer.



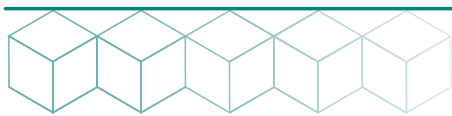
▲ Zipform Packaging's Melbourne facility: showcase for linear formed fibre-based packaging.

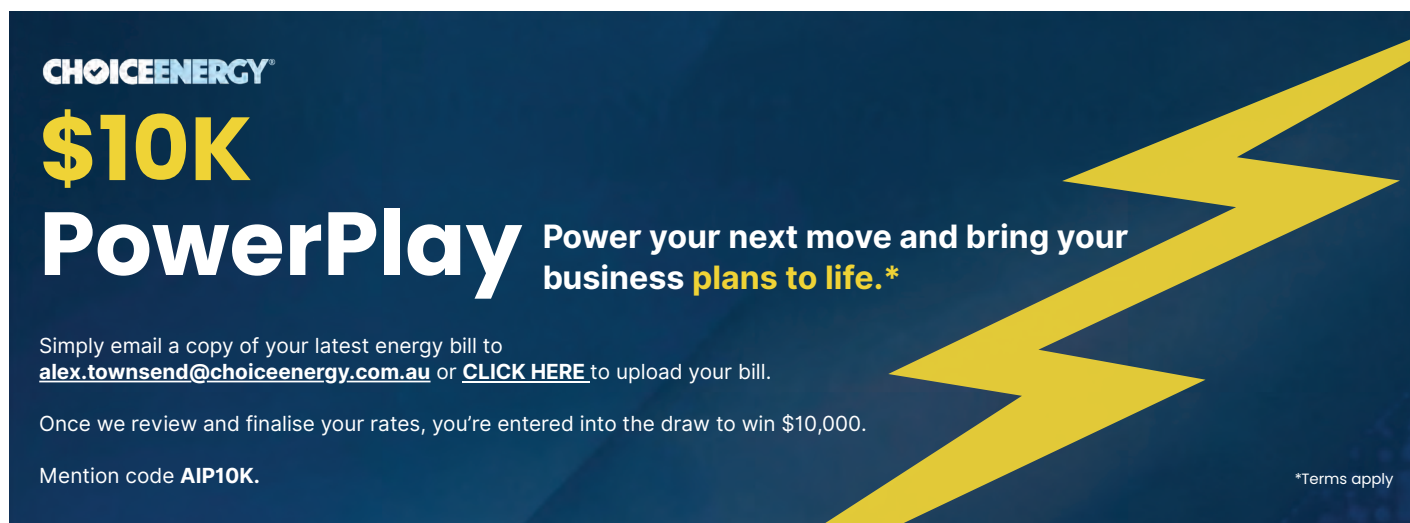
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Put more fibre
in your
packaging diet



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A promotional graphic for the Choice Energy \$10K PowerPlay campaign. It features a dark blue background with a large yellow lightning bolt on the right side. The text is in white and yellow. The Choice Energy logo is in the top left. The main headline is "\$10K PowerPlay" in large, bold letters. Below it, a sub-headline says "Power your next move and bring your business plans to life.*". Further down, instructions are given: "Simply email a copy of your latest energy bill to alex.townsend@choiceenergy.com.au or CLICK HERE to upload your bill." and "Once we review and finalise your rates, you're entered into the draw to win \$10,000." A code "AIP10K" is mentioned at the bottom left, and "*Terms apply" is at the bottom right.

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Simply email a copy of your latest energy bill to alex.townsend@choiceenergy.com.au or [CLICK HERE](#) to upload your bill.

Once we review and finalise your rates, you're entered into the draw to win \$10,000.

Mention code **AIP10K**.

*Terms apply

Choice Energy Launches \$10K PowerPlay to Help Australian Businesses Power Their Next Move

Choice Energy is excited to announce the launch of its \$10K PowerPlay campaign, a new initiative created to help one Australian business bring its next big idea to life.

\$10K PowerPlay is built around a simple idea Choice Energy believe in wholeheartedly: the right opportunity can give a business the momentum to move forward. For some, that might be a practical purchase, like new equipment or new technology that finally makes the day-to-day easier. Whatever form it takes, they want to help make it happen!

This is about creating possibility. Choice Energy know that behind every business is a next step they've been working toward, and sometimes all it takes is a bit of momentum to put that plan into motion. That's exactly what \$10K PowerPlay is about, giving one business the means to bring what's next to life.

How to Enter

Eligible businesses can upload a copy of their current energy bill via their online portal, using the code **AIP10K**, or get in touch directly with their team.

One winning business will then be selected to receive \$10,000. Offer ends 30th October 2026 and terms apply and excludes the Northern Territory and Western Australia. Entrants must hold a valid ABN.

Why Choice Energy are doing this

For many small and medium-sized businesses, energy costs remain one of the more unpredictable line items on the balance sheet, and finding room to invest elsewhere can be genuinely hard. Helping businesses navigate that complexity and find better value is what they do every day at Choice Energy.



\$10K PowerPlay is their way of taking that same spirit of practical support and turning it into something more direct and, they hope, something genuinely useful.

Rather than offering a discount or a rebate, Choice Energy wanted to give a business real capital to act on a decision they may have already been considering, whether that's upgrading ageing equipment, launching a new offering, renovating a space, or simply having breathing room to invest in growth.

Get Involved

They would love your help spreading the word. They are inviting eligible businesses, along with their network of referral partners, to share this opportunity with their own networks and clients. The more businesses that know about it, the more good it can do.

About Choice Energy

Choice Energy is an Australian-owned independent commercial energy brokerage that has supported over 14,000 business customers nationally across the National Electricity Market (NEM). They work with businesses of all sizes to secure competitive energy contracts, manage risk, and navigate an increasingly complex energy landscape, while building a growing network of referral partnerships across sectors including commercial real estate, hospitality, franchise networks, property managers and strata companies.

For more information contact:

Choice Energy Representative
Alex Townsend, Head of Partnerships
alex.townsend@choiceenergy.com.au
0435 080 646

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alycia.mccarthy@choiceenergy.com.au
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tna robag® Quantum makes its exclusive North American preview at PACK EXPO Chicago, building on nearly 45 years of packaging innovation

A first look at the next generation of TNA's iconic robag® platform ahead of its official release in 2027.

TNA Solutions will demonstrate the tna robag® Quantum for the first time in North America at PACK EXPO International 2026 (18-21 October, Chicago), previewing a new approach to packaging productivity for food manufacturers facing rising cost pressures, skilled labour shortages, and growing production complexity.

Building on nearly 45 years of robag® innovation in VFFS packaging, this next generation has

been engineered to help manufacturers increase throughput, reduce waste, and simplify operations in an increasingly demanding production environment.

“North American food manufacturers are under increasing pressure to deliver greater output and protect profitability while managing rising operating costs, labor constraints and growing production complexity,” commented Mukul Shukla, Vice President – North America, TNA Solutions.



“At the same time, consumer demand remains resilient but is evolving. Wellness trends, portion control and greater product variety are increasing the number of pack formats and product configurations manufacturers need to manage.

“Many producers are therefore being asked to run smaller pack formats and a wider range of products on existing production lines, without sacrificing throughput, efficiency or profitability.”

Visitors to Booth N-5109 will discover how the tna robag® Quantum addresses these, by taking a different approach to high-capacity packaging. Rather than increasing output by adding more bagmakers, the platform is designed to deliver higher output per tube, helping manufacturers achieve production targets with a simpler overall line configuration.

With speeds of up to 300 bags per minute single-tube packaging (subject to bag, film and product type), manufacturers can maintain throughput and profitability as production shifts towards smaller pack formats. The platform also supports greater capital efficiency, enabling manufacturers to increase capacity within existing facility footprints, helping defer major capital expenditure while reducing maintenance requirements, simplifying cleaning routines, minimising product and material waste, and lowering overall operating complexity. The new platform has been engineered around four

key priorities: easier, better, faster and smarter. Simplified operation, autonomous setup capabilities and intuitive software help reduce reliance on specialist operator expertise, replacing time-consuming manual calibrations with intelligent automation and consistent operating environment while supporting faster onboarding and day-to-day productivity. This helps operators maintain performance and respond more quickly to changing production conditions.

The tna robag® Quantum forms part of TNA's integrated systems, bringing together distribution, seasoning and packaging technologies as a connected ecosystem. As manufacturers respond to changing consumer demands, from portion-controlled formats to greater product variety, this integrated approach helps ensure packaging performance remains aligned with the rest of the line.

Working with a complete solutions partner like TNA enables greater agility across the factory floor, helping manufacturers adapt more efficiently to changing products, flavours and pack formats while maintaining throughput, reducing waste and maximising overall line efficiency.

