



W P O N E W S

The Packaging Community Around the World

President's Word

The message is clear: with good packaging it is possible to construct a better world

Pierre Pienaar*



Since taking on my new role, it has been a whirlwind 4 months, but so fulfilling, rewarding and the enthusiasm from all those that I have come into contact, is so encouraging. I have enjoyed it all and look forward to the next 4 months with eagerness, keenness and passion.

In Rio de Janeiro I set certain objectives as the incoming President, may I remind the readers thereof:

- **Reduction of food waste** through the better use of packaging and awareness thereof. Included in this is education, which

is happening as we continue to build on activities that are already taking place within WPO.

Over the past three years, WPO has brought packaging technology education to more than 1,400 people involving 32 countries through 41 training programmes around the world. During the coming year, more countries will join the training list, including Kazakhstan, Turkey, Morocco and Egypt.

WPO also promotes and organises industry and student packaging competitions on a global basis, as epitomised by the WorldStar Awards and Student WorldStar. These global awards programmes recognise the expertise and genius of packaging companies and students. It is amazing to see how packaging projects can help avoid food waste and guarantee better quality food for more people.

- **Reduction in poverty** by the use of better and more effective packaging but focussing on correct use of packaging. Before we consider concepts such as packaging design and materials, innovation, technological advancements, environmental responsibility and sustainability, we must appreciate where the packaging industry fits into the chain that could deliver food to people who need it most.

WPO will also continue supporting the Save Food project, an initiative of Messe Düsseldorf (interpack organiser) and the UN's Food & Agriculture Organisation. Again, we're talking about packaging education. Through WPO members, we aim to educate packaging professionals and society about the invaluable aspects of packaging: the fact that good and cost-effective packaging contributes to creating a more sustainable society.

This is very exciting, which means that with UNIDO's support, we will develop and implement specialised training and capacity-building programmes, and help to establish national packaging centres in developing countries to provide services such as packaging design and training courses.

- **Enhance WPO global image** by spreading the need for such an organisation in countries that currently are not involved. I have already put measures in place to achieve this and we are already seeing value from the efforts over these past 4 months.

The extensive travels around the world since being involved in the WPO is what drives me and certainly has taught me so much about packaging ideas, innovation, what packaging can do to help save food and in so doing reduce poverty. I have seen such interesting ideas from islands in the Pacific Ocean, across the globe to new ideas that makes life easier in Nairobi, Kenya.

We cannot ignore the fact that some countries face extreme inequalities of income between professionals and the masses, resulting in low GDPs. With this in mind, we need to contemplate how to reduce food wastage through better packaging.

During WPO Board meetings in Rio de Janeiro, our local member, ABRE, hosted a fantastic international packaging seminar to promote awareness that Saves Food. In that occasion, I presented a paper on the challenges for the global packaging industry when contemplating reduction of food waste. Then whilst in Brazil meetings were set up in São Paulo with:

- Academia / universities to evaluate the academic level of the WPO courses against world standards and at the same time encourage academia to promote reducing food wastage through improved packaging thus assisting in reducing poverty.

- Research Institutes to evaluate and assess where these institutions can help in packaging evaluation to also promote reducing food wastage through improved packaging thus assisting in reducing poverty.
- Packaging exhibition and conference organisers in South America to encourage them to promote the idea of Save Food at all their conferences and packaging exhibitions across South America.
- Held press various interviews with the South American press pushing my presidential objectives.

And the learning experiences continued during these first months as a President. I was in the USA to gain first-hand knowledge and understanding of packaging issues. I participated on CPhI Pharma conference in India to attend this globally important pharmaceutical exhibition.

While in India, I had the chance of meeting with the top 30 local companies to share my vision and gain from them how we together can achieve these objectives that I have set as WPO President. Also met with local government to understand from them, their ideas and how best we can together build the future of working towards less food wastage.

Once again in USA, I met with academia in Chicago and held discussions with business groups in industry. The business groups were most receptive to our WPO objectives and together we mapped a future route where all interested parties will assist in various ways possible to each in reducing food waste, improving packaging, saving food and reducing poverty.

Then visited the University Rochester Institute of Technology where I lectured to students sharing the vision and what they could do into the future to help design packaging to reduce food wastage and thus save food. Also met with various student groups including the university's Student Representative Council, encouraging them to be aware and requesting that they too play a part in improving our future in reducing food wastage.

