

2024

APCO ANNUAL AWARDS



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Explore the Future of Packaging with Our Finalists

CEO Foreword

On behalf of the APCO team, I am thrilled to congratulate the 2024 APCO Awards finalists. This year, in collaboration with the Banksia Foundation, we celebrate the remarkable achievements of 55 organisations across eight sustainable packaging categories. Your tireless commitment to advancing the circularity of packaging systems is commendable.

We are in the midst of a once-in-a-generation opportunity to drive meaningful change, reduce environmental impacts of packaging, and create new economic pathways. Your leadership continues to pave the way for a stronger, more sustainable future, and we are incredibly proud to stand with you on this journey.

Thank you for your dedication and hard work throughout another exceptional year.



Cheers,

Chris Foley
CEO

CONTENTS

BANKSIA FOUNDATION PARTNERSHIP	4
OUR PACKAGING FUTURE AWARD FINALISTS	5
ARL EXCELLENCE AWARD	6
EDUCATION AWARD	12
IMPROVED RECYCLING SYSTEM AWARD	16
RECYCLED CONTENT AWARD	21
REUSE AWARD	29
SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING GUIDELINES (SPGS) AWARD	33
SUSTAINABILITY CHAMPION AWARD	38
<u>INDUSTRY SECTOR REPORTING AWARD</u>	43
FULL FRAMEWORK	44
SME	60



BANKSIA FOUNDATION PARTNERSHIP

The APCO Annual Awards are judged in partnership with the Banksia Foundation, who facilitate an independent panel to ensure fairness, expertise and impartiality throughout the judging process.

OUR PACKAGING FUTURE AWARD FINALISTS

All shortlisted businesses display a deep dedication to delivering the National Packaging Targets through either circular packaging design, improved recycling systems and education, or driving uptake of recycled content in packaging. Finalists and award winners are also recognised for their commitment to collaboration with the wider supply chain and clear leadership among their peers and competitors.

ARL EXCELLENCE AWARD

The Australasian Recycling Label (ARL) provides consumers with easy-to-understand recycling information on packaging. This award celebrates the organisations who have utilised the program to educate consumers on responsible packaging disposal and improve the recyclability of packaging.

2024 ARL EXCELLENCE AWARD

coles

COLES

Coles Own Brand has embedded the ARL program into its packaging processes, adding multiple checkpoints where its team of specialists use the program to assess the recyclability of packaging. Coles recognises that by aligning its packaging strategy with the ARL program, Coles can drive progress towards a more sustainable future. Today, the ARL is displayed on the artwork of all Coles Own Brand product packaging.

Coles also actively educates its consumers on recycling and the ARL program and has identified that education is an important driver in the success of the on-pack labelling scheme. To do this, Coles has worked together with its partner Planet Ark on a range of initiatives to help tackle the challenges of packaging waste and recycling, including the co-creation of a lesson plan called 'Pack a Snack,' where students analyse the packaging recyclability of their favourite school snacks.



2024 ARL EXCELLENCE AWARD



LA CASA DEL FORMAGGIO

La Casa Del Formaggio set out to feature the ARL on all its packaging by 2025 but surpassed this goal ahead of schedule, achieving it in February 2024. Through assessments using the program, the company added the ARL to its packaging and identified ways to increase recyclability. For example, the Double Cream packaging was streamlined from four components (cardboard sleeve, tub, lid, and foil) to three (recyclable tub, recyclable lid, and conditionally recyclable foil – scrunch into a ball). This adjustment reduced material use while maintaining recyclability.



2024 ARL EXCELLENCE AWARD

MYER

MYER

Myer has demonstrated a strong commitment to the ARL, incorporating it into both private (customer carry bags, satchels) and public packaging. Myer has utilised the program to improve the recyclability of its packaging. This includes; eliminating unnecessary single-use plastics, reducing packaging through material optimisation, and removing all banned materials, such as EPS.

The program has also sparked conversations between Myer and its suppliers and designers. This year, Myer began meeting with key suppliers, leading to trials and internal design changes to drive scalable improvements. Myer has also started discussions with key national brands like Tefal and PVH to explore packaging opportunities for its SKUs.

Of Myers 52,668, 42,497 SKUs of these have been evaluated via the ARL Program. Myer aims to have the ARL on at least 90% of its SKUs over the next 3 years.



2024 ARL EXCELLENCE AWARD



TELSTRA

In 2021, Telstra’s refreshed environment strategy included a commitment for 100 percent of Telstra branded packaging to be made of renewable or recycled material and be fully recyclable by December 2022—a target achieved in October 2022. The ARL program played an instrumental role in achieving this commitment to transition to plastic-free, kerbside recyclable packaging made with recycled material. It supported Telstra’s vision to include innovative packaging options during packaging design and development, validate improvements and select optimal materials for sustainability.

Results of these efforts include: 9 tonnes of plastic eliminated annually from Telstra Accessories and Pre-paid Handsets, 200+ tonnes of packaging removed from Telstra Modems since 2021, over 1.7 million plastic bags eliminated from Telstra Accessories and Pre-paid devices, and the achievement of 100% kerbside recyclable packaging by December 2022.



2024 ARL EXCELLENCE AWARD



WOOLWORTHS

Woolworths achieved 100% ARL labelling on its Own Brand Packaging in 2023, reaching this milestone two years ahead of the National Packaging Target of 2025, a significant accomplishment given their extensive range of over 8,000 SKUs across ANZ. Utilising the program, Woolworths has made substantial strides in improving the recyclability of its packaging.

Currently, 94% of its Own Brand Packaging is recyclable (85% if soft plastics are included due to the collapse of Redcycle).

In the past year alone, Woolworths redesigned 146 products to be recyclable. Over the last three years, it improved the recyclability of over 2,000 tonnes of packaging, transitioning from opaque PET, replacing carbon black plastics, transitioning to uncoloured milk caps and substituting rigid PVC with PET in various trays and packs.



EDUCATION AWARD

The Education Award celebrates an exceptional effort to educate both consumers and the wider industry on circular packaging practices. This award celebrates initiatives that raise awareness, promote understanding, and drive positive change in areas like packaging design, recycling, and waste reduction.

2024 EDUCATION AWARD



comsol

COMSOL

Comsol's 'Closing The E-Loop' campaign tackles the global e-waste crisis by educating and empowering individuals to adopt sustainable practices. This initiative offers open-source resources that detail the lifecycle of electronic products and promote sustainable solutions. It addresses key challenges, including raising awareness, providing curriculum-aligned materials, and encouraging action across work, home, and school. The campaign has educated over 21,000 students in Australia within its 12-months launch.