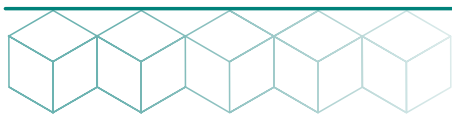
Visitors can meet the TNA team at Booth N-5109 and register for a complimentary ticket to the show here.



What's New in Food Technology Manufacturing magazine and the Food Processing website provide busy food manufacturing, packaging and design professionals with an easy-to-use, readily available source of information that is crucial to gaining valuable industry insight.



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Breakthrough for home compostable fruit labelling, to meet PPWR requirements

Today, UK film manufacturer, Futamura, and Dutch labelstock producer, Bio4life, are announcing a new breakthrough in fruit labelling: a certified home and industrial compostable PSA label designed to help retailers and packers eliminate conventional plastic stickers from fresh fruit and vegetables.

Together, the two companies offer the required elements for a home compostable label: on one hand, Futamura's NatureFlex™ cellulose films provide the home compostable facestock; on the other hand, Bio4life's technology delivers the required certified home compostable adhesive. The outcome is a high-performance label that is renewable, food-safe, and compatible with both industrial and home composting systems, as well as being suitable for a range of fresh produce such as apples, citrus fruits, avocados and kiwis.

Traditionally produced PSA labels use fossil-based plastics and non-compostable adhesives, making them a contamination risk in organic waste streams and anaerobic digestion processes. This is because consumers dispose of the label together with the fruit and vegetable skins. As the stickers are too small to be separated and most other materials, especially conventional plastics, do not break down under anaerobic condition, this can lead to contamination of the digestate. Fruit and vegetable labels produce

using NatureFlex™ films are suitable for anaerobic digestion, breaking down in the process and therefore, do not contaminate it.

The new compostable PSA label engineered with both technologies meets the growing demand for environmentally responsible packaging solutions. Bio4Life deliver certified home and industrial compostable label stock, without compromising performance, printability, or application efficiency.



NatureFlex™ films provide a renewable, cellulose-based face stock derived from responsibly managed wood pulp. The films are available in clear, white or metallised variants to fit all client requirements. Their mechanical properties make them well suited to die-cutting and dispensing. Being stiffer than other bio-based and compostable alternatives, they can be used in thinner grammage, whilst still maintaining

excellent machineability. They showcase excellent printability to achieve a highly decorative finish and great adhesive key. Cellulose films are inherently anti-static which aids the machineability of the film through conversion. NatureFlex™ cellulose films also have a high barrier to oils and chemicals, which can prevent any transfer through the label, preserving the quality of the label over time.

The countdown to the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR) implementation on 12th February 2028 places urgency on the transition



to mandated compostable produce labels, with the fresh produce industry now facing just one remaining harvest cycle to complete trials and testing. This restricted timeline highlights the need for close collaboration across the supply chain to ensure fully compliant solutions are trialled, tested and ready ahead of PPWR requirements.

Gerard Benthem, Sales Manager at Futamura commented: *“Compostable fruit and vegetable labels are a great innovation that supports a truly circular economy. Bio4life and Futamura have a shared vision for the future of labelling, and we hope to help brands and retailers’ transition away from conventional plastics to renewable and compostable label materials.”*

Marcel de Oude, Co-owner of Bio4life states: *“Our home compostable adhesive technology BioTAK® is designed to work hand-in-hand with renewable home compostable substrates like NatureFlex™. This partnership showcases how collaboration can accelerate the shift toward packaging that supports a circular economy. We’re proud to bring this innovation to market with Futamura.”*



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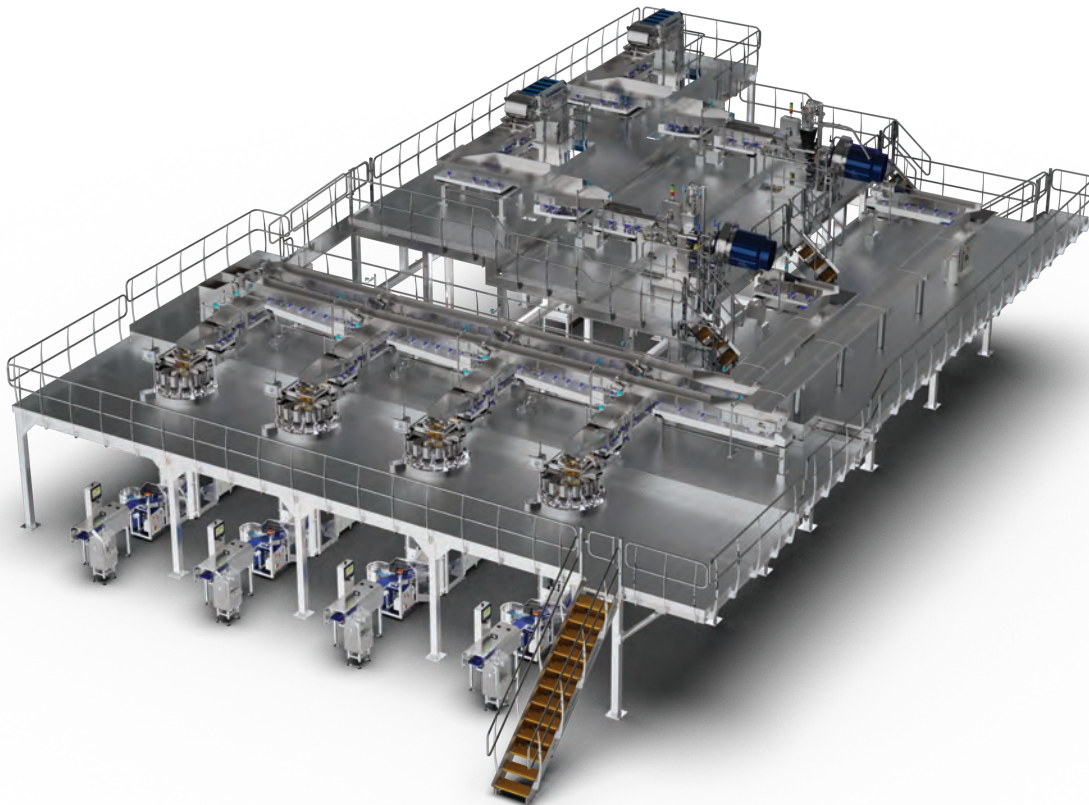


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2026 Australia's Environment Ministers Meeting Communique

On Friday the 18th of September 2026 Australia's Environment Ministers met with representatives of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) and New Zealand present for these discussions, to advance a shared national agenda focused on environmental protection, nature restoration, climate resilience and circular economy reform.

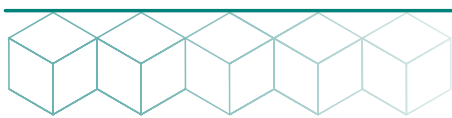
A communique from Murray Watt, the Federal Minister for Environment and Water advised that 'Following the passage of reforms to Australia national environment laws, Environment Ministers agreed to accelerate implementation of bilateral assessment and approval agreements.'

Ministers agreed the Circular Economy Roadmap (Roadmap) and proposed actions as the basis for advancing the circular economy and sharing responsibility across jurisdictions.

They also agreed to task officials with examining options with Industry, local government and other stakeholders, to strengthen packaging regulation through existing co-regulatory arrangements and developing a packaging reform plan for the future under the National Competition Policy. This work should take into account environmental issues and cost impacts of any reform. This work is for discussion at the next Environment Ministers Meeting.

Ministers all agreed that packaging reform remain an urgent and important environmental priority for Australia, with almost all single use plastics entering the Australian waste stream coming from packaging. It was also agreed that packaging being both significantly reduced and designed to be recycled is a crucial part of packaging reform, as are design standards.

Please click on the qr code for the full communique



Soft Plastics Efficiency productivity and resilience report

In September 2026, Soft Plastic Stewardship Australia (SPSA) and Economist, Stephen Koukoulas, launched the report: **Efficiency, productivity and resilience: Further integrating recycling into the broader manufacturing supply chains with Independent Federal Member for Curtin, Kate Chaney MP, and Independent Federal Member for Mackellar, Sophie Scamps MP in Parliament House, Canberra.**

Report highlights include:

- Australia's packaging, food and grocery, retail and recycling supply chain is worth \$644 billion, yet recycling remains governed by fragmented and inconsistent rules across states, territories and councils.
- National alignment of packaging design, labelling, kerbside collection and recycling standards could deliver \$115 million to \$277 million in net annual productivity gains.
- The reforms could stimulate \$1.6 billion to \$2.6 billion in capital investment per year, strengthening domestic manufacturing and sovereign capability.
- Soft plastics represent Australia's largest recycling market failure, with 94% landfilled, equating to an estimated \$900 million in lost material value and \$154 million in landfill costs annually.
- 35.5% of recyclable packaging is not currently recovered, reducing economies of scale and increasing avoidable costs across the recycling and manufacturing sectors.