I attended Anuga FoodTec in Cologne, Germany, to co-open a FoodTec Conference that focussed on reducing food wastage. In my opening address, I focussed on the material science aspects of smart packaging that can improve and extend food shelf life, thus helping to reduce food wastage through active packaging and helping the consumer understand the concepts of intelligent packaging. On the same occasion, I used the opportunity to meet with industry leaders to ascertain what they were doing about reducing food wastage through enhanced packaging systems. I also met with about 40 Food Science Alumni students, from around the world, attending the conference to encourage them to focus on the packaging aspects of food.

Later in May 2018, I will be back to India to attend InnoPack expo where I will present a paper at the international conference on Innovations in Packaging. I intend to discuss WPO's position regarding reducing waste through better packaging. I will also talk about enhanced packaging concepts in the pharma sector to extend shelf life and finally look at what the WPO intends doing to reduce poverty across the globe.

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Around the World

Innovation Pavilion at PLASTINDIA 2018



The 10th edition of PLASTINDIA 2018 (February 07-12) has successfully taken India's plastics industry on a high benchmark with over 2,000 exhibitors in 22,000 square meters at Gandhinagar (Gujarat – India). The show, that is already considered the 3rd largest plastic exhibition in the world, gathered exhibitors from over 40 countries.

To have an idea of the market size, Indian plastics industry turnover is set to touch USD 20 billion by 2018. Quadruple growth is expected to be registered by the plastics processing industry in value terms. Studies show that this industry grows around 16% per year what can take India to be the 3rd largest plastics consumer by 2020.

This year, WPO supported the initiative of its local member, Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP). The Innovation Pavilion was coordinated by the Director of IIP, N. C. Saha, and promoted WPO's SAVE FOOD Initiative. In a 60 square meters area it was showcased various packaging projects, from WPO members around the globe, showing how innovative plastic packaging can help reducing the food wastage.

There were posters about the Save Food innovations in plastic packaging from 17 WPO members - India, Brazil, Austria, Turkey, Australia, Hungary, Germany, Iran, Lebanon, Newland etc.. The posters were displayed along with innovative plastic package samples made in India. The displayed samples were the winners of National award, INDIASTAR; the same samples have been awarded with WorldStar, from WPO.

WPO member, APO, supports the 2nd edition of agrofood & plastprintpack Ethiopia 2018

The 2nd edition of agrofood (www.agrofood-ethiopia.com) & plastprintpack Ethiopia 2018 (www.ppp-ethiopia.com) – May 3 - 5 at the Millennium Hall in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia – joined more than 60 exhibitors from 17 countries. The shows were part of a bigger exhibition: Ethiopia's 2nd International Trade Show on Agriculture, Food, Plastics, Printing and Packaging, organised by German fairtrade (www.fairtrade-messe.de) in cooperation with local Ethiopian partner, Prana Events.

There were exhibitors from Austria, China, Denmark, Ethiopia, France, Germany, India, Italy, Qatar, South Africa, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom and

USA.

Ethiopia is East and Central Africa's largest economy with GDP growth rates increasing between 6% to 10% per year; it is also one of the fastest growing economies in the world. With imports of €128 million in 2016 (VDMA), Ethiopia is East and Central Africa's largest importer of food process and packaging machinery. It is also the 2nd largest in agro technology, with imports reaching € 31 million.

Ethiopia is East and Central Africa's largest importer of plastics in primary forms with a phenomenal annual growth rate of 46% between 2011 and 2014, reaching € 527 million in 2014. It is also the 2nd largest importer of plastics and packaging machinery with annual growth rates of 25% and 59% respectively.

Both shows were supported by APO (African Packaging Organisation), a WPO member.

Brazilian packaging industry recovers in 2017

ABRE (Brazilian Packaging Association), a WPO member, announced that the local packaging industry ended 2017 with a turnover around US\$ 21 billion and an increase in the production volume of almost 2% after three years of decrease. These results were presented by the economist Paulo Picchetti, from Fundação Getúlio Vargas, and are part of a more comprehensive research made with exclusivity for ABRE to its members.



The prediction for 2018 is to grow 3%. Four of the five packaging segments analysed in the research had a better performance in 2017 compared to the previous year. Growth rates were registered by glass packaging (3.39%), plastic (3.37%), paper and paperboard (2.99%) and wood (0.56%). Exception was the metal packaging segment that registered a decrease of 3.92%.