2024 EDUCATION AWARD



J&P FLEXOGRAPHICS

We go to new heights to be flexible

J&P FLEXOGRAPHICS

To address the sustainability challenges in the flexible packaging industry, J&P Flexographics held its own Sustainability Conference. This first-of-its-kind event aimed to resolve conflicting information and clarify sustainability guidelines, future directions, and upcoming regulations. By creating a forum for expert-led discussions and education, the conference engaged industry leaders and key stakeholders to promote and facilitate the adoption of sustainable packaging practices. It successfully bridged knowledge gaps, ensuring that customers and stakeholders are well-informed and prepared for future sustainability initiatives.

2024 EDUCATION AWARD



RECKITT

Reckitt's 'Project Green Spark' sets a new standard for industry-wide progress in circular packaging by driving sustainability education and collaboration. Recognising that sustainability is a collective challenge, Reckitt developed a multifaceted approach to engage employees, suppliers, and retail partners in its efforts. A highlight was the creation of a sustainability dashboard—a unique tool that stands alongside traditional commercial metrics, enabling leadership teams to track performance, identify risks and opportunities, but most importantly drive material change within its portfolio. The dashboard has quickly become the second-most-used tool within Reckitt's operations and was recently showcased at the AFGC Sustainability Summit in Sydney this September.

As part of Project Green Spark, and to accelerate progress towards sustainability KPIs and increase awareness, Reckitt provided tailored sustainability training to over 160 employees across all functions. Additionally, their offices and labs have implemented reusable packaging stations, reducing an estimated 18,000 single-use takeaway packaging items annually. Reckitt is adopting a holistic approach to embedding sustainability across the organisation, integrating it into office practices, business objectives, IT systems, learning plans, internal processes, and external partnerships.



IMPROVED RECYCLING SYSTEM AWARD

The Improved Recycling Systems Award celebrates circular innovations in recycling and reprocessing, recognising achievements in mechanical, advanced, or organic (composting) recycling methods.

2024
IMPROVED RECYCLING SYSTEM AWARD

TWININGS

**TWININGS
(AB FOOD AND BEVERAGES)**

Twinnings embarked on a two-year mission to improve the environmental impacts of both its products and packaging of its tea bags. Involving over 150 trials to ensure compliance with composting standards globally, Twinnings were awarded with a Certification of Conformance to Australian Standards AS 4736 and AS 5810 from the Australasian Bioplastics Association, with trademarks extending to Oceania.

To achieve both commercial and home compostable certification, Twinnings developed the tea bags to be produced from plant-based materials, removed the metal staple connecting the string to the bag by changing the way the paper tea bags were folded, removing any need to seal the sides, and switched the type of inks used on our tags to biodegradable alternatives.



2024 IMPROVED RECYCLING SYSTEM AWARD



CREATED BY



CIRCULAR PLASTICS AUSTRALIA (PET) - PACT GROUP, CLEANAWAY WASTE MANAGEMENT, ASAHI BEVERAGES AND COCA-COLA EUROPACIFIC PARTNERS (CCEP)

Circular Plastics Australia (PET) is a joint venture between Pact Group, Cleanaway Waste Management, Asahi Beverages, and Coca-Cola Europacific Partners (CCEP). By building the country's two largest PET recycling plants, they have created a closed-loop system for PET beverage bottles, reducing landfill waste and the need for virgin PET.

This initiative showcases the benefits of collaboration. Cleanaway supplies feedstock through its collection network, Pact operates the facilities, and Asahi Beverages, CCEP, and Pact purchase the rPET for their packaging.

This project has nearly doubled Australia's PET recycling capacity, producing over 27,000 tonnes of recycled PET in 2022-23 at the Albury site, and more than 6,000 tonnes at the Altona facility since January 2024.



2024 IMPROVED RECYCLING SYSTEM AWARD



PACT GROUP, HILTON FOODS AND WOOLWORTHS

Meat trays are typically difficult to recycle due to the variety of materials used, which many recycling facilities cannot process, and because they are often contaminated with food residue.

Pact, Cleanaway, Hilton, and Woolworths have developed Australia's first circular PET thermoformed tray-to-tray recycling system, a project that took three years of collaboration and innovation.

This initiative, which started with transitioning to 'soaker pad free' rPET Moisturelock trays, has culminated in fully recyclable mono rPET trays with welded PET lidding film, all eligible for kerbside recycling and the ARL. The circular solution not only improves recyclability but also addresses a significant gap in PET thermoforming recycling.

Over the next year, the project is expected to divert 48 million trays from landfill, marking a major step forward in Australia's journey to a circular economy for plastic packaging.



2024 IMPROVED RECYCLING SYSTEM AWARD



WASTE RECYCLERS FIJI

Fiji has historically lacked a strong culture of recycling, but Waste Recyclers Fiji Limited and its foundation arm, Pacific Recycling Foundation, are leading a transformative shift. Their flagship initiative, the I-Recycle program, redefines recycling in Fiji and sets a new circular benchmark. With color-coded bins designed for ease of use, this program goes beyond traditional waste management - it is reshaping attitudes and behaviors toward recycling.

Through national and regional blueprints, comprehensive training programs, rigorous data monitoring, and ongoing feedback, WRFL's I-Recycle program is setting the foundation for sustained change. By fostering accountability and utilising data-driven methods, WRFL's initiatives empower local communities and actively transform how waste is managed.

In the 2022-2023 financial year, over 9,300 tonnes of recyclables were collected and processed by WRFL, contributing to a growing culture of sustainability.



RECYCLED CONTENT AWARD

Materials are not truly recycled until they are used again. The Recycled Content Award recognises exceptional leadership in using recycled materials in packaging across Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands, highlighting organisations that showcase innovative approaches to incorporating recycled content.

2024 RECYCLED CONTENT AWARD



AMCOR

Amcor aims to lead the use of recycled content on market, by increasing the use of certified circular recycled materials in the packaging it supplies. This initiative focuses on finding the right partners and developing solutions that enable the use of certified circular recycled content in flexible packaging without compromising performance.

The results are notable across its buyers; its buyers have achieved up to 50% certified circular recycled content in personal care products, 30% in beverage shrink films, 30% in bakery packaging, 18% in frozen food packaging, and 35% in pet food packaging. In particular, Mondelez (Cadbury) now feature approximately 50% certified circular recycled content in its packaging.

2024 RECYCLED CONTENT AWARD

DIAGEO

Celebrating life, every day, everywhere

DIAGEO

Diageo's 'Sustainable by Design' initiative emphasises waste reduction and enhancing the recyclability of packaging. A strategic partnership with Visy Glass enabled the transition of its 640mL Bundaberg RTD bottle from Flint to Amber glass, significantly boosting its recycled content while reducing weight. This project required effective cross-functional collaboration, redesigning packaging elements and conducting trials for quality assurance.