Efficiency, productivity and resilience: Further integrating recycling into the broader manufacturing supply chains

Higher productivity, cost of living relief, lower costs, rising recycling rates, more made in Australia, enhanced sovereign capabilities, supply chain resilience.

The cost of inaction is not zero.

Analysis by Stephen Koukoulas

14 September 2026

- Community confusion is a major economic issue: 32% of Australians don't trust recycling, 25% find it confusing, and inconsistent rules across Australia's 537 councils, directly reduce recycling yields and increase contamination.
- Public appetite for reform is strong: 83% want nationally consistent recycling rules, 94% would use a new soft plastics scheme, and 87% want a national solution prioritised.
- Modelling indicates fragmented regulation adds avoidable administrative costs, including \$25 –\$47 annually for duplicated council education programs and \$9 –\$11 million for duplicated container deposit scheme reporting.
- Under-utilisation of existing recycling infrastructure due to inconsistent volumes is costing Australia \$30 –\$89 million per year in lost efficiency.



- Landfill costs can be reduced by \$78 –\$146 million annually with improved recycling, representing direct cost-of-living relief for households and councils.
- Producer-funded stewardship for priority problematic materials (soft plastics, batteries, mattresses, textiles) would cost \$55.4 million per year, a fraction of the productivity gains unlocked by national alignment.

Packaging affects all sectors selling goods in the economy. The current fragmented and unaligned packaging regulatory system is reducing Australia's productivity and needlessly increasing inflationary cost pressures. Regulatory reform can deliver \$115 to \$277 million in net productivity reforms and \$1.6 to \$2.6 billion in capital investment.

This report urges government to streamline the integration of the recycling sector into the broader manufacturing supply chain by:

- Introducing aligned national packaging design and labelling, and kerbside collection and recycling minimum standards to deliver productivity gains and enhance supply chain resilience in the manufacturing and retail sectors; and
- Progressively phasing in producer funded product stewardship on priority problematic materials to address market failures by delivering solutions at scale.

To access the full report visit



Australians want action



Want nationally consistent recycling rules



Are likely to use a new soft plastics scheme



Want a national recycling solution prioritised



Believe recycling is their most impactful environmental action



\$170m to \$330m

estimated annual productivity savings per annum, equating to \$0.28 to \$0.55 per week per household





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APCO year in review

Australia's regulation-ready national scheme administrator for packaging

2025/26



APCO's Policy Platform and EPR Policy Settings announced

Australia's packaging transition needs certainty. Packaging is designed years before it reaches supermarket and other retailer shelves. Recycling infrastructure takes years to finance and build. Businesses and investors need confidence about where the system is heading.

Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation (APCO) recently announced that they were disappointed by the Commonwealth Government's decision not to introduce a

national packaging scheme in the current term. APCO respects the government's decision, and their support for a nationally consistent EPR approach does not change.

In the meantime, their priority is to make the current framework work harder for members and to build the practical capability needed for the future.

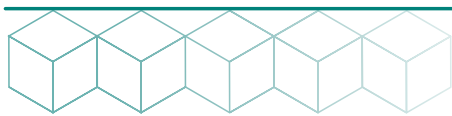
APCO's Policy Platform sets out the principles and policy positions they believe should guide the transition.



Ministers' Roundtable: Emerging plastics supply chain issues for the food industry and opportunities for packaging reform

Senator The Hon Murray Watt, Minister for the Environment and Water
The Hon Julie Collins MP, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Senator The Hon Tim Ayres, Minister for Industry and Innovation and Minister for Science

Please hear from APCO Chair Sam Andersen and CEO Chris Foley about the launch of the Policy Platform for industry.





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Ministry for Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport

The Ministry for Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport (MCERT) was established in 2026 to improve coordination across housing, transport, urban development and environmental policy.

The ministry merges the functions from 4 previous government agencies:

- Ministry for the Environment
- Ministry of Housing and Urban Development
- Ministry of Transport
- Local government functions from the Department of Internal Affairs.

MCERT works with Ministers to support better decisions about the systems that shape how New Zealanders live, move, build, grow and protect the natural environment.

The Ministry is responsible for delivery of major reforms, including:

- Housing growth
- Infrastructure funding
- Transport changes (such as congestion pricing and road user charges)
- Water
- Climate adaptation.

The Ministry also supports Ministers with responsibilities across local government, the environment, climate change, transport, housing, rail and related areas.

New nationwide rural recycling scheme for farm plastics

The New Zealand Government is introducing a new nationwide rural recycling scheme that will significantly increase the recovery of farm plastics from March 2027, Minister for the Environment Nicola Grigg recently announced.

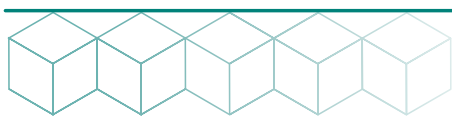
"The new, regulated Rural Recycling Scheme will expand recycling and recovery of agrichemical containers, bale wrap and silage sheet, with a new nationwide take-back system, replacing the current voluntary recycling schemes,"

"The scheme has been designed by industry and - with the support of farmers - will significantly increase the recovery and recycling of farm plastics. It will be managed by the not-for-profit Agrecovery Foundation,"

"We've listened to feedback from farmers and growers who wanted a simple take-back system that is easy to use and can take all the usual plastic farm products into one recycling system."

"The voluntary schemes, operated by Agrecovery and Plasback NZ, currently collect under half of the in-scope plastics that farmers and growers use. The new national system will significantly increase recycling and recovery, and reduce the quantity of farm plastics going to landfills, being buried or burnt on farms."

Read the full announcement here





Opportunity to expand your processing and packaging business in regional NSW

For processing and packaging businesses looking to grow capacity, strengthen supply chains and access new markets, Wagga Wagga's Riverina Intermodal Freight and Logistics (RiFL) Hub offers a compelling regional NSW location.

Positioned in the heart of one of Australia's most productive food and agricultural regions, the RiFL Hub connects manufacturers, processors, packers and distributors to freight infrastructure, serviced industrial land and a supportive investment environment.

Located within the Wagga Wagga Special Activation Precinct (SAP) at Bomen, the precinct is designed to support advanced manufacturing, agribusiness, freight, logistics, cold storage, warehousing, value adding and distribution.

Connected to domestic and export markets

The RiFL Hub is strategically located halfway between Sydney and Melbourne, with the intermodal terminal operations, operated by Visy Logistics, supporting terminal-to-port rail services and access to national and international markets.

Efficient freight movement to Port Botany and the Port of Melbourne can reduce reliance on long-distance road freight and support more cost-effective, sustainable supply chains.

For businesses moving inputs, finished goods, packaging materials or containerised freight, this connectivity is a practical advantage. Wagga Wagga also offers overnight access to a significant share of Australia's population, with road, rail and air links supporting customers



across NSW, Victoria, South Australia and beyond.

Development-ready land with room to grow

Sites within the RiFL Hub are fully serviced and range from approximately 20,000 sqm to 40,000 sqm, with options to consolidate lots for larger operations. This gives businesses flexibility for purpose-built facilities, staged expansion, on-site storage, truck circulation, cold chain infrastructure and future automation.

Rail-adjacent sites also suit businesses that place freight efficiency at the centre of their operating model.

RiFL Hub land costs are significantly lower than many metropolitan industrial markets, helping businesses direct more capital into plant, equipment, technology and workforce development.

Combined with streamlined planning pathways and NSW Government business concierge support, the precinct is designed to reduce complexity and help investors move from enquiry to delivery quickly.

A strong regional economy and skilled workforce

Wagga Wagga is the regional capital of the Riverina and a major service centre for southern NSW, with a diverse economy, a Gross Regional Product of more than \$5.6 billion, a labour force of more than 39,000 people and a growing population.

Key sectors including manufacturing, health, education, public administration, construction and agriculture provide a broad employment base and support business confidence.



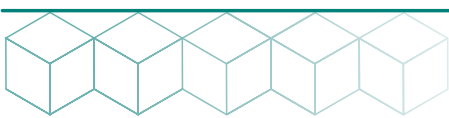
The city is supported by education and training providers, quality health services, defence establishments and a strong local business network. For employers, Wagga Wagga offers regional city lifestyle advantages including affordable living, schools, parks, sport, cultural facilities and convenient air connections to Sydney and Melbourne.

Built for processing, packaging and value adding

The Riverina is recognised for its strength in agriculture and food production, making Wagga Wagga a natural location for businesses that process, package or distribute agricultural and food-related products.

