

Glass Matters

UPDATE 25 – WINTER 2010

UPDATE ON LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE ACCREDITATION OF GPF SCHEME

Congratulations to our members on being part of the **first** packaging product stewardship scheme to receive Government accreditation under the Waste Minimisation (2008) Act.

The Minister for the Environment gave accreditation to the scheme on the 4th May with official recognition at a presentation at the Beehive on the 19th May.

The Minister congratulated the Glass Packaging Forum on its achievement and encouraged others to get accredited:-



Chair of Glass Packaging Forum David Carter receiving accreditation from Hon Dr Nick Smith.

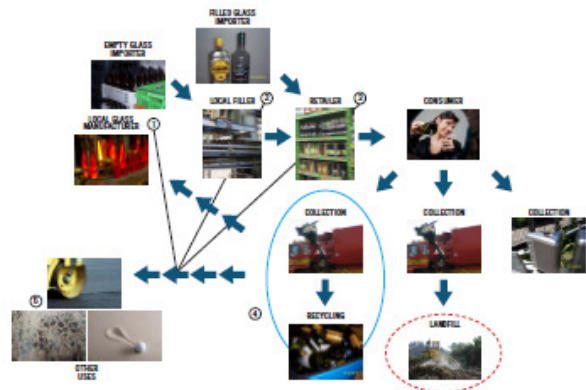
“Under the Waste Minimisation Act, as Minister for the Environment, I have the ability to accredit product stewardship schemes who meet the criteria for reducing waste and environmental harm. I would encourage other industries to recognise the economic and environmental benefits of product stewardship and get accredited.”

*Product stewardship schemes are an excellent way of getting all parties involved in the production and distribution of a product to take responsibility for its environmental impact **at the end of its life.***

The Glass Packaging Forum has developed a voluntary scheme for reducing the amount of glass packaging sent to landfill.

This means a reduction in waste sent to landfill as well as the amount of energy and carbon emissions from the production of new glass containers.”

GLASS PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP WHAT DOES IT REALLY MEAN?



Our scheme will run until 2017 providing we demonstrate to the Minister that we are meeting the scheme’s objectives.

We are required to notify the Minister within 5 working days of any participant that leaves the scheme.

Our accreditation can be revoked by the Minister if he is not satisfied that we are

meeting our targets or if the product (i.e. packaging or glass) becomes a priority product and we cannot satisfy the Minister that our scheme is satisfactory.

The process towards accreditation requires:

- Independent assessment by an auditor appointed by the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) against the criteria within the Act for waste minimisation and reduction in environmental harm;
- A recommendation by the MfE to the Minister that the scheme is compliant with the Act; and
- Accreditation by the Minister

This is a prize worth having and one which we have worked hard to achieve. We will detail our work programme for this financial year at our AGM on the 11th August at the Ellerslie Convention Centre in Auckland.

All members have received a Product Stewardship Manual and a Glass Technical Manual. Together these guides provide a one stop shop to product stewardship for container glass users.

COULD MEMBERS PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN RECEIPT OF THESE PUBLICATIONS

However, generally speaking, its "business as usual". Our scheme is based on the successful levy system which we have been operating for several years.



Minister accepting the Forum's manuals from Lyn Mayes, Communications Manager on behalf of John Webber, General Manager, who was unable to attend.

<http://www.mfe.govt.nz/issues/waste/product-tewardship/accredited-schemes-in-nz.html>

Innovations in glass design also mean that we can reduce glass consumption through light-weighting or changing the shape of containers. The Glass Technical guide provides guidance on this.

As part of our scheme we will be asking companies to report on their glass material use so that we can identify trends in glass consumption.

As the Minister has noted, the scheme makes an important contribution to reducing our carbon footprint.

Manufacturers of glass containers are leading the way in measuring the amount of carbon used in the production of a glass container.

O-I Inc, the world's largest maker of glass packaging has conducted research into the carbon footprint of glass for its global business. This was recently presented to their NZ customers (see Member news below).

We will be working with industry to understand the carbon footprint of glass packaging during its life cycle.

UPDATE FROM THE STEERING GROUP

The Steering Group congratulates its Chair David Carter on his appointment by the Minister for the Environment as a member of the Government's Waste Advisory Board.