Finalists announced for 2018 PIDA Awards

AIP (Australian Institute of Packaging), a WPO member, just announced the finalists of the 2018 Packaging & Processing Innovation & Design Awards (PIDA). The award is organized in cooperation with the Australian Packaging & Processing Machinery Association (APPMMA) and the Packaging Council of New Zealand. It has been designed to recognise companies and individuals who are making a significant difference in their field across Australia and New Zealand. The PIDA Awards are the exclusive feeder program for the prestigious WorldStar Packaging Awards, from WPO.

2018 PIDA winners will be announced at a gala dinner on the 2nd May in Gold Coast (Australia), together with the announcement of WorldStar winners. Follow the winners at www.aipack.com.au.

International packaging community and Anuga FoodTec intensify fight against food waste

International exhibition Anuga FoodTec and the packaging community have now joined forces to chart where



existing packaging may help in limiting food waste and to define areas where future packaging innovations may be needed.

Two key events were scheduled during the show this year (March 20-23): the international conference "Fighting food waste together: how to open the potential of better packaging" and the

NVC Zero Food Waste Dinner. NVC is WPO member in The Netherlands.

Besides this, during the show, visitors could express their support for the fight against food waste by folding and subsequently using their own promotional fighting food waste lunch box during their stay in Cologne. Food packaging is the activity of temporarily integrating an external function and food to enable the consumption of the food. Important functionalities of food packaging in the fight against food waste are displayed on the box. The fighting food waste lunch boxes were available for free at the NVC Packaging Centre booth.

Anuga FoodTec also showed how the dissemination of know-how on food packaging, via education and training, may be drastically improved. The novel NVC Live Online Ecourse Food Packaging removes the need to travel and facilitates global access for business students from any place with an adequate internet connection.

IoPP Food Safety Alliance for Packaging launches a document

The Food Safety Alliance for Packaging (FSAP), a technical committee of the Institute of Packaging Professionals (IoPP), WPO member in USA, announces the release of a product stewardship document for food packaging. The six-page document is titled "Food Packaging Product Stewardship Considerations." And is available at www.iopp.org/fsap.

The document is the product of an FSAP food brand owners working group. The participating companies aim to provide a list of product stewardship best practices in a publicly available document for all of the food packaging supply chain to access. For this document, input was given by brand owners including Nestlé and Mars Wrigley Confectionery, and packaging supply chain members, including Decernis, Siegwark, American Packaging Corp., Henkel and Sun Chemical.

FSAP is a group of individuals from food and food packaging supply chain companies dedicated to raising food safety awareness in the food packaging industry. The group meets to discuss food packaging quality and safety topics during a bi-monthly call; in addition, there is a yearly face-to-face meeting. For further information visit www.iopp.org.

IoPP partners with PACK EXPO East

WPO member in USA, IoPP (The Institute of Packaging Professionals) participated at PACK EXPO East (April 16–18, Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia), produced by PMMI (The Association for Packaging and Processing Technologies). The event showcased 400 exhibiting companies offering packaging equipment, machinery, materials, containers and automation technologies, with 6,000 attendees from East Coast consumer packaged goods companies and those providing packaging materials and services to the industry.

IoPP hold two educational sessions at the show. On April 16, Jane Chase, IoPP Executive Director, presented “What’s Your Plan? Career Mapping—Understanding the Path to Success.” On April 17, Dennis Gros, President of Gros Executive Recruiters, spoke on “Your Career in Today’s Volatile Workplace” and identified issues shaping the current employment environment and recommended tactics to maximize career’s growth.

Packaging Conference in India

Another great event organized by IIP (Indian Institute of Packaging), under the coordination of its Executive Director, N. C. Saha, was the National Conference on Packaging, at Kolkata (Eastern India), on March 14-15. The conference main subject was “Emerging packaging technology – Optimizing performance & cost”. IIP is also a very active member of WPO.

The event counted with two special guests, both from West Bengal Government: Nandini Chakravorty, IAS Secretary, Department of Food Processing Industries & Horticulture and Choten D Lama, IAS State Mission Director & Chief Executive Officer, West Bengal State Rural Livelihoods Mission & Secretary, Panchayat and Rural Development Dept.

PMMI launches CareerLink online job board

Made possible by a \$50,000 grant from the Bosch Community Fund, PMMI (The Association for Packaging and Processing Technologies), a close partner of WPO, has launched [CareerLink](#), a new online job board. CareerLink will connect students from schools and universities with PMMI member companies looking for new talent.

This job board is the centerpiece of a new initiative aimed at raising awareness of career opportunities in the packaging and processing industry through fostering relationships with institutions, marketing the industry to students and helping students find entry-level employment and internships.

