



sustainable  
packaging alliance

# Sustainable Packaging Alliance

## SPA Flash

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[www.sustainablepack.org](http://www.sustainablepack.org)

### News and Current Activities

#### Sustainable Packaging Master Class

A three-day Design for Sustainability Master Class was held for students and lecturers in Industrial Design at the University of South Australia from 20-22 September. The course was run by SPA in conjunction with Product Ecology, with sponsorship from Zero Waste SA, the EPA and Yalumba Wines. In addition to the more formal components of the course, students worked on group design projects to reduce the environmental impacts of wine packaging. The results will be presented to staff at Yalumba next month.

*For further information contact: Helen Lewis, (02)6247 3871, e-mail: [helen@sustainablepack.org](mailto:helen@sustainablepack.org)*

#### PIQET<sup>®</sup> announcements

PIQET<sup>®</sup> - Packaging Impact Quick Evaluation Tool - is a rapid life cycle assessment (LCA) based tool that will enable users from a wide range of organisations to assess or inform packaging designs / specifications without the need for investment in the knowledge, time and resources otherwise needed to make complex environmental impact evaluations. The prototype version of PIQET has been completed and is currently being trialled by the five sponsoring companies. Development of the on-line version of the prototype has also commenced with the appointment of WSP Environmental Pty Ltd who will build the first on-line alpha version of PIQET by June 2007. *For further information or to arrange a briefing and demonstration of PIQET contact: Robert Jordan, (03) 9681 8199, e-mail: [robert@sustainablepack.org](mailto:robert@sustainablepack.org)*

#### Welcome new researcher

We welcome Dr Juin Majumdar, a Material Scientist with research expertise in metals and polymers to the SPA team. Juin has joined the Centre for Design at RMIT University as Assistant Manager Sustainable Products while Karli Verghese is on maternity leave. Juin will add new depth and breadth to the skills of the SPA team. She has a Ph.D. on Recycling of Polymer Post-Consumer Waste and experience in processing, performance and characterisation of materials, waste management, recycling strategies and product development using recyclates. Juin has previously worked in R&D establishments and commercial organisations including Comalco research centre, RMIT University, Swinburne University of Technology and Dolphin Products Pty Ltd. She is a Board Member of Society of Plastics Engineer, Australia-New Zealand.



#### Introducing SPA Round Table support staff

We also wish a belated welcome to Madeline Toner, who joins us to offer support for the SPA Round Table series. Madeline was previously employed as a Research Liaison Officer at Dairy Australia. She has a background in Animal Physiology and a degree in Agricultural Science. Madeline has spent almost a decade in Japan, where she worked as Liaison Officer for R.M. Williams Japan.



#### Participate in our sustainable packaging research

Areli Avendano is undertaking research for a PhD on integration of sustainability principles in the design of product-packaging systems. The research aims to identify gaps and limitations in the decision making processes currently employed by the packaging industry. She is currently organising interviews with packaging technologists, environmental managers and marketers for her PhD studies and is looking for volunteers!

*For further information contact: Areli Avendano, e-mail: [S3122855@student.rmit.edu.au](mailto:S3122855@student.rmit.edu.au)*

## Implementing NPCII: A whole chain perspective, Roundtable 10 summary

Our 10<sup>th</sup> Roundtable held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2006 gave participants insights into the challenges faced by all members of the packaging supply chain to report on the NPC KPIs. Amongst other insights, the roundtable demonstrated that it is important to look at the NPC KPI's in the context of the bigger picture, where each player has a role and each KPI is reported against other indicators and, that there is on-going tension between marketing and NPC obligations which need to be reconciled. A full report including copies of the presentations and details of the round table discussion feedback, conclusions and learnings is available in PDF format at a cost of \$125 + 10% GST. [Download the summary report from Round Table 10](#)

*For further information or to order a copy of the full report contact: Robert Jordan, (03) 9681 8199, e-mail: [robert@sustainablepack.org](mailto:robert@sustainablepack.org)*

### SPA tools

#### Packaging Material Selector

SPA's Packaging Material Selector provides easy reference information on commonly used packaging materials, such as raw materials, greenhouse gases generated during material production and national recycling rates. [Download the order form from Material Selector](#)



#### Packaging and Product Stewardship: International Regulations and Policies

SPA has developed the first version of its quick reference document outlining packaging regulations and policies. Thirty-five jurisdictions are covered with policies classified according to the degree of regulation (i.e., voluntary, co-regulatory and fully regulated) and also the type of policy measure (e.g., extended producer responsibility, targets, eco-design requirements, codes of practice, taxes and charges and labelling requirements. For information on how to order your copies see page 2 or our website.



[Download the order form from http://www.sustainablepack.org/resources/page.aspx?id=30](http://www.sustainablepack.org/resources/page.aspx?id=30)

### Forthcoming SPA events

#### SPA Roundtables

Dates for forthcoming roundtables and topics are presented below - remember to mark in your diary!!

<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2007</b>	PIQET tool and case studies
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2007</b>	Design for Recycling

#### Sustainable Packaging for the Supply Chain, Auckland, 18 October, 2006

Following a successful course for marketers in April this year, a second Sustainable Packaging course will be held in Auckland on October 18<sup>th</sup> to coincide with the FOODTECH PACKTECH exhibition. The course is being run by SPA for the Packaging Council New Zealand.

*For further information see <http://www.packaging.org.nz/new/new.php>*

#### 5<sup>th</sup> Australian Conference on Life Cycle Assessment, Melbourne, 22-24 November, 2006

The aim of the conference is to build bridges between different environmental assessment methods that have a sustainability focus. This includes life cycle assessment, energy and greenhouse life cycle studies, life cycle costing, triple bottom line accounting approaches, and ecological footprints. Three days of plenary and concurrent sessions on greenhouse, business case, water, buildings, resource use and waste management, impact assessment, and agriculture. *For further information contact <http://lca-conf.alcas.asn.au>*

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