

COSPAK

The specialists in glass & plastic packaging

NPC 2006-2007 Action Plan Report



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Cospak Pty Ltd is a national wholesale packaging supplier with the Head Office in Sydney and Branches in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Hobart, Adelaide and Perth.
2. As a 100% privately owned Australian company, Cospak is dedicated to the prevention of waste and the minimization of costs on the business, embracing the principles of environmental impact minimization and the spirit of the National Packaging Covenant.
3. Cospak signed the original National Packaging Covenant in May 2003 and re-signed the new strengthened Covenant in October 2005 to continue its commitment to the ongoing principles of waste reduction, resource reduction and an increase in the use of recycling.
4. As a manufacturer (importer), a member of the packaging supply chain and a signatory to the Covenant, Cospak is committed to upholding the principles of the National Packaging Covenant and the 2006-2007 Action Plan Report details the actions that have been undertaken and the results that have been achieved.
5. Cospak has completed the 2006-2007 IDAS Online KPI Survey.
6. Jonathan Evans, International Operations Manager, is responsible for Cospak's commitment to the National Packaging Covenant and reports directly to the Managing Director, Mr. David Driver on all issues relating to the Covenant. This Action Plan Report has been endorsed by Mr. Driver.

COMPANY OVERVIEW

Cospak Pty Ltd (Cospak) is a 100% Australian privately owned company providing a comprehensive range of rigid packaging. Established in 1969 as Bottle Containers Pty Ltd., Cospak continues as a leading supplier of glass and plastic containers. Over time the company worked hard to ensure strong growth and accelerated this process with the acquisition of DM Supplies in Perth, Combined Packaging in Newcastle, Newpro in Sydney, Jars Plus in Melbourne and Elaine's Bottles and Jars in Hobart.

Cospak is not only a major national distributor for significant Australian and New Zealand manufacturers, but also offers product and support from substantial quality oriented suppliers located in Europe, the UK, Middle East, Asia and the USA. Cospak has offices in every State in Australia and is quality endorsed to ISO9001-2000.

In October 2004 Cospak sold its General Packaging and Flexibles Divisions to Bunzl plc, a multi national company listed on the UK Stock Exchange, signaling a return to concentration on its core business of glass and plastic rigid packaging.

Cospak originally signed the National Packaging Covenant in May 2003, and Managing Director David Driver re-signed the new and strengthened Covenant in October 2005 to continue Cospak's commitment to the ongoing principles of waste reduction, reduction in the use of natural resources, and an increase in recycling.

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PRODUCT RANGE

The Cospak product catalogue is available on the Cospak website at www.cospak.com.au. The Cospak sales range includes:

- Cartons and dividers
- Glass bottles and jars
- Rigid Plastic Containers
- Tin cans, pails and drums

PACKAGING AT COSPAK

Cospak's place in the supply chain is as a wholesale distributor and importer, receiving product from packaging manufacturers. Cospak then stores and distributes to customers who use them to pack their products - usually in the outer packaging provided by the original manufacturer.

The main packaging items used by Cospak are cartons for repacking and stretch wrap for stabilizing and protecting loads. Packaging is a cost to us and to our customer so we always strive to keep it to a minimum within the constraints of ensuring that it does an effective job of protecting its contents.

Cospak internally uses the following types of packaging:

- Corrugated cardboard boxes/shippers
- Bottle dividers
- HDPE carton liner bags
- Pallet stretch wrap film
- Packaging tapes
- Pallets – reusable
- Pallets – disposable
- Plain labels (laser printed on site as required)
- Invoice enclosed self adhesive envelopes

PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

1. Cospak will encourage suppliers to become signatories to the National Packaging Covenant, work with them to reduce the volume of packaging used, and encourage them to use recycled materials.
2. We will recommend wherever possible that customers use packaging supplied by our Covenant Signatory suppliers, and to use the Environmental Code of Practice for Packaging during the design process for new products.
3. Cospak will commit to recycling all product and packaging rendered unsaleable in our distribution centres. This includes broken glass, plastic pallet wrappings, paper and carton board. Wherever possible we will ensure that materials used are recyclable or reusable to reduce to a minimum any adverse environmental effects.