“This one-of-a-kind job board is the tool the industry needs to drive talent to the packaging and processing industry,” says Paul Jenks, director of sales and marketing,

Bosch Packaging Technology, Inc. "We see CareerLink as instrumental in helping to close the skills gap and develop a qualified workforce to move this industry forward."

PMMI members benefit from this easy and direct line to schools with engineering and mechatronics programs. CareerLink is a web-based, functional and user-friendly platform, providing a one-stop-shop for posting open positions, reviewing resumes and connecting with potential candidates across the country.

"CareerLink is just one part of PMMI's ongoing efforts to provide more education services to strengthen the packaging and processing workforce," says Kate Fiorianti, education manager, PMMI. "We thank the Bosch Community Fund for their generous support enabling us to launch this exciting new job board."

Another part of PMMI's ongoing efforts to bridge the skills gap in the emerging workforce was the PMMI Career & Internship Fair. This informal job fair, held last March, is a new networking opportunity where member companies can interface directly with students. CareerLink will also be featured at PACK EXPO International (Oct. 14-17; McCormick Place, Chicago).

For additional information about CareerLink and upcoming PMMI Education initiatives, contact Fiorianti at kate@pmmi.org.

From the board

New Executive Board is officially working since January 1st



From left to right: Antro Säilä, Liliam Benzi, Johannes Bergmair, Luciana Pellegrino, Pierre Piennar, Chakravarthi AVPS, Soha Atallah, Kishan Singh, Aslihan Arian and Carl Oslmats.

WPO's new Executive Board, chosen by the elected President Pierre Pienaar, is officially working since January 1st this year. The professionals chosen by Pierre are:

- Antro Säilä (Finland) - Vice President Sustainability
- Aslihan Arikan (Turkey) - Vice President Education
- Johannes Bergmair (Austria) – General Secretary
- Liliam Benzi (Brazil) - Press & Communication Officer
- Luciana Pellegrino (Brazil) - Vice President Marketing
- Soha Atallah (Lebanon) - Vice President Conferences, Exhibitions and Awards

Pierre adopted another innovation in his term (2018-2020) as WPO President. He appointed three WPO Ambassadors: Chakravarthi AVPS (India), Carl Oslmats (Sweden) and Kishan Singh (South Africa). "Their main goal is to help promoting WPO brand and spreading our main mission globally: "Better quality of life through better packaging for more people"". Most of the new WPO President's strategies is focused in packaging education, safe food initiatives and marketing & communication tools.

PMMI sponsors WPO WorldStar Awards ceremony 2018 and 2019

Due to the prestige of the WorldStar Awards, the unique and exclusive global packaging competition organized by WPO, PMMI (The Association for Packaging and Processing Technologies), organizer and producer of the PACK EXPO portfolio of trade shows, has renewed its sponsorship of the WorldStar Awards Ceremony for the next two years (2018 and 2019). This year the gala ceremony and dinner will take place on May 2nd, on Gold Coast, Australia.



The Ceremony is scheduled for the same week of the 1st WPO Board Meeting of 2018 and will be hosted by local member, AIP (Australian Institute of Packaging). On the same night, winners of the ANZ PIDA Awards, the Australian/New Zealand packaging competition, will be announced.

According to Pierre Pienaar, President of WPO, "for several years the partnership between PMMI and WPO for the WorldStar Awards ceremony has been very successful. We have no doubt the gala evening is the perfect environment for PMMI to promote their packaging shows' brand, PACK EXPO". WPO is a long term partner of PMMI at those shows; the Organisation participates in PACK EXPO International and PACK EXPO Las Vegas with an institutional booth as part of the Partner's Program.

At those occasions, WPO has the chance to promote its projects, especially the education. The next edition of PACK EXPO International will take place in Chicago (USA), from 14 to 17 October 2018. "Winning a WorldStar is among the highest award a package can receive, making PMMI's sponsorship an easy decision," said Jim Pittas, President and CEO of PMMI.

New WPO Board Member elected for ANZ



The Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP), a WPO member, is pleased to announce that Nerida Kelton MAIP has been nominated by her peers to take on the position of the ANZ (Australia/New Zealand) delegate to WPO Board. According to Carol Kilcullen-Lawrence FAIP, National President of the AIP, "Nerida, as the Executive Director of the AIP, has been part of the Institute and the packaging industry now for almost two decades and is hands-on with all aspects of representing the AIP, its members and the wider packaging industry."