Key benefits include a notable 23% reduction in glass weight (a decrease of 110g per bottle) and significant increase in recycled content from 49% to 85%. As a result, Diageo expects to reduce annual glass usage by 148 tonnes and increase recycled glass by 102 tonnes, reinforcing its commitment to sustainability.



2024 RECYCLED CONTENT AWARD

Opal.

OPAL

Opal has developed a high recycled content box made from renewable wood fibre for Australian meat processor John Dee. John Dee sought a packaging solution that increased recycled fibre content without compromising strength, which is essential for boxes travelling through chilled and frozen supply chains. Fresh red meat boxes, in particular, need to retain their strength in humid and cool room conditions, and these are typically made from virgin fibre to meet these demands.

Opal Recycling collects quality Australian Old Corrugated Containers (OCC), 90% of which is post-consumer material sourced from retailers. This fibre stream is used to produce high-performance Dura-Flute Mediums and Premium Recycled Liners at Opal's Botany Mill, which are made from 100% recycled material and are fully recyclable.

By combining Opal's Premium Recycled Liner and Recycled Dura-Flute Mediums with a virgin fibre High Performance Kraft liner, the recycled content in chilled meat boxes increased from 48% to 73%, in bases from 35% to 66%, and in lids of frozen meat boxes from 37% to 69%—all while ensuring the packaging remains fit for purpose.



2024 RECYCLED CONTENT AWARD



HENKEL

Historically, there has been a slow uptake on rHDPE (recycled high-density polyethylene) in the packaging sector due to limitations surrounding quality and performance. Henkel's initiative, 'From Waste to Resource,' set a new industry benchmark by incorporating a high percentage of Australian rHDPE into rigid plastic packaging.

This initiative marked the beginning of Henkel's integration of post-consumer recyclates (PCR) into its retail consumer packaging. It began with a thorough evaluation of Australian rHDPE and sourcing practices. By collaborating closely with suppliers and bottle moulders, Henkel identified viable sources of high-quality recycled materials suitable for their rigid plastic consumer packaging. These efforts resulted in Henkel being the first in the ANZ market to incorporate 50% Australian rHDPE across its 500mL, 1L, 2L and 4L bottles.



2024 RECYCLED CONTENT AWARD



PACKAMAMA

Packamama has challenged the wine industry by moving away from the traditional round glass bottles, which account for 74% of wine's carbon footprint when combined with secondary packaging and transport.

Packamama has developed an eco-flat bottle made from 100% Australian recycled PET, weighing just 63g. The bottles are designed to optimise material efficiency, allowing 1 tonne of recycled PET to produce approximately 15,800 bottles, compared to approximately 2,500 typical glass bottles.

The flat design enables up to double the number of bottles to fit on a pallet, improving logistics and reducing the number of trucks on the road. Additionally, being 87% lighter than glass, the bottles are less energy-intensive to transport.

The bottles are widely and easily recyclable, featuring the ARL to promote responsible recycling. They are also part of Australia's Container Deposit Schemes, supporting a circular economy.



2024 RECYCLED CONTENT AWARD

Sealed Air®

SEALED AIR

Sealed Air, a major supplier of packaging to Australia's fresh meat sector, launched an initiative to reduce reliance on virgin materials in their Cryovac Barrier PP Trays. The goal was to source food-grade recycled polypropylene (PP) to help build demand for advanced recycling infrastructure and develop circular material pathways within Australia.

A significant challenge was sourcing food-grade recycled PP, as mixed PP waste streams compromise packaging performance and do not meet food safety requirements. However, PP resin from advanced recycling shows no degradation in tray quality or performance and guarantees food-grade material. Since 2023, Sealed Air has offered ISCC+ Certified 10% to 50% PCR (Through mass balance) trays to its customers, making this the first large-scale initiative of its kind in Australia. So far, Sealed Air has reduced virgin plastic use by 440 tonnes, with the potential to scale further as demand grows.



2024 RECYCLED CONTENT AWARD



VERIX

In a first for the smallgoods category, VERIX in collaboration with Martogg Group, has introduced a 100% post-consumer recycled (PCR) rPET tray made entirely from Australian-sourced PCR. Utilising approximately 70 tonnes of Australian PCR material each month, this initiative plays a crucial role in achieving the 2025 National Packaging Targets. While the target for 'more than 50% recycled content' may be met with imported materials, the 'more than 70% recycled packaging' target cannot be achieved without locally sourced PCR.

Domestic PCR supports the reuse of Australian PET packaging waste, which is essential for building a circular economy. Additionally, the tray has been assessed through the ARL program and confirmed to be recyclable in both Australia and New Zealand.



REUSE AWARD

This award celebrates outstanding examples of reusable packaging systems in Australia. The Reuse category focuses on packaging that demonstrates its capability of accomplishing a minimum number of trips or reuse cycles within its lifecycle, using a purposefully designed system of reuse for the same application.

2024 REUSE AWARD



CHEP & COLES

This initiative is a working example of ACO members collaborating to support progress towards a better packaging future. CHEP, Coles, Rugby Farm, and Fresh Select worked together to replace non-recyclable, waxed cardboard cartons (WCC) with a reusable plastic crate (RPC) system for iceberg lettuce transport in the Coles supply chain. The project involved extensive trials to develop a practical reuse system. The team successfully transitioned to a smaller RPC solution, which is lighter, safer, and more durable, protecting the lettuces during transport, and reducing food waste by up to 30% compared to cardboard cartons which can collapse.

CHEP's efficient service centres manage each RPC throughout its lifecycle of up to 10 years and over 160 uses. The use of RPCs significantly reduces carbon emissions (by up to 68%), waste to landfill (by 88%), and water consumption (by 95%) compared to single-use cardboard cartons, showcasing significant progress towards more reusable packaging solutions. As a result, to date, Coles and CHEP have successfully eliminated 1.35 million single use waxed cardboard cartons annually. This sets the precedent for expansion into other categories and demonstrates significant leadership and collaboration towards a national transition to a more circular packaging system.

Based on an independent, ISO standard, peer-reviewed Life Cycle Assessment commissioned by CHEP.

2024 REUSE AWARD



DULUX GROUP

DuluxGroup's new Selleys react range of cleaning products, including Multipurpose Cleaner, Bathroom & Shower, and Glass & Mirror cleaner, features a reusable pod system. Customers are encouraged to keep the bottles, insert the pods, and add warm water to prepare the product for use. The durable bottles and triggers, designed for 15-20 refills, significantly reduce packaging waste in the recycling stream.