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4. Cospak will increase staff awareness of the National Packaging Covenant and our targets concerning reduction of waste in our business.
5. Cospak will continue to educate its staff and customers in the correct handling of returnable packaging to ensure we achieve maximum returns in useable condition for prolonged service life.
6. Cospak will review its repacking operation to determine whether carton board consumption can be reduced, and whether a greater level of recyclability can be achieved in this activity.
7. We will encourage all our suppliers to research means of light weighting products or re-designing them to reduce the amount of material used subject to maintaining structural integrity and practical use.
8. Cospak will investigate means of reducing its use of natural resources including electricity and fossil fuels.
9. Cospak will maintain records in order to be able to measure track performance against commitments made in the Action Plan.

EVOLUTION AWARDS 07

To further encourage industry participants, and to recognize and reward brand owner excellence in packaging waste management, Cospak sponsored the inaugural 2006 Packaging Magazine Evolution Award for the best Pharmaceutical Packaging Action Plan and repeated this in 2007.

The award is presented to the brand owner that has best demonstrated a commitment to packaging waste management, and best affected their Action Plan to minimise environmental impacts from the disposal of used packaging, conserve resources through better design and production, and facilitate the re-use and recycling of used packaging materials.

Cospak is proud to be associated with the Evolution Awards as a way of fulfilling, at least in some part, its environmental obligations, and as a practical way of displaying its support for companies that operate in one of its four most important markets.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND TARGETS

Cospak Pty Ltd is an importer and wholesale distributor of imported and locally manufactured packaging, and as a manufacturer (importer), a member of the packaging supply chain and a signatory to the Covenant is committed to supply baseline data and report on ongoing performance data against the following eleven Key Performance Indicator's (KPI's). The numbering system from the National Packaging Covenant has been maintained for ease of reference.

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Goal 1

Packaging optimized to integrate considerations about resource efficiency, maximum resource utilization, product protection, safety and hygiene.

Key Performance Indicators	Action	Targets	Results
2. Resources used to produce packaging: - Energy (megajoules). - Water (kilolitres).	Cospak is an importer of packaging from New Zealand, Europe, the UK, Middle East, Asia and the USA and is unable to source this information. The resources used to produce locally sourced packaging will be reported by the local manufacturers in their Action Plans.	Not applicable.	
3. Improvements in design, manufacture, marketing and distribution to minimize the environmental impacts of packaging.	During 2006-2007 Cospak will be looking for opportunities to: - further lightweight glass containers - replace rigid packaging with flexible pouches - introduce shorter height dividers to the wine industry - replace corrugated dividers with light weight solid board interlocking dividers.	The results of these investigations will be incorporated into the 2006-2007 Action Plan Report.	1. Glass table sauce bottles were reduced from a nominal fill volume of 375ml to 340ml resulting in weight savings. 2. Amber round pharmaceutical bottles have been reduced in weight by changing the manufacturing process. 3. There is an ongoing replacement of glass bottles with flexible stand up pouches for simmer sauces and juices. 4. The acceptance of shorter height dividers in the wine industry is resulting in further weight savings. 5. Trials with lighter weight solid board interlocking dividers continue but there are some problems associated with the robotic insertion of these dividers which need to be overcome.
4. Changes to protection, hygiene, shelf-life or supply chain considerations affecting amount and type of packaging used.	During 2006-2007 Cospak will investigate the removal of cardboard packaging from certain pharmaceutical containers to decrease the potential for contamination during the manufacturing process.	The results of this investigation will be incorporated into the 2006-2007 Action Plan Report.	1. The removal of cardboard packaging from certain pharmaceutical containers was not successful as it resulted in increased breakages and net higher costs. 2. The conversion from glass to flexible stand up pouches for certain applications is resulting in weight savings, however this is being offset to a degree by an increase in non-recyclable packaging.
5. Average % per annum, of post-consumer recycled content in packaging manufactured.	As previously reported Cospak's manufactured products are imported from overseas and although	Not applicable	

	some of these have 100% post-consumer recycled content, this does not impact on Australian recycling initiatives. The average % per annum, of post consumer recycled content in locally sourced packaging will be reported by the local manufacturers in their Action Plans.		
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Goal 2

Efficient resource recovery systems for consumer packaging and paper.