"With her in-depth knowledge and significant contribution to the AIP's programs, Nerida is the key person to represent the interests of AIP and

also the greater packaging industry in Australia and New Zealand," completes Kilcullen-Lawrence. "The AIP look forward to continuing the fruitful collaboration between our Institute and WPO to achieve the best outcome for the whole industry from a global perspective."

The election of Nerida Kelton to the WPO Board follows the recent shift of Pierre Pienaar's to the position of WPO's President. As the newly-elected President, Pienaar added: "From time to time, WPO Board requires new ideas, fresh thinking and sometimes a new approach. What better time now that Nerida has been elected by the AIP to represent ANZ Packaging on the WPO Board."

And adds: "WPO welcomes this appointment as having worked with Nerida for many years in the AIP. Her determination and going well beyond her assigned duties, will no doubt give the WPO some new impetus and focus."

WPO members participate in international events



Between February and April 2018, some WPO members are participated in exhibitions and seminars, representing the Organization and promoting the importance of packaging. At PlastIndia 2018 (February 7-12 - Gujarat state, Western region of India), the Director of the Indian Institute of Packaging, N. C. Saha, a very active Board Member of WPO, organized the WPO Save Food area. Prolonging the model from Interpack 2017, the area presented solutions on packaging to prevent food waste. 18 WPO members - Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, India, South

Africa, Spain, The Netherlands, UK, USA, APO (African Packaging Organization) and APF (Asian Packaging Federation) were represented in the Innovation area at PlastIndia.

WPO was also represented in another event in India, the CII National Packaging Conference 2018 (February 09 - 10, Chennai). At this occasion, WPO Ambassador, Chakravarthi AVPS, reinforced the importance of packaging and the importance of having a structure like WPO working on packaging education programs around the world. "This conference aimed to serve as a platform for sharing knowledge, business and technology identification, create awareness among the end-users and consumers on current trends in packaging, understand from experts, industrial, government and key stakeholders on the best practices, global standards and emerging norms in packaging, support industries in adoption of advanced technology and unique ideas, and forging partnerships for collaborative business and research amongst industries, institutions, innovators etc."

The other event in which WPO was represented was the 2nd Latin American Summit on Innovation in Plastic Packaging (April 18 – 19 – Mexico city). WPO General Secretary, Johannes Bergmair (Austria) and WPO Vice President of Marketing, Luciana Pellegrino (Brazil), spoke there. The titles of their presentations were, respectively, "World innovative plastics packaging that fights hunger, reduces food waste and improve social conditions" and "Innovating in packaging in the context of circular economy".

WPO congratulates its Ambassador



Kishan Singh, WPO Ambassador and very active member, just assumed as CEO of Metpac-SA, the South African metal packaging association. Although the future looks bright for metal packaging, Kishan says he also mindful of the various challenges that need to be overcome. "The metals industry should not underestimate the threat of losing market share to other packaging materials. We should therefore constantly be on the lookout for ways to innovate and promote the message that metal is truly an environmentally sustainable packaging solution. Spreading the recycling message, news of our industry's ongoing and impressive metal recovery rates, as well as continual innovation to preserve natural resources, are all critical in proving

our extended producer responsibility to the consumer, government and other stakeholders."

Kishan will be taking a leading role over the next few months in completing and submitting MetPac-SA's plan for the Industry Waste Management Plan (IndWMP) by the September 2018 deadline. "This will probably be the single most important initiative that I will be driving in the short-to medium term as the entire packaging industry, through dedicated Producer Responsibility Organisations (PROs), are all currently working together to achieve this deadline," he says.

Another key area of focus for him will be increasing membership to MetPac-SA by encouraging raw material suppliers, primary packaging converters, fillers, bottlers as well as brand owners to create a truly unified voice that promotes the benefits of metal packaging and demonstrates manufacturer responsibility on efficient use of raw materials.

Agenda

International support for 2nd pacprocess Tehran

Companies from the packaging sector and related process industries, with an interest in developing one of the most promising markets in the Near East or in consolidating their position there, can apply for participation in "pacprocess Tehran" with immediate effect.

The 2nd edition of the Iranian trade fair will be held from 4 to 7 October 2018 and enjoy the support of numerous forward-looking industry associations, including the VDMA's Food Processing and Packaging Machinery Association, the Italian Packaging Machinery Association UCIMA, the Spanish Association of Internationalized Industrial Companies AMEC, the Associations Flexible Packaging Europe (FPE) and alufoil, as well as the Iranian Food and Processing Association (IFMMA). For further information visit www.pacprocess-tehran.de.