The reusable packaging system enables, extends its life cycle and reducing environmental impact



2024 REUSE AWARD



WOOLWORTHS

As part of Woolworth's sustainability commitments, it has created a team called ReUse Co. This team has been tasked with reducing single-use products by building a portfolio of reusable equipment that improves safety, enables current and future technology and delivers a strong circular economy. This particular ReUse Co initiative focuses on using reusable totes for its eComX business, transporting customer goods within the Woolworths retail network as well as its online delivery platforms.

In partnership with Viscount Reuse, these totes are manufactured in Australia from over 90% recycled materials, and when they reach end of life are recycled into new totes, creating a closed loop system. The initiative has delivered several significant achievements, including local manufacturing with 90% recycled content, RFID capability to unlock automation benefits and improve tracking, and diverting thousands of tonnes of plastic from landfill.



SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING GUIDELINES (SPGS) AWARD

The SPGs Implementation Award celebrates organisations that have demonstrated how their organisation has successfully integrated the Sustainable Packaging Principles of the Sustainable Packaging Guidelines (SPGs) into their packaging and business practices.



BIOPAK

By following 7 out of 10 of APCO's SPGs, BioPak developed its BioCane packaging, a durable, plant-fibre solution. A key achievement was eliminating PFAS, a chemical known for its persistence and health risks, in line with Principle 4: 'Eliminate hazardous materials.' BioPak prioritised finding safer alternatives to PFAS, ensuring BioCane is better for both consumers and the environment. Rigorous testing for total organic fluorine, the most sensitive PFAS measure, confirmed its adherence to strict standards. Made from plant-fibre pulp, a renewable by-product of sugar refining, BioCane is a cost-effective, sustainable alternative to plastics and paper.



2024 SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING GUIDELINES (SPGS) AWARD



BUNZL

Bunzl recently conducted an SPGs audit across its entire workwear range to enhance packaging design and sustainability. Key improvements included reducing the size of swing tags, replacing unrecoverable plastic garment bags with cardboard pack bands, switching from solvent-based inks on cartons to less toxic water-soluble ink, and replacing plastic swing ties with cotton cords. These efforts, which spanned over 2,000 SKUs and covers the entire workwear range, are expected to divert more than 200 tonnes of plastic from landfill annually.



Chobani

CHOBANI AUSTRALIA

Chobani removed the plastic lid from its Gippsland Dairy 160g yogurt pots as part of their commitment to APCO's 2025 National Packaging Targets. This followed the earlier removal in 2023 of the embedded (in-lid) plastic spoon as part of Victoria's ban on single-use plastic cutlery.

In the pot's redesign process, Chobani aligned with the five key SPGs while also adding an IML (In-Mold Labelling) black band to mimic the original lid's appearance. The new design simplified the consumer's task of following the ARL and ensured the product could continue to be easily recognised on shelf.

Consumers now have two fewer pieces of plastic to manage after enjoying a pot of Gippsland Dairy yogurt, and the remaining packaging is 100% recyclable in Australian kerbside bins.



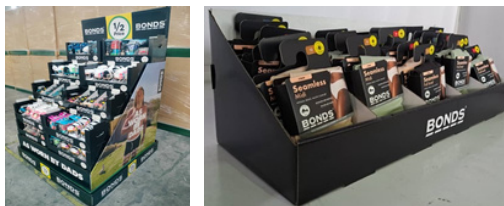
2024
SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING GUIDELINES (SPGS) AWARD

HANES *Brands Inc*
Hanes Australasia

HANES AUSTRALASIA

The SPGs have been key in shaping Hanes Australasia's packaging design. The company has leveraged the SPGs to develop training resources for their team, featuring a set of targeted questions for evaluating packaging specific to the intimates, apparel and homewares sectors. The company has incorporated SPGs across all packaging types by eliminating hazardous materials through strict guidelines on inks and coatings; using renewable materials by preferencing cardboard in product packaging to be FSC certified; and enhancing consumer information on sustainability.

Currently, 98% of Hanes Australasia's product packaging in Australia and 100% of its product packaging in New Zealand features the Australasian Recycling Label (ARL). To date, 98% of Hanes Australasia's SKUs have been reviewed in line with the SPGs.



SUSTAINABILITY CHAMPION AWARD

This award celebrates individuals who are making a tangible impact on sustainable packaging in Australia. It celebrates proactivity and leadership in packaging circularity including improvements in recycling, education and research and development.

2024 SUSTAINABILITY CHAMPION AWARD



BROOKE PERCY
ANZ SYSTEMS AND
INTEGRATION MANAGER
AMCOR

Brooke is nominated for her outstanding dedication to advancing packaging circularity through her leadership in achieving ISCC Plus certification for Amcor. Driven by the rising consumer demand for more sustainable packaging, Brooke developed an initiative to ensure that Amcor's customers could confidently claim the use of recycled content in their products.

Under Brooke's guidance, Amcor implemented significant changes, including IT system updates, new training programs, and enhanced cross-functional collaboration. Her commitment to integrating sustainability into every facet of Amcor's operations has led to all flexibles manufacturing sites in Australia and New Zealand achieving ISCC Plus certification. ‘

Brooke's efforts have not only advanced Amcor's sustainability goals but also made a substantial impact on the industry's environmental footprint. By facilitating the use of certified circular content, she has played a key role in reducing the reliance on virgin plastic materials, supporting the 2025 Targets, and steering the industry towards a more circular economy.

2024 SUSTAINABILITY CHAMPION AWARD



DAMIAN SMYTH
GROUP ENVIRONMENT AND
SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER,
LABEL MAKERS

Damian's commitment to sustainability at Labelmakers Group is truly impactful.

Since Damians his appointment as Environment and Sustainability Manager in 2021 he has driven significant improvements, including a 30% reduction in emission intensity by 2023, achieved two years ahead of schedule. He also launched a liner recovery and recycling program, diverting over 800 tonnes of spent release liner from landfill each year and turning it into insulation products.

His work extends internationally with trials that aim to reduce landfill waste and replace imported materials. Damian's efforts in enhancing label structures and collaborating with recyclers like Visy and PACT have advanced recycling practices.

Damian's dedication to sustainable packaging solutions has made a substantial impact on Labelmakers Group, its customers, and the wider industry, making him an excellent candidate for the APCO Sustainability Champion Award.

2024 SUSTAINABILITY CHAMPION AWARD



GARY SMITH
CEO, CO-FOUNDER
BIOPAK,
COMPOST CONNECT

Gary Smith, CEO and co-founder of BioPak, has been a key figure in advancing sustainable packaging since 2006. Under his leadership, BioPak has become a global leader in creating environmentally friendly food packaging and promoting a circular economy.