Key Performance Indicators	Action	Targets	Results
16. Percentage of signatories providing recycling collection facilities for post-consumer packaging, generated on-site	Although recycling facilities are provided in some sites this needs to be part of a national strategy which will be implemented during 2006-2007.	Report on progress in 2006-2007 Action Plan Report.	This has now been implemented across all Cospak sites.

Goal 4

Supply chain members and other signatories able to demonstrate how their actions contribute to Goals 1 and 2 above.

Key Performance Indicators	Action	Targets	Results
21. Estimated tonnage of consumer packaging sent (a) for recycling and (b) to landfill from on-site collection facilities.	Cospak has various waste collection suppliers, some of whom are reluctant to provide this information. This needs to be part of a national strategy which will be investigated during 2006-2007.	Report on progress in 2006-2007 Action Plan Report.	The current waste collection supplier can't / won't provide this information and we are looking to remedy this as contracts at the various sites expire.
22. Number of signatories who have formally adopted the EcoPP and developed systems for its implementation.	Provision has been made to incorporate the ECoPP into future supply agreements and suppliers and trade partners will be audited to ensure that they are signatories to the NPC.	An ECoPP checklist will be incorporated into future supply agreements prior to the submission of the 2006-2007 Action Plan Report.	A check list has been developed which can be used with either a tender document and/or a supply agreement.
26. Implementation of Buy Recycled purchasing policy or practices.	Provision has been made to incorporate a Buy Recycled purchasing policy into future supply agreements.	A Buy Recycled purchasing policy will be incorporated into future supply agreements prior to the submission of the 2006-2007 Action Plan Report in October 2007.	A Buy Recycled statement has been developed which can also be used in tender documents and/or supply agreements.

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Goal 5

All signatories demonstrate continuous improvements in their management of packaging through their individual Action Plans and annual Reports.

Key Performance Indicators	Action	Targets	Results
27. Establishment of baseline performance data.	Systems are in place to collect the required indicative baseline data, including qualifiers and assumptions.	Current baseline data will be collected and incorporated into the 2006-2007 Action Plan Report.	The collection of baseline data is ongoing and will be reviewed for potential improvements and achievements in 2007-2008.
28. Annual Reporting against Action Plan.	Cospak will prepare and submit an annual Report in each year of the Action Plan to report progress against baseline data, individual Action Plan commitments, targets and timelines.	An annual Report will be prepared and submitted by 31 October each year from 2006 in accordance with the reporting requirements of the Covenant.	Unfortunately Cospak was unable to meet the October 31 deadline in 2006, but achieved this deadline in 2007.
29. Demonstrated improvement and achievements against individual targets and milestones.	Cospak will regularly review progress against individual targets and milestones and implement any actions as required to achieve continuous improvement and performance.	An annual Report will be prepared and submitted by 31 October each year from 2007 incorporating improvements and achievements against individual targets and milestones.	Cospak has achieved this objective in 2007 and looks forward to continuing this for the life of the Covenant.

NPC CONTACT

Jonathan Evans, International Operations Manager is responsible for Cospak Pty Ltd's commitment to the National Packaging Covenant and reports directly to the Managing Director, Mr. David Driver on all issues relating to the Covenant. This Action Plan has been endorsed by Mr. Driver.

Jonathan Evans' contact details are as follows:

Jonathan Evans

International Operations Manager
 Cospak Pty Ltd
 1 Culverston Road
 Minto NSW 2566
 Tel: 02 8796 2731
 Fax: 02 9820 7655
 Mob: 0414 288 473
 Email: jevans@cospak.com.au