Education

WPO packaging education initiatives on 1st half of 2018

As part of its Education strategy, WPO is able to offer 3 to 5 days long Packaging Technology Training Courses amongst its members' organisations. The purpose of those training courses is to increase and develop professional knowledge and competency of packaging industries' employees, other colleagues in related industries and also university students.

Packaging technology is a permanent WPO's flagship, with 350 students being trained in 2017. Last year, training took place in China, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Kenya, Nigeria and Vietnam.

In April 2018, WPO accomplished the 1st program of the year, the Global Food Packaging Technology & Trends in Indonesia at Jakarta (Java island). The trainer was Kishan Singh, WPO Ambassador. Some of the topics were Food Packaging Materials, Food Safety, Food Contact Regulations in Europe and Asian countries, Packaging Logistics for improving performance in supply chains and Quality Management. There were also the participation of guest speakers from industry.

Other WPO approved programs for the first half of 2018 were:

- Packaging Technology Training Program – Nigeria
- Packaging Technology Training Program – China
- Packaging Technology Training Program – Iran
- Packaging Technology Training Program – Eastern Europe

Also, some education initiatives were planned with WPO members and stakeholders in Asia, North & Sub-Saharan Africa, Central & South Americas and Eastern Europe. Potential training programs will be: Packaging Technology, Food Packaging Technology, Advanced Packaging Technology and Quality Management.

For more information, Aslihan Arikan, WPO Vice President of Education by e-mail a.arikan@worldpackaging.org.

Great achievements in packaging education

01) New Zealand - Asaleo Care attains CPP

Saurabh Narula MAIP, CPP, Packaging Technologist at Asaleo Care, in New Zealand, has attained the latest Certified Packaging Professional (CPP) designation for the industry. He is the 3rd New Zealand CPP, since the international recognition was introduced into the Australasian region.

Offered exclusively through the Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP), a WPO member in Australasia, the CPP designation is the leading mark of excellence internationally and a must-have recognition of industry proficiency and achievement for packaging professionals.



02) Australasia - Simplot Australia gets the 1st CPIT

Sigrid Tusek AAIP, Packaging Development Officer of Simplot Australia, made history being the first person in Australasia to attain the Certified Packaging Professional in Training (CPIT) designation, offered exclusively through the Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP), a WPO member.

As the newest and youngest member of the Simplot packaging team, the newly-launched CPIT Designation was ideally suited to Sigrid's level of packaging knowledge.



The CPIT designation is a registered trademark of the Institute of Packaging Professionals (IoPP), WPO member from USA, and is now internationally recognised by both IoPP and AIP.

PMMI Scholarships support manufacturing workforce

In 2017, PMMI (The Association for Packaging and Processing Technologies), a close partner of WPO, awarded over \$140,000 in scholarships to support the development of a skilled workforce capable of moving the packaging and processing industry forward.

Each year through the PMMI Foundation, the Association provides scholarships to students studying packaging, food processing, engineering and mechatronics at PMMI

Partner Schools throughout the United States and Canada.

"As an industry leader, PMMI knows the importance of developing a workforce to advancing the packaging and processing industry," says Jim Pittas, president and CEO, PMMI. "We are committed to the future of this industry and want to spread the message that the packaging and processing industry is a great place for students to start a career."

Investment in the next generation of packaging and processing professionals is critical to the success of PMMI's mission. Applications for 2018 scholarships are now open. Please contact Kate Fiorianti, education manager, PMMI at kate@pmmi.org for more information.

WorldStar

WorldStar Packaging Awards 2019 is open for entries

Entries for the WorldStar Packaging Awards 2019 will open on June 1st and the closing date will be 20 September 2018. This global competition is considered one of the major events of WPO and gathers the best packages from all over the world.

It is divided in 12 categories – Beverages, Electronics, Food, Health & Personal Care, Household, Labelling & Decoration, Luxury, Medical & Pharmaceutical, Other, Packaging Materials & Components, Point of Sale and Transit – and 05 special categories – Marketing, Sustainability, President's Award, Packaging that Saves Food and Lifetime Achievement in Packaging Award.

The main advantages of participating in this global packaging competition are:

- to gain worldwide recognition;
- to get noticed by some of the biggest packaging buyers in the world;
- to impress new and current customers;
- to receive the highest award in the industry globally;
- to use the WorldStar winners logo on all promotional material;
- to receive the award at a world class awards presentation ceremony;
- to receive a complimentary trophy and certificate to display for all customers.