Gary's early commitment to eliminating conventional plastics and advancing compost infrastructure set BioPak apart in a market that initially lacked interest in sustainable products. His hands-on approach, including direct customer education, helped establish BioPak's role in the industry.

Gary has also influenced broader industry and government policies, providing critical insights for shaping regulations on single-use plastics. His expertise has been sought by state governments to address industry challenges and develop practical solutions.

Beyond BioPak, Gary initiated the creation of the BioPak Give Back Fund that has donated over \$5 million to various causes, including planting over 158,137 trees and repurposing medical supplies impacting over 250,000 people. His leadership continues to drive significant industry changes and inspire future entrepreneurs.

2024 SUSTAINABILITY CHAMPION AWARD



HANNAH MULLEN SUSTAINABILITY LEAD OF PRODUCT & PACKAGING, **HANES AUSTRALASIA**

Hannah is the Sustainability Lead of Product & Packaging at Hanes Australasia, where she drives the company's sustainability strategy, with particular focus on product and packaging conversions and ESG reporting.

Hanes Australasia's 2025 packaging goals include reducing packaging weight by 25%, eliminating single-use plastic in product packaging, ensuring all packaging is reusable or recyclable, and displaying the ARL. Hannah has been instrumental in advancing these objectives, significantly improving APCO reporting performance and metric visibility.

She developed a governance structure to oversee packaging initiatives across Hanes Australasia's four business units and established working groups to track progress and solve issues. Hannah's efforts in bringing together and guiding team members, helped reduce the company's 2023 packaging footprint by around 339 tonnes.

Hannah also manages Hanes Australasia's APCO reporting, which involves over 60 data sets from over 40 team members across the organisation. Her work contributed to the increase in Hanes Australasia's performance score by 14% and the company earning the 2023 APCO Industry Sector Award. She continuously seeks to improve reporting processes, including automating data collection and streamlining workflows.

In addition to her reporting work, Hannah leads packaging training and advises on sustainability decision-making, balancing trade-offs between different packaging options. Her leadership and dedication make her a key figure in Hanes Australasia's sustainability efforts and a respected advocate for environmental impact reduction.

INDUSTRY SECTOR REPORTING AWARD

The Industry Sector Reporting Awards recognise the organisations that have met their obligations under the National Environment Protection (Used Packaging Materials) Measure (NEPM) and have provided exemplary evidence and reporting against these obligations in the last reporting period. Award recipients demonstrated high scores, supported by evidence and clear progress. Finalists also continually assess their packaging against APCO's Sustainable Packaging Guidelines (SPGs), ensuring that their packaging has been designed to optimise outcomes for packaging functionality and sustainability, and to help collectively deliver on Australia's 2025 National Packaging Targets.

FULL FRAMEWORK REPORTING

Agriculture and Nurseries
Chemicals, Hardware & Machinery
Food & Beverage
General Merchandise & Apparel
Healthcare & Scientific
Logistics & Warehousing
Packaging Manufacturer/Supplier

2024
FULL FRAMEWORK REPORTING AWARD

AGRICULTURE AND NURSERIES



'The Plant People'

POHLMAN'S NURSERY

Pohlman's Nursery has continued demonstrating its commitment to year-on-year packaging sustainability progress and design improvements. In the last reporting period, the organisation successfully phased out problematic packaging formats such as coloured pots and actively engaged with its suppliers to phase out all polystyrene (PS) packaging materials. These SKUs are replaced with reusable and recyclable polypropylene (PP) plug trays and punnets. As a result, 91% of the company's plastic packaging is recyclable via PP collection schemes. Additionally, the organisation's Business-to-Business PP nursery trays are able to be returned by customers in a closed-loop system for reuse. In 2023, Pohlman's Nursery reduced the total tonnage of their on-site waste by an additional 20% and increased the recycled content of their plastic packaging to a total of 89%.

2024
FULL FRAMEWORK REPORTING AWARD

AGRICULTURE AND NURSERIES



BAYER CROPSCIENCE

Bayer CropScience has a strong ongoing focus on sustainability in the agriculture packaging market. This is particularly evident within the organisation's supplier code of conduct and procurement policies that set out these expectations for suppliers. Bayer CropScience has optimised all of its SKUs for material efficiency over the last 5 years. Additionally, in the last reporting year, over 85% of the organisation's SKUs placed on market were entirely recoverable. The organisation's tertiary packaging contributes to this high recovery rate, as all of Bayer CropScience's intermediate bulk container (IBC) drums are reused in a closed-loop system. They are also embracing the drum to drum scheme to drive increased recyclable material in packaging.

2024
FULL FRAMEWORK REPORTING AWARD

AGRICULTURE AND NURSERIES



A. RICHARDS

Richgro Garden Products's commitment to sustainability is evident in their annual report. The company has made significant strides in improving packaging sustainability by increasing recycled content in their bagged products and working with packaging suppliers to extend this to their entire range. Richgro has also taken steps to reduce unnecessary packaging by introducing concentrated products and gels, leading to a 20% reduction in the supply of the ready-to-use range. In addition, the company has replaced plastic wrapping with cable ties for their 3L trigger products. Richgro also promotes waste recycling through their on-site Anaerobic Digester plant and collaborates with outside waste companies, resulting in about 9 tonnes of recycled waste including packaging and wooden pallets being diverted from landfill over the past financial year.

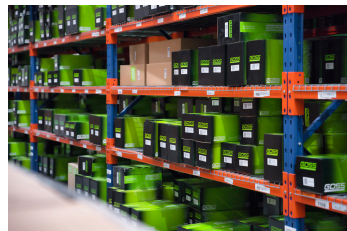
2024
FULL FRAMEWORK REPORTING AWARD

CHEMICALS, HARDWARE & MACHINERY



INNOVATIVE MECHATRONICS

Innovative Mechatronics Group has environmental aid at the core of their mission and policies. They have excelled by implementing a comprehensive Sustainable Packaging Policy alongside a recycled content policy. The organisation has optimised its levels of recycled content in its secondary packaging and reuses pallets within the organisation and among its customers. All inbound cartons are shredded to be used as packing for outgoing goods and this has removed their need for bubble wrap entirely. They soon aim to have comprehensive disposal labelling beyond the mobius loop that outlines their recycled content levels and clear recyclability.