David's nomination was made by the Glass Packaging Forum in recognition of his outstanding leadership in product stewardship in New Zealand and in Australia.

This is a huge honour for David, for the Glass Packaging Forum and for the wider packaged goods industry.

For information about other members of the Board and its remit go to:-

<http://www.mfe.govt.nz/issues/waste/advisory-board/>

ADVOCACY & COMMUNICATIONS



We believe that our accreditation under the Waste Act is a testimony to our work with government, local councils, community network

recyclers, research institutions and the waste management industry.

Meetings have been held with Martyn Pinckard, Director Operations MfE and his team to discuss product stewardship and the work of the Forum in trying to address the problems posed by commingled collections.

These topics were also discussed at a meeting with Nicky Wagner, MP (Chair of the BlueGreen caucus).

In July the Forum will host a symposium for members and those people and organizations that have helped us since we began our product stewardship programme under the Packaging Accord.



In line with our objective to increase the quality of

recovered glass we have given our support to a new campaign for Real Recycling by the Community Network Recyclers.

The campaign was launched at the Waste Management Institute of NZ (Waste MINZ)'s conference in Manukau in April. It is also backed by Full Circle.

Speaking alongside John Webber at the Conference, Sue Coutts of the Community Network Recyclers explained the purpose of the campaign:

"Some kerbside recycling systems are not fit for purpose, which means recycling is becoming a farce in those places. Collecting all the materials together in one bin and compacting them makes it almost impossible to meet the standards for reprocessing here in New Zealand.

"Different materials get mixed together, glass shards show up in the paper bales, plastic and paper ends up in the glass. That means it can't be used for high quality, energy saving processes like recycling glass bottles back into bottles. All the paper and glass used to be recycled into new products in New Zealand, now it is not."

"Glass recyclers are hunting down empties as far south as Oamaru and Alexandra, because Manukau and Waitakere glass is not coming through to the O-I remelt plant anymore"

The Forum supports the campaign to help decision makers make informed choices. The first opportunity to do this was a presentation to Invercargill Council to explain the benefits of keeping glass out of the commingled collection process.



John Webber joined Penny Garland of O-I NZ and Sue Coutts to present a joint perspective from industry and recyclers. The meeting opened up the opportunity for debate on the Split Bin (SAS Bin) as a solution. This

unique recycling bin has been project managed by TBL Solutions, Palmerston North and part funded by the Forum.

WASTE LEVY APPLICATIONS

The Ministry for the Environment reported to delegates at the WasteMINZ seminar that they had received 167 applications requesting around \$55m in funding.



With an available contestable fund of approximately \$5 to \$6 million available in the 1st round, and a high quality of applications, those making the selection have a challenging job!

COMING UP FOR GLASS



MEMBERS NEWS

While we continually look for new members the formal accreditation of the Product Stewardship Programme provides considerable additional incentive for relevant companies to join and we are now targeting a measurable increase in membership.



Welcome to new member Ascension Wine Estate in Matakana.
Darryl Soljan was so impressed by the Forum's work at the MoreFM winery tour, that he has signed up as a member.

Thanks to Dave Hargreaves, CEO of Liquorland for



his acknowledgement of our levy system in an interview with FMCG magazine. When asked – *How green would you say your company is?* Dave told the reporter:-

"We pay a glass tariff per tonne to an independent body aligned to the Government."



provided fascinating research into the carbon footprint of glass containers at a presentation to their suppliers. This is a major piece of work which O-I Inc has commissioned across their global business which refutes the widely held view that the weight of glass must disadvantage it against aluminium or plastic packaging in terms of its carbon footprint .

Notwithstanding the costs of energy etc in the production of glass and its transportation, this is more than compensated by the availability of the raw materials when compared with the mining of bauxite and the drilling for oil. Of particular interest was the very small contribution which the transportation of the finished containers makes to the overall energy usage accounting for only a few percent.

Most assessments have historically been based on the manufacturing process only ie. from the arrival of the raw material to the completion of the container, where glass does not compare favorably. However by starting at the supply of

raw materials right through to recycling, glass outperforms other packaging materials.

PROJECTS



In the past three months, the Forum has allocated funds worth \$15k to specific research and operational projects including:-

- NZ Turf Institute
- Support for Community Network Recyclers' Real recycling campaign

An additional \$45k in funding for other projects including the split bin development is pending.