Locating close to production areas can reduce inbound freight costs, improve responsiveness to customers and suppliers, and support greater value adding within the region.

Whether expanding a metropolitan facility, establishing a regional production base, seeking



export pathways or building a more resilient supply chain, the RiFL Hub provides a practical platform for long-term growth.

With serviced land, intermodal freight access, government support and proximity to one of Australia's strongest agricultural regions, Wagga Wagga is ready to help your business move, make, pack and deliver more.

Enquire now

To discuss available sites, investment opportunities and support for establishing in Wagga Wagga's RiFL Hub, enquire now:

Ben Creighton, Manager, City Growth & Projects:

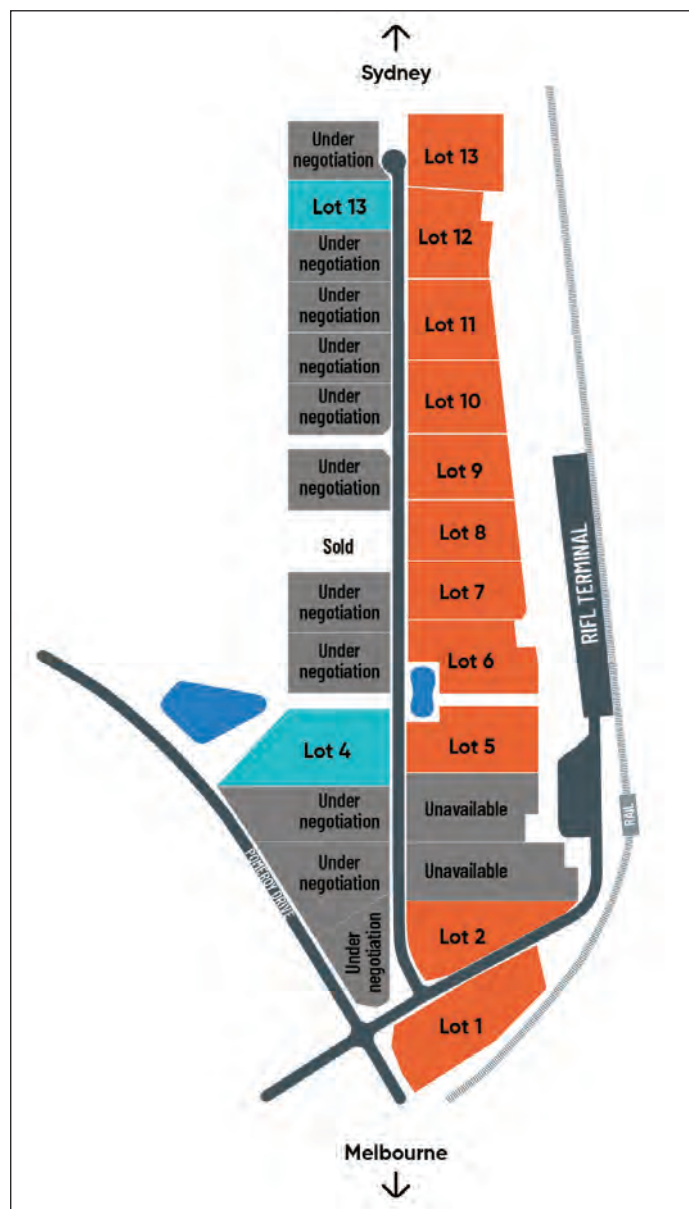
E: Creighton.ben@wagga.nsw.gov.au
M: 0400 380 618 or

Ann Sutton, Economic Development & Investment Attraction Co-ordinator:

E: Sutton.ann@wagga.nsw.gov.au
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What I want a packaging specification to tell me

By Aida Rejzovic, founder of Sassy Organics

When I look at a new packaging material, I want to understand how it will work in our business. Can it protect the products we send? What does it contain? What information can I rely on when deciding whether to order a sample or use it for customer deliveries?

Those questions come from running Sassy Organics, a Melbourne-based online store I founded in 2016. We now stock more than 3,000 products across several categories, including beauty and personal care. Our dispatch system uses cardboard cartons and paper protection,

and our orders can include fragile glass as well as compact, less vulnerable items.

A useful packaging specification connects the supplier's technical knowledge with those everyday decisions. It gives a retailer enough information to assess a material within its intended application and recognise when further advice is needed.

Identify the exact item

The first detail I would look for is a clear description of the item being supplied. A product name, code and specification date help connect



the document with the sample and the eventual purchase. This becomes particularly useful when a supplier offers several similar formats or revises an existing product.

Dimensions also need context. A carton buyer needs to understand whether measurements are internal or external. A buyer comparing rolls of protective material needs to know what quantity is supplied and how the material is intended to be prepared for use.

For example, a honeycomb paper wrap changes shape as it is expanded. Information about that preparation helps explain what the retailer will handle at the bench. It also gives a better basis for a sample trial than a product photograph on its own.

None of this requires a long document. The value comes from making the information precise enough that the supplier and retailer are discussing the same item in the same condition.

Describe the complete material

A specification should make it possible to understand more than the main material named in the description. Where relevant, I would want to know about coatings, liners or other components that could affect how the item is used or recovered.

Recycled-content information needs the same clarity. A percentage is more useful when it states which part of the packaging it describes and the basis for the figure. If a claim applies to one component, the retailer needs to be able to retain that qualification when explaining it.

The Sustainable Packaging Design guidelines offer a framework for considering functionality and sustainability together. The information supplied for an individual item is what helps a purchaser apply those considerations to a specific choice.

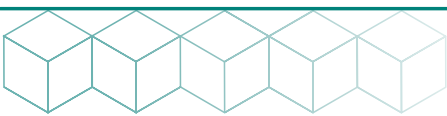


I would also welcome a clear way to ask about anything the specification leaves unresolved. A named technical contact or an enquiry route can help a small business obtain the right answer without trying to interpret unfamiliar terminology by itself.

Explain the application and its limits

In a mixed beauty order, wrapping an individual glass bottle and stabilising the space around several products are different tasks. A material suitable for one may need to be combined with something else to produce a workable parcel.

At Sassy Organics, we use honeycomb paper for vulnerable items and paper void fill where needed. That makes intended use a particularly useful part of a specification. I want to understand what the supplier expects the material to do, how to use it and which conditions require further assessment.



Illustrated instructions or a short demonstration can help here. For a protective wrap, it may be useful to see the preparation and application steps. For a dispenser, I would want to understand the space and handling requirements before deciding how it might fit into the packing area.

Where performance information is available, it should describe the conditions of the assessment. A result obtained with a particular product, carton or packing arrangement gives the retailer a starting point. The next question is how closely those conditions resemble the orders the retailer needs to send.

Make a sample trial informative

A specification can help a retailer get more from a sample by suggesting what to observe. That might include whether the material stays in the intended position, how readily it can be applied and whether the completed parcel has the protection the contents need.

For a business planning a trial, I would suggest using representative order types and keeping the packing arrangement consistent enough to understand what changed. The supplier should be able to advise whether the chosen examples are appropriate for the material.

Handling matters as well as the finished parcel. A material might require a different preparation step or dispenser. Knowing that beforehand helps the business assess the work involved and the support required for whoever will use it.

This is an opportunity for a useful conversation between supplier and customer. The retailer brings knowledge of its orders and workspace. The supplier brings knowledge of the material and its intended application. A good specification gives that conversation a clear starting point.

Include the information needed after delivery

Customers see the packaging after its first journey. Any reuse or recovery guidance supplied with it should be specific enough to help them understand the next step.

I would want to know whether components should be separated and whether a recovery claim depends on a particular service or facility. A general description cannot establish that every customer has access to the same collection arrangements.

The information should also remain tied to the exact item. Guidance for an outer carton does not automatically apply to the bottle, pump or lid inside it. Keeping those distinctions clear helps retailers avoid carrying a claim beyond the packaging it describes.

A useful specification ultimately reduces uncertainty at several points: choosing a sample, evaluating it in a parcel, placing an order and answering a question later. For a small retailer, access to that information makes a packaging change easier to assess and discuss. It allows the business to draw on the supplier's expertise while making a decision suited to its own products and customers.

About the author

Aida Rejzovic is the founder of Sassy Organics, a trusted Melbourne-based toxin-free online store established in 2016. The business offers more than 3,000 carefully selected natural, organic, vegan and cruelty-free products.



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Please read the latest interview with Vice President Sustainability & Save Food, for the WPO, Nerida Kelton by DLG e.V. - German Agricultural Society for the Anuga FoodTec magazine where they discussed the Australasian Institute of Packaging developed Save Food Packaging Design guidelines, how they are being globalised by the WPO World Packaging Organisation Foundation FSSC SAVE FOOD Initiative, FAO, UNIDO Food Business, Wageningen University & Research and more.