2024
FULL FRAMEWORK REPORTING AWARD

FOOD & BEVERAGE



FLAVOUR CREATIONS

Over the past year, Flavour Creations has continued to make significant strides in sustainability and ensuring it is embedded in the culture. By applying the sustainable design principles to their packaging, more sustainable materials have been prioritised, waste has been minimised, and recyclability has been increased across the product range. A commitment to sustainability led to a review of all aspects of operations. As a result, new packaging optimisations include reduced cardboard usage, optimised foil space in beverage products, and identified opportunities for foil box reuse. As a result, 98.3% of Flavour Creations packaging now displays the ARL logo. The organisation's new ProKick Protein Drink now comes in a recyclable aluminium can, increasing the total recycled content of its packaging by 70% and eliminating 271,700 tonnes of potential plastic waste. Participation in Container Deposit Schemes for all eligible beverages further reinforces this commitment to sustainability.



2024
FULL FRAMEWORK REPORTING AWARD

FOOD & BEVERAGE



SIMPLOT

In the past reporting year, Simplot successfully downgauged around 20% of its flexible plastic packaging for products distributed in Australia and New Zealand. Additionally, 86% of its total packaging placed on Australia and New Zealand markets contained recycled content. Simplot further addresses the recoverability of their packaging by displaying the ARL logo on all own-branded packaging in these markets. Furthermore, the company has phased out problematic packaging such as polyvinyl chloride (PVC) clamshell packs and carbon black rigid plastic trays over the past 5 years. In 2023, Simplot held recycling education campaigns at both the Australian corporate office and on-site.

2024
FULL FRAMEWORK REPORTING AWARD

GENERAL MERCHANDISE & APPAREL



MOOSE ENTERPRISE

Moose Toys incorporates environmental sustainability into its packaging design. Initiatives include reducing plastic use, promoting plastic-free designs, and developing easily separable packaging to prevent cross-contamination between plastic and fibre for better recycling outcomes. Every SKU is bulk-packed into shipping cartons, with each carton assessed to minimise air space and material usage, thereby optimising shipping space. Moose Toys has an internal review process to ensure all packaging products are developed for sustainability and optimised accordingly. The company uses readily recyclable materials, with Packaging Sustainability Goals considering the recyclability of packaging components post-use. Moose Toys aims to ensure consumer packaging is recyclable through home collection or kerbside bins. All cardboard and paper are FSC Mix or FSC Recycled certified, and all polyethylene terephthalate (PET) blisters contain 30% recycled content (rPET), which is mandatory across all products. Additionally, Moose Toys has banned the use of polystyrene (PS) and black rigid thermoformed blisters and is actively working to eliminate polyvinyl chloride (PVC) from all packaging.



2024
FULL FRAMEWORK REPORTING AWARD

GENERAL MERCHANDISE & APPAREL



LEGO AUSTRALIA

The LEGO Group includes the Australian subsidiary, LEGO Australia Pty Ltd, which is under the parent company of LEGO A/S. All subsidiaries must be aligned to the LEGO Group policies and expectations, including its Planet Promise, which sets out its commitment to having a positive impact on both society and the planet, which children will inherit.

Almost all cardboard packaging for LEGO® boxes and transport packaging includes a minimum of 75% recycled content. LEGO® core product boxes are reviewed and optimised to minimize packaging material and maximize pallet and container utilisation.

The LEGO Group regularly promotes its sustainability goals amongst its employees via presentations and through the company's Sustainable Packaging Guide. The LEGO Group also regularly engages with its suppliers to ensure they are kept up to date on the company's sustainability commitments and environmental impacts through its Sustainability Summit, Sustainability Pledge and ongoing discussions. The LEGO Group aims for all consumer packaging to be recyclable by 2026. In addition to this the company aims to have all packaging made from recycled and/or responsibly sourced renewable materials, moving away from single-use plastic bags to paper-based options.

2024
FULL FRAMEWORK REPORTING AWARD

GENERAL MERCHANDISE & APPAREL



SPECSAVERS

Specsavers have set new goals for packaging sustainability to be met by 2030 which include 100% of packaging to be recyclable, reducing the volume of packaging used by 30%, increasing the recycled content used in packaging to at least 30%, and 100% of paper and board to be sustainably sourced. During the reporting period, Specsavers Sonova Hearing Aids packaging weight was successfully reduced by 50%, the company removed 2.1 tonnes of low density polyethylene (LDPE) from its frame packaging, commenced the transition to 100% recycled material for frame dummy lenses and saved 20% of LDPE polybag weight through lightweighting the packaging material. In addition, Specsavers glasses cases are designed to be reused throughout the lifecycle of the glasses and are made from at least 66% post-consumer RPET.



2024
FULL FRAMEWORK REPORTING AWARD

HEALTHCARE & SCIENTIFIC



FELTON GRIMWADE & BOSISTO'S

Felton Grimwade & Bosisto's brands encompass a wide range of products, from essential oils, adult and infant healthcare to household cleaning, laundry and personal care. Their governance structure drives the incorporation of sustainability across all SKUs, addressing challenges in balancing content quantity with packaging integrity and aesthetics. Felton Grimwade & Bosisto's has taken steps to improve packaging recyclability potential by eliminating carbon black from trigger sprays during a brand refresh and moving to a clear trigger. This involved project included Procurement, Research & Development, Marketing and Sales to achieve a significant impact across 3 key SKUs including Multipurpose, Bathroom Cleaner and Glass Cleaner. This was achieved through participation in the ARL Program and is a win in this fast moving consumer goods category. This large scale project will allow for over 1 million triggers per year to be recycled. It shows leadership in the FMCG category with few other products achieving a recyclable trigger and also a clear bottle.

2024
FULL FRAMEWORK REPORTING AWARD

HEALTHCARE & SCIENTIFIC



DE LORENZO

**DE LORENZO HAIR
& COSMETIC RESEARCH**

De Lorenzo Hair & Cosmetic Research have conducted reviews on all their SKUs and discovered an impressive 97% of the packaging components are fully recoverable.

They have a strict minimum of 30% recycled content for their bottles and tube packaging with some items being as high as 60% with the organisation's paper and cardboard packaging featuring 100% recycled content.

They have several business-to-business reuse schemes in place, including vendors picking up their used intermediate bulk containers (e.g. palletcons) and plastic and steel drums as well as donating these to bushfire relief teams and farmers for storing water and for animal feed and shelter. Additionally they have recycle schemes with Sustainable Salons and Ricoh for the collection of their printer cartridges.

The organisation has also made great efforts to phase out loose fill expanded polystyrene in their order dispatch area and PVC as a packaging item and replaced these with HDPE Omni pillows and PET respectively.

2024 FULL FRAMEWORK REPORTING AWARD

LOGISTICS & WAREHOUSING



A Brambles Company

CHEP

As a supplier of share and reuse packaging, CHEP Australia is committed to providing sustainable Business to Business options that contribute to a more circular packaging economy.