Next judging process will take place in China, in November. For more information on entries process, contact WorldStar Coordinator, Rachel Bayswater by e-mail Rachel.bayswater@iom3.org or Twitter @worldstarpkg or visit the website www.worldstar.org.

WorldStar announces winners of the Lifetime Achievement in Packaging Award category



The four winners of the WorldStar Awards' category, the Lifetime Achievement in Packaging, were announced in March. The judges, from all over the world, elected:

- Miklos Galli from Hungary
- Professor Harry Lovell, from Australia
- Professor Lars G Wallentin, Switzerland
- Helmut Meininger from Austria

"The Lifetime Achievement in Packaging Award was established with the aim of acknowledging and rewarding excellence in all aspects of packaging science, technology, design and application across every country around the world", explains Pierre Pienaar, WPO President. And adds: "The discipline of packaging is one that is truly global. The World Packaging Organisation is in a unique position to identify leading practitioners from around the world who have consistently pushed the boundaries in advancing the art, science and application of packaging to serve the needs of an ever more demanding society. These prestigious awards will celebrate and preserve in perpetuity the collective achievements of these innovators."

Annually, each WPO member (representing a voting member) is able to make up to one nomination through an online registration form. The second group of honorees will be recognized during the WorldStar Award Ceremony & Gala Dinner, the Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia on 2 May, 2018.

The full list of WorldStar Award winners, by countries and categories, can be seen at <http://www.worldstar.org/worldstar-winners-2018>

Interview

The benefits of a Diploma in Packaging Technology

Past APPMA (Australian Packaging and Processing Machinery Association Ltd.) Scholarship Winner, Anna Roland, from Nestlé Australia, graduated and got a Diploma in Packaging Technology. The APPMA have been running the Scholarship program, in conjunction with the AIP (Australian Institute of Packaging), a WPO member, for 10 years enabling one lucky packaging technologist, designer or engineer in Australia the opportunity to complete a Diploma in Packaging Technology to the value of \$9,000 every year.



This internationally accredited Diploma prepares students to take responsibility for packaging operations at any level through the supply chain. The qualification is comprehensive and provides an opportunity to study the principles of packaging, packaging materials and packaging processes.

The students can be from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines, and are typically experienced practitioners or managers in technical, sales/marketing, QA, purchasing, engineering or design. Completion of the Diploma in Packaging Technology demonstrates the commitment with the career and with the industry. Delegates who successfully complete the Diploma are equipping themselves for senior positions within the packaging industry.

Check now what Anna has to say about both the APPMA Scholarship and also achieving her Diploma in Packaging Technology.

What did winning the APPMA Scholarship mean to you? How important are scholarships like this?

Working as a food technologist means that packaging is a part of daily life. This opportunity to be awarded the APPMA annual Scholarship to undertake the Diploma in Packaging Technology meant that I had a chance to build my skills in another area that I work closely with. The APPMA Scholarship made undertaking the Diploma possible for me, where I otherwise would not have been able to enrol.

What does graduating from the Diploma in Packaging Technology mean to you?

Graduating with a Diploma in Packaging Technology has given me a broad background of knowledge in not just the types of packaging I work with, but all packaging substrates. Because the course is so thorough and requires you to do a hands-on project it really leaves you with a sense of accomplishment and that you can now work with packaging confidently.

How will you apply this knowledge moving forward?

I really enjoyed the root cause analysis approach and the emphasis placed on looking at the whole packaging process when problem solving part of unit 3.

As we are continually changing or designing new products I can see that having a good understanding of packaging can help me support others in my team and result in better delivered projects.

Do you have any advice on why other people should complete the Diploma in Packaging Technology?

I found that packaging was hardly covered at all within my undergraduate degree and upon entering the workforce it was truly rare to find anyone at the factory that understood packaging at all. There was a high reliance on suppliers that meant when there was an issue the whole line stopped until advice was given on what to do next. Given that every food product is packaged in some way I think the Diploma has really helped me to think about the product as a whole and can see that this has made me a better packaging technologist.

So where to from here for your career?

I plan to keep on making new products for now while I am lucky to work alongside some lovely packaging technologists who have been great at sharing knowledge with me and letting me help out with trials. Australia clearly can't go without chocolate so I am having no trouble keeping busy for now.

Message from General Secretary

WPO, definitely a "packaging icon".



