



Packaging.... the critical link

Michael B Halley FAIP reports

The 2006 Conference of Australian Institute of Packaging was entitled Packaging.... the critical link and as can be seen a padlock held the two ends of a chain together. All is never exactly what it seems however, and in some productions of the padlock there is enough space to remove the chain.

Chain has become a quite popular descriptor these days and we have Supply Chain, Cold Chain, Supermarket Chain and the one that has stood the test of time, Chain of Command so although we could add another called Packaging Chain it is probably easier to look to see if it is the critical link.

In almost all circumstances no matter what you touch it will have been touched by Packaging before you, which adds some credence to the issue that Packaging is the critical link. So after the Conference let us look at the acknowledged packaging chain and at the links in it to find the critical one.

According to Dr Gordon Robertson FAIP, Innovation is essential for corporate survival and is no longer an optional extra. In the competitive global environment of the 21st century, innovation is the key to Australia's future prosperity.

Gordon said that the Tetra Pak revolution was a once in a lifetime happening but many new packages come from the three drivers of innovation, a new application for an existing pack, a material substitution or a change in shape.

The first of these drivers may be found in the gable top carton which was patented ninety-one years ago, the second in the roll on pilfer proof (ROPP) closure for wine and the last in many of the current uses of metal cans. (As an example Amcor developed a shaped can to safeguard a water retardant spray that was being counterfeited).

[Click here to read the rest of the conference summary](#)

POSITIONS VACANT

The latest job vacancies are with



Klockner



Masterfoods



RMIT

[Click here](#)

Message from the National President Llew Stephens FAIP



As the newly elected President of the AIP I thought I should inform all of our Members where the AIP currently stands and what the Board has planned for the next few years.

networking and education. The monthly AIP members Newsletters highlight not only the technical papers presented in their own state, but also those presented in others, so it is a good resource that should be used.

We have just held our first bi-annual two day National Conference for some years and from the feedback I received the response was overwhelmingly positive. The subjects were topical, the speakers were knowledgeable and they were leaders in their fields in many cases. Yes it may have been difficult to determine which stream to attend but this just proved how interesting the topics were. Our next major National event will be a technical forum held during AUSPACK in Melbourne in 2007 and our next National Conference is planned for June 2008 in Sydney.

The AIP is on a firm financial footing and this will allow us to improve our education offerings and further improve membership services in the coming years. Each state branch presents opportunities to its members to ensure they can be kept up to date and maintain a number of contacts in specialised packaging areas. This can only be done through the hard work and effort of a committed team of volunteers.

At the well attended Conference dinner I did stress to those attending that they should take advantage of being in a room full of packaging savvy attendees. Networking is an overused term but we all know that every aspect of packaging is a science and we cannot be experts in all areas or hope to keep abreast of emerging technologies without

If you are in the packaging industry and not an AIP member then seriously consider joining and if you are a member then I am asking that you attend your monthly meetings, meet your committee members and offer suggestions or assistance as to how you would like to see your AIP branch run.

I am sure you will find that you will enjoy the experience.

Llew Stephens FAIP

TECHNICAL CORNER

Click on the articles below to read more

The Three Tenets

Michael B Halley reports



Packaging Design



Smart Consumer vs Dumb Packaging



Interview with the Diva



Sharon Givoni's Packaging book reviews. A new column.



2006 Packaging Design Exhibitions

Are you aware that you can update your own contact details on the AIP database? Do you know your password?

If not email nerida@aipack.com.au and your user name and password will be emailed over to you

NEW MEMBERS

NAME	GRADE
Peter Nicholas	Fellow
David Pilley	Associate
Stephen Day	Member
Lynne Teichmann	Member
John Roberts	Member
Tony Drazenovic	Associate
Mark Delafosse	Associate



The AIP will be running a National Technical Forum during AUSPACK 2007 which will be in May 2007 in Melbourne. Details will be sent shortly but don't forget to book the dates of AUSPACK 2007 in your diary!

AIP PARTNERS



www.hbm.com.au



www.khspacific.com.au



www.Lighthousesystems.com.au



www.reedbusiness.com.au

Don't miss out on the latest AIP activities for 2006

AIP Technical Dinner Wednesday 2nd August

VICTORIA
VIC@aipack.
com.au

Theme: **Bioplastics and Life Cycle Analysis**

- Warwick Hall, Manager Degradable Polymers from Plastral will explain what is behind the science of Bioplastics and what categories various biodegradable materials fall into.
- Tim Grant, Director of Life Cycle Strategies, will show what science is involved in conducting a Life Cycle Analysis of Packaging. This type of analysis is being used more in industry to compare the environmental impact of different packaging formats.

When? Wednesday 2nd August

Time? 6.00 pm for a 6.30 pm start The evening concludes at approx 9.00 pm

Where? Box Hill Golf Club, 202 Station Street, Box Hill (Melway ref 61 C3)

Click here for August flyer

Click here for August booking form

Click here for September flyer

Click here for September booking form



Golden Circle Site Visit Wednesday 23rd August

QUEENSLAND
QLD@aipack.
com.au

When? Wednesday 23rd of August

Where? Golden Circle
260 Earnshaw Road
Northgate

Time? Meet at reception at 10.30 am

Cost? \$30 inc GST

The Golden Circle site visit will commence with a small presentation and movie at 10.45 am. This will be followed immediately with a site visit of the plant which will be conducted in electric buggies. The day will also include lunch at the 'Live' Café consisting of gourmet sandwiches with a fruit platter, tea, coffee and juice. Adjacent to the Café Golden Circle also has a shop which is open to the public to purchase a wide range of GCL products at discounted prices.

SITE VISIT IS NOW FULLY BOOKED

AIP/LAA Annual Charity Golf Day Friday 22nd September

QUEENSLAND
QLD@aipack.
com.au

Sponsorship Opportunities

You are invited to sponsor the AIP/LAA Annual Charity Golf Day which will be held on Friday the 22nd September at Brookwater Golf Course.

When? Friday 22nd September

Where? Tournament Drive Springfield

Tee Off? 11:00 am

On behalf of the Australian Institute of Packaging and the Logistics Association of Australia, we would like to invite you to get involved as a sponsor of our annual industry charity golf day. We are planning our biggest event yet with this year's game being played at one of Australia's best public courses 'Brookwater' on the outskirts of Brisbane.

Formal invitations to play will be prepared in approximately four weeks once sponsorship details are confirmed.

Click here for sponsor form

Proceeds for the event will be donated to:



AIP PARTNERS

ASIA PACIFIC
PACKAGING



JAMES ROSS
CONSULTING

www.i-grafix.com

www.dymark.com.au

www.bsc.com.au

www.jrconsulting.com