This reporting round, CHEP has continued to lead the way in packaging circularity for its sector. CHEP has been reviewing major plastic formats such as crates, bins and plastic pallets to incorporate recycled content, where it is technically and regulatory feasible. To achieve this, CHEP has engaged with its suppliers to trial different resin mixes that are suitable for the rigours of the pooling environment whilst meeting the aims of circular economy principles. Overall, the organisation is working towards a target of 30% recycled content across all its packaging.

In addition, a Reclaim Timber program has been running in conjunction with high volume customer sites to recover fit-for-purpose timber boards for repair of pallets so this timber can re-circulate through the supply chain instead of secondary uses.

CHEP also offers Sustainability Certificates for its Customers, calculated using Life Cycle Assessment that quantify a company's contribution to a sustainable packaging supply chain. By means of this certificate, CHEP Australia encourages its customers to report against APCO packaging requirements.



2024
FULL FRAMEWORK REPORTING AWARD

PACKAGING MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER

Detpak

DETMOLD PACKAGING

Detmold continues to review its packaging range, resulting in material reductions in food trays and cartons, and increased recycled content in carry bags. They've launched their sustainability objectives, measuring against six positive impact targets that strongly align with the principles of 'The Detmold Way', including targets for 95% of waste diverted from landfill across all production facilities, and 100% of their stock range to meet the 2025 Targets. During this reporting period they started an innovative partnership with Subway that will remove 26 garbage trucks full of plastic from the environment each year through the design of a new fibre-based catering platter that is 100% kerbside recyclable. They have also partnered with Mitolo Family Farms to create what is believed to be Australia's first kerbside recyclable paper bag for fresh potatoes. The packaging innovation will see Mitolo Family Farms' premium Gourmandine potatoes sold in new paper bags - delivering a 64% reduction in plastic, with 8.2 tonnes less plastic being used each year when compared its plastic counterpart.



2024
FULL FRAMEWORK REPORTING AWARD

PACKAGING MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER



CONFOIL

This reporting period Confoil has started a project to down gauge aluminium used for some products resulting in an 11-17% material reduction across 1000 tonnes of aluminium. Confoil's customer, MARS, was a significant partner in being able to successfully achieve these downgauging results. They have investigated and established a strong understanding of the recycled content in the materials supplied to them and have identified exactly where this recycled content comes from. Reviewing their range against the SPGs has allowed Confoil to develop packaging from renewable & recycled material, reduce waste in production, optimise production efficiency, and design products for recoverability. This reporting period they also successfully trialled their DualPakECO industrial compostable certified tray and developed a case study in partnership with Bio Gro on the success of this range. This shift to a paper-based and certified compostable material for this range of trays has been part of Confoil's commitment to working towards the Australian 2025 National Packaging Targets.



2024
FULL FRAMEWORK REPORTING AWARD

PACKAGING MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER



VISY INDUSTRIES AUSTRALIA

Visy is powering the circular economy, closing the loop between packaging, remanufacturing and recycling. Visy believes materials are not recycled until they've been made into new products. It manufactures everything from cardboard boxes, water bottles and jam jars to food and beverage cans, all using recycled content. Visy's investments are increasing the amount of recycling recovered and remanufactured in Australia. In 2023, Visy invested \$50 million to build a state-of-the-art glass recycling facility at Laverton in Melbourne's west. The site can process all of Victoria's recyclable glass, ready to be remanufactured into new glass bottles and jars. They also installed Australia's first drum pulper at Coolaroo in Victoria, doubling recycling capability to 180,000 tonnes.



SME REPORTING AWARD

Agriculture & Nurseries
Chemical, Hardware & Machinery
Electronics
Food & Beverage
General Merchandise & Apparel
Healthcare & Scientific
Packaging
Manufacturer/Supplier

2024
SME REPORTING AWARD

AGRICULTURE & NURSERIES



SOUTHERN PLANTS

The 2024 APCO Annual Report submitted by Southern Plants demonstrates a continued commitment to packaging sustainability and a circular economy. In the last reporting period, the organisation carried out a Polypropylene (PP5) plastic pot re-design, which not only reduced the amount of plastic used, but is also designed to be recyclable and contains 95% recycled content. Southern Plants complements this with 100% recycled Polypropylene (PP) plastic labels sized to minimise wastage. Furthermore, the organisation participates in closed-loop PP5 pot and label recycling via Polymer Processors. This service has allowed for all of Southern Plants' pots to be recycled. Lastly, the organisation uses composting at its facility to divert onsite green waste from landfill.

2024 SME REPORTING AWARD

CHEMICAL, HARDWARE & MACHINERY



FRESH INVESTMENTS

Despite being significantly affected by the Lismore flood in 2022, Fresh Investments, a cleaning product manufacturer, has remained dedicated to reducing the impact of its packaging. This includes launching a range of four powder cleaning products in 15kg cardboard cartons for its SimplyClean brand, which reduces plastic content by over 90% compared to equivalent-sized plastic pails. The company has also introduced a new oven cleaner in a recycled high-density polyethylene (HDPE) bottle. Overall, the organisation has increased the amount of recycled plastic and HDPE in its packaging by 57% in the past 12 months. For its cardboard carton packaging, Fresh Investments features an average of 50.9% recycled content.

2024 SME REPORTING AWARD

CHEMICAL, HARDWARE & MACHINERY



BRASSHARDS (HOLDINGS)

Plumbing supplies specialist Brasshards has made significant improvements to the recyclability of its packaging this reporting period. The company has replaced its blister pack materials from POLYVINYL CHLORIDE (PVC) to the more recyclable PET, whilst also introducing the ARL to its product packaging. They have also optimised transport efficiency by reducing the size of their carton packaging and implementing modular stacking to reduce the amount of packaging void space per shipment. Notably, Brasshards has worked to minimise litter on their smaller packaging solutions by replacing over 260,000 barcode labels with direct-to-product barcode stamps and QR code stamps. The organisation is also reusing packaging materials wherever possible and has established packaging commitments with retailers and suppliers alike.



2024
SME REPORTING AWARD

ELECTRONICS



comsol

COMSOL

Electronics manufacturer Comsol has continued to enhance their sustainability initiatives by maintaining alignment with the SPGs and through the implementation of FSC Certified packaging, commencing in the reporting period with implementation across the range in 2024. These efforts are in line with their broader commitment to environmental stewardship, which includes the pioneering education initiative, Closing The E-Loop. To date, educating over 15,500 students on electronic waste (e-waste) management, sustainable packaging and other social, environmental and economic aspects of e-waste. In addition, Comsol's collaboration with Grounded Packaging in its B2B operations has introduced a mono-material recycled polybag solution, encouraging the growth of a secondary raw material market and reinforcing Comsol's dedication to sustainable packaging practices.