COMMUNICATIONS

Our communications focus to members and externally has been on the development and accreditation of the Product Stewardship scheme.



**(National New Zealand)
Midday Report -
20/05/2010**

Environment Minister Nick Smith has used the Waste Minimisation Act to accredit two waste minimisation schemes.

Press Release : **Glass Packaging Forum**

http://www.glassforum.org.nz/downloads/snippet_govt_accreditation.pdf

Press Release : **Minister for the Environment**

http://www.glassforum.org.nz/downloads/snippet_scoop_gpf_accreditation.pdf

WASTE MANAGEMENT IN NEW ZEALAND



The Ministry for the Environment has released its Statement of Intent for the period 2009 - 2012.

This provides a dashboard of its work and its current performance against targets.

The Ministry's objective for waste is expressed as: Waste is minimised and disposal decreased to protect the environment from harm and provide environmental, social, economic and cultural benefits.

The report shows that proportion of households with access to recycling has increased but there is no overall trend relating to solid waste disposal. See

<http://www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/about/soi/2010/dashboard.pdf>

INFORMATION: PACKAGING ISSUES AROUND THE WORLD



In Europe



FEVE – the European container glass association reports that 25.5 billion glass containers were collected in the most recent reporting year 2008. This represents an average 65% across the EU27 countries.

Taking the EU15 countries as a reference, national consumption increased by 8% over the last ten years while glass packaging waste to landfill decreased by 26%, showing a clear decoupling between consumption and recycling.

Stand out performers are Belgium and Sweden where close to 100% of glass bottles and jars put on the market were collected.

Source: FEVE www.feve.org.

and Australia



Product Stewardship Forum invests in projects to find alternative uses for glass containers.

The **Product Stewardship Forum** has engaged ARRB and Swinburne University to develop specifications for the use of glass sand product in four applications. The project will be informed by international best practice including experience in NZ. The applications are:-

- Partial replacement in asphalt paving
- Sand replacement in concrete
- Pipe embedment; and
- Aggregate mix in paving.

A number of demonstration projects are now underway working with councils; road and traffic associations and the construction industry to show the benefits of crushed glass in pathways.

and in the UK

UK study could have big impact on NZ wine supply – 200 million bottles now filled in UK

Lightweight bottles and importing wine in bulk has helped cut the industry's waste and carbon footprint in the UK.



The UK is the world's biggest importer of wine and over the past four years, GlassRite Wine has been carrying out a Government-funded

project which has a broad remit, looking at how to increase domestic demand for recycled green glass - there's not much call for it outside the drinks industry - to looking at ways of cutting down in emissions associated with global imports.

Developing lighter bottles that are still fit for purpose has saved over 27,000 tonnes of glass.

But the headline-grabbing plan has been that of shipping in wine by the vat, rather than bottled at source.

This has the double benefit of allowing the wine to be transported more efficiently, reducing emissions, while providing a use for all the glass that householders diligently recycle - the project has led to almost 200 million bottles per year being filled in the UK.

Source: Edie

Recycling Glass is the Best Environment Option

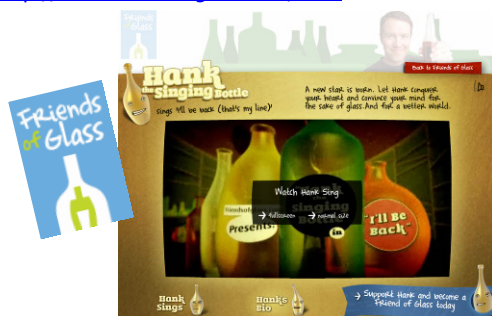


WRAP has released its update to the 2006 report on Environmental Benefits of Recycling. The latest report has excluded glass,

aluminium and steel from its review because the first study concluded that recycling is the preferred waste management option for these materials.

And for the same message delivered in a less conventional way...Check out Hank the Singing Bottle which has won the UK Packaging Magazine's most innovative and creative campaign award.

<http://www.friendsofglass.com/hank>



This issue, along with archived issues of Glass Matters can be viewed on the Forum's website

<http://www.glassforum.org.nz/news.html#archive>

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