Nerida Kelton FAIP
Vice President
- Sustainability & Save Food
World Packaging Organisation



AIP Australasian Institute of Packaging

AIP SAVE FOOD PACKAGING DESIGN CRITERIA GUIDELINES

Designing packaging that protects food, reduces waste and delivers better outcomes for people and the planet.

SAVE FOOD
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AIP in collaboration with
World Packaging Organisation (WPO)
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1 DESIGN TO CONTAIN & PROTECT THE PRODUCT	2 DESIGN TO PRESERVE & EXTEND SHELF LIFE	3 DESIGN TO PROVIDE CONSUMER CONVENIENCE	4 DESIGN TO COMMUNICATE TO CONSUMERS	5 DESIGN TO BALANCE FOOD & PACKAGING WASTE TARGETS
 Protect food from physical damage, contamination and spoilage throughout manufacturing, transport, warehousing and distribution.	 Maintain food quality, freshness and nutritional value for as long as possible to reduce spoilage and extend shelf life.	 Make packaging easy and convenient to open, use, reseal, portion and empty to help reduce food waste in the home.	 Provide clear, accurate and helpful information to support better storage, preparation and use of food.	 Optimise packaging to minimise both food waste and packaging waste across the entire lifecycle.
 Consider the entire supply chain – from producer to consumer. Design for strength, stability, tamper evidence and safe delivery.	 Use appropriate materials and technologies such as barrier, MAP, vacuum, active and intelligent packaging.	 Design for ease of use, portion control and features that help consumers store and enjoy food with less waste.	 Include storage, preparation and date-label guidance, leftovers ideas, reuse information and recycling instructions. Use QR codes for more.	 Use life cycle thinking to balance environmental impacts. Preventing food waste delivers greater environmental benefit.



The best packaging is the **right balance** – enough to protect food, less to protect the planet.



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SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Packaging plays a fundamental and integral role, if designed intuitively at the start, to minimise food loss and waste across the value chain. The Save Food packaging design guidelines will help you on this journey.

Nerida will also be speaking at Anuga FoodTec 2027 about this very topic (Cologne 23-26 Feb 2027), and she will be on the WPO stand all week so please come and join the WPO.

The Save Food Packaging Design Guidelines are a practical set of guidelines that help packaging designers, manufacturers, and brands reduce food waste through smart packaging. They bridge the gap between preventing food loss and achieving global sustainability goals. Nerida Kelton, Executive Director of the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP), Vice President for Sustainability & Save Food at the World

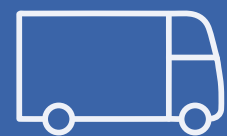


SAVE FOOD PACKAGING DESIGN CRITERIA GUIDELINES

1

DESIGN TO CONTAIN & PROTECT THE PRODUCT

FROM SPOILAGE & DAMAGE THROUGH MANUFACTURING, WAREHOUSING & VARIOUS STAGES OF DISTRIBUTION



2

DESIGN TO PRESERVE & EXTEND SHELF LIFE

& ENHANCE PRODUCT APPEAL



3

DESIGN TO PROVIDE CONSUMER CONVENIENCE

TO NOT WASTE FOOD DURING HANDLING IN THE HOUSEHOLD



4

DESIGN TO COMMUNICATE TO CONSUMERS

& PROMOTE HOW TO HANDLE, STORE, PREPARE & REUSE FOOD PRODUCTS



5

DESIGN TO BALANCE FOOD & PACKAGING WASTE TARGETS FOR OPTIMAL PACKAGING



Developed By



Globalised By



Packaging Organisation (WPO), and WPO representative for the SAVE FOOD Initiative, explains in an interview how companies can use the guidelines to specifically design more sustainable packaging and thereby make a measurable contribution to reducing food loss.

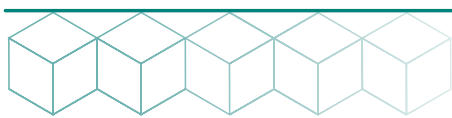
Could you provide us with a technical overview of the Save Food Packaging Design Guidelines and explain the development approach?

Nerida: The Save Food Packaging Design Guidelines are a systematically developed, scientifically sound guide for the targeted reduction of food waste through optimised packaging design. They were developed by the Australasian Institute of Packaging in partnership with RMIT University and End Food Waste Australia. They are now being globalised by the World Packaging Institute in collaboration with international research partners in the fields of packaging technology, food science, and sustainability.

The approach is based on the analysis of critical loss points along the product lifecycle – from transport and storage to use and disposal. Packaging is understood not merely as a container, but as a functional system that integrates mechanical, chemical, and microbiological product protection, usability, and information transfer. The goal was to translate these findings into clearly structured, technically feasible design principles, that any sized business can embed into their design processes.

What technical priorities do the Save Food Packaging Design guidelines for reducing food waste focus on?

Nerida: A key focus is on the protective function of packaging. The Save Food Packaging Design guidelines define requirements for mechanical stability, barrier properties against oxygen, moisture, and light, as well as protection against contamination, pests, and climatic influences during transport and storage. This includes addressing material and design solutions that extend shelf life without creating unnecessary outer packaging.



Furthermore, the Save Food Packaging Design guidelines emphasise functional aspects such as resealability, portion control, and intelligent opening and dispensing systems. These design features are crucial for minimising waste at the final consumer level, especially with multi-portion or long-life products. Additionally, the guidelines consider the use of active and intelligent packaging technologies, for example, for quality control or improved expiration date marking.

What role do targeted consumer information and on-pack communication play from a technical perspective?

Nerida: Misunderstandings by consumers are among the most frequent causes of avoidable food waste. The Save Food Packaging Design guidelines specifically address this problem by requiring clear, unambiguous, and user-centred on-pack communication. This includes easily legible storage and usage instructions, clear resealing instructions, and understandable explanations of best-before and use-by dates.

The integration of this information into the overall packaging design is technically relevant, for example, through structured information hierarchies, robust printing solutions, or digital enhancements. The guidelines thus consider information and communication as a functional component of the packaging that directly contributes to extending shelf life and preventing waste.

How do the Save Food Packaging Design guidelines address the conflict between food waste prevention and sustainability?

Nerida: A key principle of the Save Food Packaging Design Guidelines is the systemic approach to sustainability. Packaging design is always considered in relation to the food being protected. The guidelines make it clear that the environmental

footprint of the packaging is, in many cases, significantly smaller than that of the discarded food.

Accordingly, the guidelines recommend solutions that prevent food waste while simultaneously considering recyclability, material reduction, and separability. These include mono-material-based barrier concepts, recyclable closures, and design-for-recycling approaches. The goal is to provide companies with a sound, expert basis for decision-making, in order to enable them to design packaging that meets both regulatory sustainability goals and functional protection requirements.

How can companies practically implement the Save Food Packaging Design Guidelines? Are they supported by you in this, or do they have to rely on their own expertise?

Nerida: The Save Food Packaging Design guidelines are intentionally designed to be applicable independently and to integrate seamlessly into existing development, quality, and innovation processes. They serve as a structured reference framework for packaging development, quality management, and sustainability assessment, and can be used in early design phases as well as for optimising existing solutions. At the same time, companies are not left to their own devices.

The Save Food Packaging Design Guidelines are part of an accompanying knowledge transfer ecosystem from the World Packaging Institute, from the Australasian Institute of Packaging and supported globally by the World Packaging Institute and its 66 member countries, which includes professional exchange, practical formats, and assessment and benchmarking tools. The goal is to actively support companies in implementing effective, sustainable packaging concepts.



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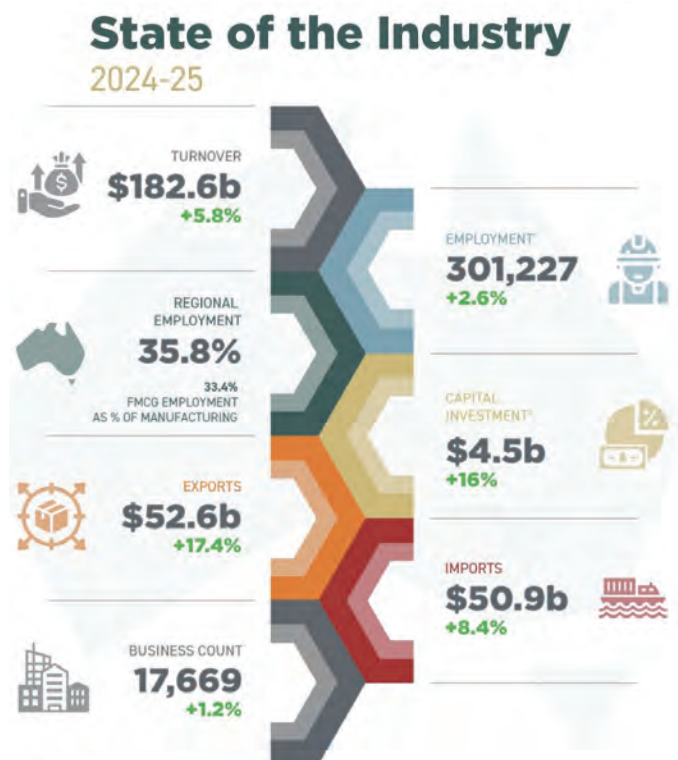
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The Australian Food and Grocery Council launched the State of Industry report at the APEX Summit in Melbourne

The Australian Food and Grocery Council launched the State of Industry report at the APEX Summit in Melbourne held on the 27th of August 2026. The AIP Australasian Institute of Packaging are proud to be a Member of the AFGC.