2024
SME REPORTING AWARD

FOOD & BEVERAGE

LEE UWIN
COAST

HARVEST ROAD OCEANS

Harvest Road Oceans accomplished fantastic packaging design improvements this year, demonstrating the organisation's dedication to packaging circularity. The company re-designed its wholesale hessian bag to implement a "pull string" functionality. As a result, customers are not required to cut the bag open and, therefore, it can be repurposed. The ability to repurpose the bag is clearly communicated on-pack for customers. The re-design process across other products also allowed for material optimisation, resulting in a reduction of packaging materials by approximately 30%.

Furthermore, the organisation places emphasis on recycled content by having supplier procurement policies in place concerning the use of recycled materials. The company's secondary packaging for its frozen products currently contains approximately 33% post-consumer recycled content and it is investigating possibilities to increase this content. Lastly, Harvest Road Oceans targeted consumer disposal information and labelling by introducing the ARL logo to its frozen primary packaging and removing all non-essential adhesive labels that have the potential to enter the litter stream.

2024 SME REPORTING AWARD

FOOD & BEVERAGE

pizzini

PIZZINI WINES

In its first reporting round, Pizzini collaborated with key business members and Rewild Agency to organise workshops aimed at developing a sustainable strategy for the business. Through this process, executives identified six main focus areas for building this strategy, one of which is "Considered Packaging." This area emphasises making conscious packaging choices throughout the product lifecycle, from procurement to disposal, and encouraging end-users to do the same. Based on this focus area, Pizzini has developed both short-term and long-term initiatives. The company has increased the percentage of recycled content in its cardboard boxes by decreasing the board grade. It has also planned a trial with a new capsule that facilitates the post-consumption recycling of glass and capsules. Additionally, Pizzini has chosen label paper stock with a higher percentage of recycled content and is exploring more sustainable options, such as paper stock made from recycled sugar cane. Finally, the company has switched two of its bottles to lightweight options.



2024 SME REPORTING AWARD

GENERAL MERCHANDISE & APPAREL



BURTON AUSTRALIA

This reporting period, Winter sports gear and apparel company Burton Australia has actively demonstrated the impact that small changes can make to deliver great results. This is evidenced through the removal of mixed material black plastic hooks from its soft goods consumer accessories. The plastic hooks have been replaced with paper hooks, eliminating plastic and making the packaging easier to recycle as a mono-material package. Furthermore, the company has analysed its packaging portfolio to identify any remaining single-use plastic and are in the process of redesigning for easy recycling.



2024
SME REPORTING AWARD

GENERAL MERCHANDISE & APPAREL



TRU BRANDS

Workwear supplier TRU Brands has demonstrated that they are actively working to reduce the impact of packaging placed on market. This reporting period, the company reported that all polybags across the TRU Workwear and Bool PT brands now contain 20% recycled content, with a goal of reaching 60% recycled content by the next reporting period. Additionally, TRU Brands includes the ARL on its packaging and has adopted the latest Check Locally logo where applicable for soft plastic, ensuring customers have up-to-date recycling information.



2024
SME REPORTING AWARD

HEALTHCARE & SCIENTIFIC

EYE OF HORUS

EYE OF HORUS COSMETICS

Eye of Horus Cosmetics have demonstrated a strong focus on circular packaging by developing an internal sustainable packaging guideline, derived from APCO's own best practice guidelines. The organisation has successfully developed a range of Refillable Beauty including Eyeshadow and Complexion Palettes, Lipsticks and a refill pouch for their Seven Seed Sacred Oil. They are transitioning their top-performing brow products from virgin plastic to post-consumer recycled materials, and continually evolving the remaining range to sustainable packaging including glass and recycled materials. Additionally, Eye of Horus Cosmetics offers pre-paid envelopes for consumers to return used beauty products for recycling through their partnership with a specialised recycling program that offers solutions for hard-to-recycle waste.

2024
SME REPORTING AWARD

HEALTHCARE & SCIENTIFIC



CHEMCORP

Beauty supplier Chemcorp International demonstrates a strong commitment to sustainability governance and reporting, aligning with reporting periods to drive organisational packaging design progress. With all new product development or existing product iterations the company reviews its packaging to determine where it can be more circular. An example of this during 2023 was a refresh of Platinum makeup brushes and sponges, sold exclusively through Woolworths grocery stores. These brushes were previously packaged in a plastic outer box and had a plastic inner to hold the brushes in place. The brand refresh provided the opportunity to replace the single-use outer plastic packaging with a reusable makeup pouch which doubled as packaging; and remove the inner plastic packaging completely. The pack change was rolled out nationally in Q3 2023. Chemcorp strive to design in a way that makes any plastic element functional, as an example, the inner mixing tray of their 1000HOUR Lash & Brow Dye Kit which holds the reusable kit content and acts as a mixing tray for the 12-month lifespan of the product.

2024
SME REPORTING AWARD

PACKAGING MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER

GROUNDED

GROUNDED PACKAGING

Grounded Packaging has continued to showcase its commitment to sustainable packaging during this reporting period. All the packaging it produces for its customers aims to deliver to APCO's mono-material recycling advice. Wherever possible they use the highest amount of recycled content. They continue to innovate and have developed a world-first in a high-barrier and fully functional paper suitable for pouches containing food products that aim to be recyclable in the paper stream and are currently undergoing pulpability testing. Grounded Packaging's paper products contain FSC 100% PCR paper and their plastic laminate structures contain up to 85% food-grade PCR. They are also signatories to the ANZPAC Plastics Pact, the global initiative led by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation's New Plastic Economy initiative aiming to build a circular economy for plastics to combat the problem of single-use plastics and plastic pollution. Grounded Packaging continues to educate their customers through the use of their packaging footprint calculator, which helps businesses evaluate and minimise the environmental impact of their packaging choices. Additionally, Grounded Packaging regularly tests for Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), a chemical of concern that APCO and governments are working to phase out of packaging.

The APCO logo features the letters 'APCO' in a clean, white, sans-serif font. To the right of the text is a circular graphic element consisting of three concentric, slightly offset rings, creating a sense of depth and motion.

APCO

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

The Banksia Foundation logo includes a stylized, white graphic of a Banksia flower head on the left. To its right, the word 'Banksia' is written in a serif font, with 'FOUNDATION' in a smaller, sans-serif font directly below it.

Banksia
FOUNDATION