Together with my packaging students here in Austria we run an article series in a branch magazine for retailers. It is about commenting packaging – and so to show the multitude of functions, packaging has in our modern societies. Normally we focus on new packs on the market, but recently we also discussed some “packaging icons” like the glass bottle for “Maggi Würze”, a very traditional soup seasoning in Middle Europe. It’s unbelievable, but this bottle is on the market since 1886! And as you can see on the picture: Yes, the bottle has changed; but it is still the same. The shape and functionality have their pros and cons, so has the packaging material glass ...

Why I’m talking about this? Maybe it is a bit comparable to the situation WPO is running through these days. Well, not that early like Maggi Würze, but established in 1968 (50 years ago, by the way – we should celebrate this!). WPO had many good meetings with our international members, highlights like the WorldStar, outstanding training programs all around the world, projects like “Packaging that Saves Food” and many other things. All this to create better quality of life through better packaging for more people! To keep on track for this vision, we have to change, adapt to new environments. And this glass bottle should be an example for us: Not changing everything! Keep the good things, keep the shape of WPO, the material, the soul.

But Pierre and we as his new team are working on many new ideas: new homepage, modern ways of communication, new style of meetings, new financial planning, new kind and better benefits of membership, more sponsors, more and even better trainings, WPO congresses, activities on game-changers like “circular economy”, cooperation like this with UNIDO and, and, and...

Many things started, not so many finished yet. Our 100th Board Meeting in Australia will be an important step in this process. First time of harvesting the fruits of new ideas. Be there. Help us to find the new-old packaging design for WPO.

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Special Article

Transportation of fruits and vegetables without packaging will be banned in Turkey



The Communiqué on the Standards for Wholesale and Retail Trade of Fruits and Vegetables published in the Turkish Official Gazette, on October 3, 2017, with the order of the Ministry of Customs and Trade has become effective. According to this new regulation which sets standards for wholesale and retail trade of fruits and vegetables, transportation of fruits and vegetables without packaging will not be allowed starting from the beginning of 2018.

The long standing questions which were left unanswered about packaging of fruits and vegetables during transport were finally answered. The Communiqué on the Standards for Wholesale and Retail Trade of Fruits and Vegetables" published in the Turkish Official Gazette on October 3, 2017 with the order of the Ministry of Customs and Trade regulates many aspects of transportation, storage and packaging of fruits and vegetables.

Pursuant to the communiqué, disposable or reusable packaging will be used for the transportation of fruits and vegetables; it will be ensure that fruits and vegetables are free of any foreign substances during transportation and storage. Additionally, cold chain packaging will be used to transport fruits and vegetables. It was previously stated that there was an annual loss of Turkish Liras 15 - 20 billion before products reach to consumers due to the reason that no packaging was used for fruits and vegetables.

Aslihan Arikan, General Secretary of the Turkish Packaging Manufacturers Association (ASD), a WPO member, told that they had been waiting this regulation about packaging of fruits and vegetables for a long time and added, "the plan is to place the harvest in bags, plastic crates or cardboard/corrugated cardboard boxes or in similar boxes (transportation packaging) and transport fruits and vegetables in such packaging to towns, cities etc. This packaging has been manufactured and used for many years in the industry. This communiqué will help to reduce waste and loss and contribute significantly to the economy."

- This new communiqué was issued to prevent loss and waste during transportation of fruits and vegetables to the retail points and storage.
- Pursuant to the communiqué, fruits and vegetables may only be transported in bags, plastic crates and cardboard/corrugated cardboard boxes and similar boxes that meet the defined standards.
- Disposable or reusable packaging that meets the applicable standards will be used during transport.
- Use of Disposable packaging categorized as wooden, cardboard or cardboard based will become mandatory as of June 1, 2018.

- Use of Reusable packaging in the form of crate, box and basket made of plastic materials will become mandatory as of January 1, 2019.
- Reusable packaging will be disinfected according to the food safety standards.
- Most fresh fruits and vegetables will be transported in cold chain vehicles (refrigerated vehicles) to prevent loss and waste during transport.
- Cold chain transportation is not required for pumpkins, cabbages, water melons, melons, potatoes, onions (dry), and sweet potatoes.
- Small scale manufacturers were also considered when preparing the communiqué. If small scale manufacturers sell/offer their products directly to consumers in a retail market, no packaging is required.
- The communiqué also stipulates that fresh fruits and vegetables are stored in cold storage warehouses or in places where humidity and temperature is regulated to prevent loss of quality and waste.
- Shopping centers, supermarkets and chain markets will sell fruits and vegetables in their original packaging in refrigerated areas.



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