The State of the Industry is the Australian Food and Grocery Council's yearly assessment of how the country's FMCG sector is performing.

Drawing on the latest official data, it brings together the numbers that matter: turnover, the value the sector adds to the economy, the people it employs, the businesses that make it up, what it invests, and how it trades with the world.

It is the definitive annual stocktake of the sector that turns Australia's farm output into the food on the nation's tables. The report enables you to explore the performance of Australia's food, beverage and grocery manufacturing sector.

Key statistics for the Australian Food, Beverage & Grocery Sector:

- Australia's largest manufacturing sector
- 303,227 people employed in the food and grocery industry in Australia
- 17,669 Businesses
- \$182.6 billion turnover
- 52.6 billion in exports
- 35.8 % regional employment

Explore the latest State of the Industry report





301,227 JOBS

- More than a third of these jobs are in regional communities
- Behind every product on the shelf is a person helping to make it



\$182.6 billion

in turnover or value

- The annual turnover in the food and grocery manufacturing sector
- The sector generates around \$500 million every day



\$52.6 billion

in exports

- The value of our sector's exports is up 17% from a year prior
- Export growth outpaced import growth



\$4.5 billion

in capital investments

- Investment jumped 16% in 2024-25 as manufacturers backed Australia
- The strongest signal of business confidence

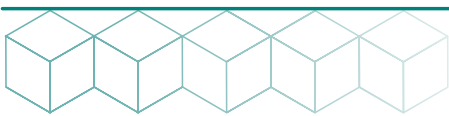


17,669

number of businesses in the sector

• One industry, thousands of businesses

• Powering jobs, exports and investment across Australia.

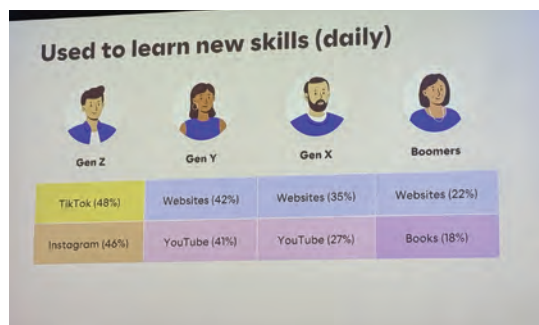




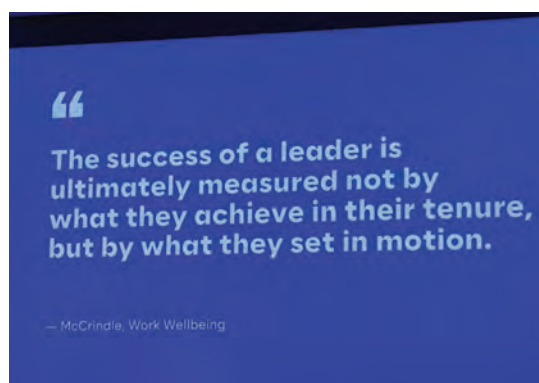
▲ AIP Executive Director, Nerida Kelton FAIP, presenting on EPR and Sustainability.

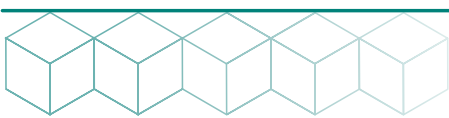


▲ AFGC Chairman, Bernie Brooks AM and AFGC CEO, Colm Maguire



▲ AIP members Matthew Chester MAIP and Mihika Khetarpal AAIP







End Food Waste Australia on why food waste management is a business advantage

With a rising focus on sustainability, End Food Waste Australia believes food waste should be treated as a business priority.

For Australia's food and beverage manufacturers, food waste is often viewed through the lens of sustainability. However, according to End Food Waste Australia (EFWA) Chief Executive Officer Wendy Hughes, that perspective is changing across the industry. According to Hughes, the treatment of food waste is equally a business issue and an environmental responsibility.



“The amount of efficiency that is lost because ingredients are not utilised to turn it into other products can be a drag on efficiency and productivity,” said Hughes.

Food waste currently represents an estimated 1.4 per cent of Australia's GDP.

As food manufacturers face a wall of increasing operating costs and labour shortages, reducing food waste is emerging as one of the few business levers companies can directly control.

“We're really starting to move towards the language around managing your food waste as a competitive advantage,” she added.

End Food Waste Australia data shows that food waste currently represents an estimated 1.4 per cent of Australia's GDP, highlighting the scale of its economic impact across the supply chain.

Hughes noted that agriculture contributes around 2.2 per cent to GDP, illustrating how much value is lost through avoidable waste before food reaches consumers.



Much of that waste is hidden within normal business operations.

“If food waste isn’t measured, treated as part of business operations or understood to be a key efficiency measure, it’s just not visible and it doesn’t get acted on,” Hughes said.

Relying on old data

One of the biggest barriers facing manufacturers is simply understanding where waste occurs. While many businesses focus on production output, Hughes said food waste often goes unnoticed because it is rarely measured with the same attention given to labour, energy or raw material costs.

Without accurate measurement, businesses struggle to identify opportunities for improvement or justify investment in new equipment, packaging or production processes.

Current national food waste data is based on research conducted between 2019 and 2021, meaning governments and industry continue to make decisions using information that is now several years old. According to Hughes, this creates uncertainty for manufacturers considering long term investments.



“We’ve had policy interventions to help try and shift behaviour, but what we haven’t done is map what’s actually been achieved,” she said. “Without that updated measurement report, we’ve got no line of sight on what’s worked and what hasn’t.”

Hughes explained that updated national data would provide confidence for both governments and businesses by helping align future investment with current policy settings.

The cost of inaction

Food manufacturers face numerous challenges when attempting to reduce waste. Changing production lines or introducing new packaging systems can require substantial capital investment, while contractual obligations throughout the supply chain often limit flexibility.

“Businesses have contractual obligations from producers to provide ingredients to the manufacturer, and then the manufacturer has contractual obligations to retailers to provide product on shelf,” Hughes said. “Once those contracts are embedded and in place, it can be difficult and costly to change how that looks.”

Limited internal resources also make progress difficult. Without someone responsible for driving waste reduction initiatives, projects can easily lose momentum as businesses prioritise more immediate operational demands.

Regulatory uncertainty adds another layer of complexity. As national food waste data has not been updated, some states are developing their own policies independently. Hughes said this creates challenges for manufacturers operating across multiple jurisdictions, where differing requirements increase complexity and investment risk.



Hughes says managing food waste is a competitive advantage.

“A national manufacturer might have their head office located in New South Wales, but their manufacturing facilities in Queensland. Which policy levers do they need to comply with?” she said.

“An updated national baseline report can help smooth that out.”

Food safety and waste go hand in hand

Packaging plays a vital role in extending shelf life while protecting product quality throughout distribution. While being one of the most effective tools for reducing food waste, Hughes highlighted that packaging is often misunderstood by consumers.

It’s an incredibly important part of the manufacturing process for minimising food waste,” she said. “It is about using packaging that protects the food, maintains regulatory food safety standards, but that’s also sustainable at end of life.”

In response, End Food Waste Australia CRC (EFW CRC) and RMIT University launched the Food and Beverage Small and Medium Enterprise Packaging and Machinery Solution Centre. It aims to provide independent, research-based support to SMEs transitioning to reusable, recyclable and compostable packaging and processing solutions while maintaining product quality and shelf life. As a collaboration between RMIT, EFWA, the Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP), the Australian Packaging and Processing Machinery Association (APPMa) and Tetra Pak, the centre helps manufacturers reduce the risks of changing packaging systems and improve sustainability without compromising product protection.

Innovations that improve shelf life while maintaining food safety standards will become increasingly important as manufacturers balance environmental expectations with commercial realities.

Goodman Fielder

One example of this approach comes from Goodman Fielder, who investigated where waste was occurring throughout its bread supply chain.

Rather than treating returned bread and production losses as waste, the company identified an opportunity to convert surplus bread into breadcrumbs for sale as an ingredient to other manufacturers.

“They tracked every part of their losses across their own supply chain,” Hughes said. “They actually identified opportunities to pull all of that together as a new ingredient.”

The result was the equivalent of 1.3 million loaves of bread retained within the food system over a single year. Hughes stated this approach demonstrates how manufacturers can unlock new value by understanding where losses occur and identifying opportunities for collaboration across the supply chain.

“It used to go to landfill,” she said. “It’s now an ingredient that helps to keep it in the human consumption supply chain.”

By working with businesses like Goodman Fielder through a range of services tailored to different stages of their food waste journey, the organisation also connects manufacturers with research partners, technology providers and other businesses facing similar challenges, creating opportunities for pre-competitive collaboration across the industry.



One of its more detailed offerings is the ‘Walk the Line’ program, where technical specialists work directly with manufacturers to identify where waste occurs across production.

“We literally walk the chain and look at what is going on, identify hotspots, identify ingredients that can potentially be saved, recovered, and look at opportunities to retool the line,” Hughes said.

Part of everyday operations

When asked what she would like to see more of from Australian food and beverage businesses, Hughes emphasised the need to change perspectives around sustainability.

“We want to see businesses understanding and engaging with the fact that food waste is not just a sustainability issue – it’s a productivity and efficiency issue,” she said.

As cost pressures continue across the food and beverage sector, manufacturers are looking for ways to improve productivity without compromising food safety or product quality.

By treating food waste as a business performance indicator rather than simply an environmental outcome, manufacturers can create lasting value across the entire food system.

“Managing food waste is a competitive advantage and business lever that can be managed and acted on,” said Hughes. “We’re certainly here to help support that in whatever way suits the business at that point in time.”



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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.



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Fibre finds new form

Fibre packaging innovation is evolving beyond the search for alternatives to plastic, with Australia's leading developers now focused on designing solutions that work across the entire packaging system. **Lindy Hughson** reports.



REPLACING PLASTIC IS no longer the end goal for fibre packaging. A panel convened during foodpro argued the next generation of fibre solutions will be defined by systems thinking – balancing product protection, automation, recyclability and commercial reality.

That message emerged strongly at an Australasian Institute of Packaging (AIP) panel discussion during foodpro, where moderator Keith Chessell guided a conversation exploring the opportunities and challenges shaping the future of fibre-based packaging.

Bringing together Mark Rohrlach, regional manager – Asia & Australasia at Detpak; Ola Wicik, packaging engineer at Opal; and David Kilpatrick, managing director of Zipform Packaging, the discussion highlighted how advances in fibre technology are increasingly being driven by collaboration across the supply chain rather than by materials innovation alone.

Throughout the session, Chessell returned to the importance of designing packaging as part of a broader system, challenging panellists to explain not only how their products perform, but how they integrate with existing production lines, logistics networks, recycling systems and consumer expectations.

That systems approach was evident across each of the innovations discussed.

For Detpak, fibre innovation in fresh produce has centred on helping growers reduce their reliance on plastic while maintaining the speed and efficiency of automated packing lines. Rohrlach said new solutions must meet sustainability expectations without compromising food protection or operational performance.

“The packaging development team has to deliver options that also survive the supply chain, survive all the existing filling lines, and also present the product that’s going into it exceptionally well,” he said.

Detpak’s fibre tomato punnet, developed in collaboration with Perfection Fresh, illustrates that philosophy. Rather than simply replacing an existing plastic pack, the project required modifications to automated equipment, multiple production trials and close collaboration between engineering teams before reaching supermarket shelves.

“When you’ve got somebody that wants to make that change, it’s a far easier journey because they’re willing to accept those challenges as they come along – all part of the new product development journey,” Rohrlach said.

“We don’t want to make corrugated work harder. We want it to work a lot smarter.”

OLA WICIK, OPAL

Opal’s Arctic Shield insulated fibre carton reflects a similarly holistic approach. Originally developed as an alternative to expanded polystyrene for seafood and other cold chain applications, the latest generation has been redesigned to meet more demanding transport requirements, including longer cold chain performance and leak-proof construction.

Wicik said customer expectations

had shifted beyond simple material substitution.

"We had to really reconsider the entire packaging system and redesign what we already had, but redesign it to be fit for purpose for those new restrictions," she said.

Looking ahead, she suggested corrugated packaging's future will depend less on breakthrough materials than on smarter engineering, lightweighting and optimising packaging throughout the supply chain.

"We don't want to make corrugated work harder. We want it to work a lot smarter," Wicik said.

The broader theme of collaboration also featured strongly throughout the discussion.

Wicik argued that packaging is too often considered at the end of product development, despite influencing manufacturing, automation, transport, retail handling and the consumer experience.

"The greatest success from our customers will be those who really understand that packaging is a part of their entire system, not just an afterthought," she said.

Chessell reinforced the point, drawing on decades of experience in packaging development to encourage brand owners to involve packaging suppliers much earlier in the design process. Better outcomes, he said, come when packaging, equipment and product development teams work together from the outset.

Innovation is also being driven by advances in fibre converting technologies. Kilpatrick outlined Zipform's work in linear forming and its recent partnership with

100% kerbside recyclable is strong selling point for fibre

PulPac to develop dry moulded fibre applications, including high-barrier meat trays without a separate plastic layer – technology PKN has previously reported on.

Comparing dry moulded fibre to conventional wet moulding, Kilpatrick said, "It offers a lot of benefits, but first and foremost, it's much less energy intensive and much less water-use intensive, and much faster... and it offers greater design flexibility."

Recyclability, recycled content and evolving PFAS requirements also featured prominently during the session, with panellists emphasising that sustainability outcomes depend on balancing fibre recovery, food safety, barrier performance and practical manufacturing considerations.

While the innovations showcased differed in application – from fresh produce and seafood to meat packaging and paper bottles – they shared a common direction.

The discussion made clear that fibre innovation is no longer about replacing one material with another. Future success will depend on designing packaging as part of a complete system that balances product performance, manufacturing efficiency, recyclability and commercial viability. ■



From top:

Detpak's Auto Punnet for tomatoes, developed for Perfection Fresh.

Zipform's dry moulded fibre meat tray made under licence to PulPac.

Opal's insulated fibre alternative to EPS.

Main: Fibre-focused panel (l-r): David Kilpatrick of Zipform Packaging; Ola Wicik of Opal; Mark Rohrlach of Detpak; and moderator Keith Chessell, of AIP.

Far left: Mark Rohrlach and Keith Chessell concur on a systems approach.

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PIDA winners reflect packaging's next chapter

The winners of the 2026 PIDA Awards reveal an industry moving beyond incremental packaging improvements towards solutions that integrate circularity, usability, accessibility and digital functionality. **Lindy Hughson** writes

ORGANISED BY THE Australasian Institute of Packaging, the Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design (PIDA) awards recognise packaging innovation across Australia and New Zealand. Held in Melbourne on 28 July, to coincide with the foodpro 2026 exhibition, this year's awards showcased innovations spanning consumer packaging, industrial applications, sustainability initiatives and professional excellence. All category winners are now eligible to represent Australia and New Zealand in the 2027 WorldStar Packaging Awards.

A clear pattern emerged across the winning entries, reflecting trends we've seen playing out in the wider packaging industry. The strongest takeout is that circular economy thinking has progressed beyond material substitution alone, with greater emphasis on reuse models, design for recovery and closed-loop recycling. Also notable is that consumer convenience and accessibility have become central design considerations, while digital functionality and traceability are increasingly being integrated into packaging solutions rather than treated as optional extras.

But perhaps the most enduring message from this year's awards is that



Above: Industry Packaging Professional of the Year, David Kilpatrick shares wisdom with emcees Zaidee Jackson and Damian Watson.

Right: PIDA 2026 winners celebrate en masse.

Opposite: Young Packaging Professional of the Year, Pooja Ganesh Nayak.





...perhaps the most enduring message from this year's awards is that sustainability is no longer a category in its own right. Instead, it has become an expectation that underpins good packaging design across virtually every category.

sustainability is no longer a category in its own right. Instead, it has become an expectation that underpins good packaging design across virtually every category.

In the Food Packaging category, top honours went to Primo Foods and Amcor Flexibles for a peel-and-reseal sliced meats pack that combines improved consumer functionality with a 10 per cent reduction in plastic and a recycle-ready mono-material PET structure. In Beverage Packaging, Graphic Packaging International and Asahi Beverages were recognised for replacing traditional shrink wrap with a kerbside recyclable fibre-based wrap for Carlton Dry six-packs, demonstrating how fibre continues to replace plastic where it delivers both environmental and operational benefits.

Health, Beauty & Wellness winner Impact International demonstrated another important trend – designing packaging for recyclability from the outset. Its mono-material HDPE tube and cap range replaces the traditional PE/PP combination with a single-material

L-R: Gold in the Save Food category went to Bird's Eye's resealable freezer pack, while Caps & Closure's Honey Squeeze Pack took Gold in Sustainable Packaging – Design for Recovery.

solution incorporating Australian-made post-consumer recycled content, allowing both components to enter the HDPE recycling stream together.

In the Domestic & Household category, Yates Group's Click & Grow Garden Care System showed how packaging design is also improving safety and usability, with a contact-free refill system that eliminates direct handling of garden chemicals while making controlled dispensing easier for consumers.

Another characteristic shared by many of this year's winners is that



And the 2026 winners are...

- **Food Packaging Design** – Primo Sliced Meats Peel & Reseal Pack – Primo Foods & Amcor Flexibles
- **Beverage Packaging Design** – Asahi Carlton Dry 6x330ml Bottle Shrink Replacement Wrap – Graphic Packaging International & Asahi Beverages
- **Health, Beauty & Wellness Packaging Design** – Mono-material HDPE tube & cap range – Impact International
- **Domestic & Household Packaging Design** – Click & Grow Garden Care System – Yates Group
- **Labelling & Decoration Design** – RePlay Returnables – Bonson Packaging
- **Outside of the Box Design** – Milk Bottle Recycling System – Popit Recycling, Martogg & Procal Dairies
- **Marketing Design** – RePlay Returnables – Bonson Packaging
- **Accessible & Inclusive Packaging Design** – Betty & Margie adaptive makeup tools & accessible mailer box – ByStorm Beauty
- **Save Food Packaging Design** – Birds Eye Frozen Single Vegetables 825g Range – Simplot
- **Sustainable Packaging** – Resource Reduction – Ecomark Natural Branding – Costa Group, Result Group & The Packaging Hippie
- **Sustainable Packaging** – Reuse – RePlay Returnables – Bonson Packaging
- **Sustainable Packaging** – Recycled Content – ReCree8 PCR Pallet Wrap Range – thinkpac
- **Sustainable Packaging** – Design for Recovery – Honey Squeeze Pack – Caps & Closures
- **Sustainable Packaging** – Innovations in Resource Recovery – Smart Circular Satchel – Australia Post, iQRenew, RollsPack & Signet
- **Young Packaging Professional of the Year** – Pooja Ganesh Nayak – Coles
- **Industry Packaging Professional of the Year** – David Kilpatrick – Zipform Packaging
- **Packaging Technologist of the Year** – Christopher Cester – Flavour Makers
- **ABA Scholarship** – Certificate in Packaging – Andrew Rennie – Oji Fibre Solutions New Zealand
- **ABA Scholarship** – Diploma in Packaging Technology – Ola Wicik – Opal Fibre Packaging Australia
- **AIP President Scholarship** – Diploma in Packaging Technology – Wilsen Kannan – Vinda Malaysia



Top: Gold in Domestic & Household, Click & Grow Garden Care System, Yates Group

Above left: Packaging Technologist of the Year, Chris Cester.

Above right: Gold in Accessible & Inclusive Design, ByStorm Beauty's adaptive makeup tools & accessible mailer box.

Left: Gold in Sustainable Packaging – Resource Reduction, Ecomark Natural Branding.

they solve multiple challenges simultaneously. Rather than addressing sustainability, usability or marketing as separate objectives, the strongest entries combine them into integrated packaging solutions.

Bonson Packaging's RePlay Returnables system (read more on page 18 of this issue) exemplifies that approach. Recognised across multiple award categories (scoring gold for Labelling & Decoration, Marketing and Sustainable Packaging Design – Reuse), it combines durable reusable containers with digital identification, consumer engagement and product traceability to create a packaging system that extends well beyond the pack itself. Likewise, the Honey Squeeze Pack from Caps & Closures was recognised across several categories (earning gold in Sustainable Packaging – Design for Recovery) for bringing together recyclability, recycled

content, accessibility and consumer-friendly dispensing in a single design.

Accessibility also emerged as a defining theme. ByStorm Beauty received the Accessible & Inclusive Packaging Design award for adaptive beauty tools and packaging developed in collaboration with people living with disability. The judges recognised not only the products themselves, but an accessible unboxing experience incorporating intuitive opening features, braille and multiple information formats, reinforcing the industry's growing recognition that good packaging should work for the broadest possible range of consumers.

Food waste reduction remains another key focus. Simplot's redesigned Birds Eye frozen vegetable packaging was recognised with gold in the Save Food Packaging Design category for incorporating resealable functionality that helps reduce product spillage, supports portion control and encourages consumers to return unused product to the freezer rather than discard it.

The Sustainable Packaging Design category reflected the diversity of approaches now being taken across the industry. Rather than recognising a single winner, the judges awarded projects across five sustainability principles – resource reduction (Costa Group, Result Group & The Packaging Hippy), reuse (Bonson Packaging), recycled content (thinkpac), design for recovery (Caps & Closures), and innovations in resource recovery (Australia Post, iQRenew, RollsPack & Signet) – illustrating that meaningful sustainability outcomes are now being pursued through multiple, complementary pathways.

Several winning projects also demonstrated the growing importance of systems thinking beyond individual packaging formats. The Milk Bottle Recycling System developed by Popit Recycling, Martogg and Procal Dairies combines collection, on-site recycling and material reuse into a closed-loop model designed to improve both economics and traceability. It scored gold in the Outside of the Box category. Meanwhile, the Smart Circular Satchel – developed by Australia Post in partnership with iQRenew, RollsPack and Signet – showcases collaboration across the value chain to create an onshore circular solution for recovered household soft plastics.

Alongside the product awards, the PIDA program also recognised the people driving packaging innovation.

Awards for young professionals, packaging technologists and industry leaders, together with scholarships supporting technical education, reinforce the importance of developing industry capability alongside new packaging technologies.

The annual scholarship program provides opportunities for packaging professionals to undertake formal education through the Certificate in Packaging and Diploma in Packaging Technology.

The Australasian Bioplastics association (ABA) partners with AIP, supporting the scholarships every year. Andrew Rennie of Oji Fibre Solutions New Zealand received the ABA Scholarship for a Certificate in Packaging, while the ABA Scholarship for the Diploma in Packaging Technology was awarded to Ola Wicik, packaging engineer at Opal Fibre Packaging Australia.

The AIP President Scholarship was awarded to Wilsen Kannan, assistant packaging manager at Vinda Malaysia.

Across the board, this year's winners show that packaging innovation is increasingly measured not by a single breakthrough, but by how effectively a solution balances multiple demands. The strongest entries combine functionality with sustainability, improve the consumer experience, and support more circular systems – demonstrating that the next chapter of packaging design is about solving connected challenges, not isolated ones.

To read more about the company and individual winners in each category, head to packagingnews.com.au and search 'PIDA 2026'.



Above: Gold in Food – Amcor and Primo Foods; Gold in Beverage – Graphic Packaging International and Asahi Beverages.

Below: Andrew Rennie (left) and Ola Wicik (right) have won fully funded places to study towards formal packaging qualifications, presented by Martine Poulain, CEO, ABA (centre).



Special Honours

Packaging educator Ralph Moyle and BioPak co-founder Richard Fine have received the Australasian Institute of Packaging's highest forms of recognition, acknowledging their long-standing contributions to the packaging profession.

Ralph Moyle was awarded AIP Life Membership, an honour bestowed only eight times in the Institute's 63-year history. The Institute recognised his decades of work educating and mentoring packaging professionals throughout Asia and Australasia, together with his leadership in sustainable packaging design, recyclability assessment, circular economy principles and professional development.

Richard Fine was elevated to Fellow of the AIP in recognition of his role pioneering compostable foodservice packaging in Australia and helping establish Compost Connect, the national initiative connecting businesses with commercial composting services. The Institute recognised his contribution to advancing commercially viable compostable packaging solutions and promoting circular economy outcomes across the foodservice sector.

The AIP's Special Awards recognise individuals who have made outstanding and sustained contributions to the packaging industry through technical excellence, innovation, education and leadership.



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BIENNIAL

Awards Night & Sector Forum

Putting circularity to work.

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

Date: 1st December

Where: Sydney (Venue to be announced)

Sector Forum: 10am - 3:30pm

Awards Night: 6pm - 10pm

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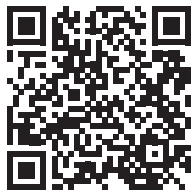
AIP Australasian Office

+61 7 3278 4490

info@aipack.com.au

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