

Annual Report and Action Plan

Company Name: **CRH Australia Pty Ltd**

Trading As: **CRH Australia Pty Ltd**

ABN: **20133099055**

About APCO

Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation (APCO) is a co-regulatory not-for-profit organisation leading the development of a circular economy for packaging in Australia. APCO's vision is a packaging value chain that collaborates to keep packaging materials out of landfill and retains the maximum value of the materials, energy and labour within the local economy.

Each year, APCO Brand Owner Members are required to submit an APCO Annual Report and an APCO Action Plan. This document is the Annual Report and Action Plan output for the organisation listed above. This document provides the overall performance level of the organisation, as well as any commitments they have made to work towards on their packaging sustainability journey. This document may also include additional information provided by the Member in their report.

Overall Performance **Beyond Best Practice**

The chart below indicates the overall performance level of this organisation listed above in the 2025 APCO Annual Report. The organisation's reporting period was **January, 2024 - December, 2024**.

1 Getting Started 2 Good Progress 3 Advanced 4 Leading 5 Beyond Best Practice

Understanding APCO Annual Reporting performance levels:

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Getting Started: | You are at the start of your packaging sustainability journey. |
| 2 | Good Progress: | You have made some first steps on your packaging sustainability journey. |
| 3 | Advanced: | You have taken tangible action on your packaging sustainability journey. |
| 4 | Leading: | You have made significant progress on your packaging sustainability journey. |
| 5 | Beyond Best Practice: | You have received the highest performance level and have made significant progress on your packaging sustainability journey. |

Contact

A: Suite 1402, Level 14, 55 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000
E: apco@apco.org.au

Additional Information

The information below indicates additional information that the organisation included in their APCO Annual Report.

Please tell us about any innovative packaging sustainability initiatives you have implemented during your chosen 12 month reporting period.

One example of a packaging change we have made is with our Fermod Anti-Microbial handles. In the past 12 months, we have packaged over 2300 of these in-house. A small step we have taken for this product was change the packaging for selected wholesalers from polytube to packaging them in a small cardboard carton. We also removed paper instruction guides and have moved to a QR code system for this product. This has reduced the polytube packaging usage by 25-30% for this product alone. Another was moving from plastic 3kg satchels to the 3kg satchels with 50% recycled contents, all locally sourced in Australia.

Please tell us of any constraints you may have had during your chosen 12 month reporting period that has impacted on your packaging sustainability initiatives and Covenant obligations.

As in previous years, we have struggled mostly with our oxo-degradable packaging like polytubing and pallet wrap. the 'cornflour' option is too weak and ultimately disintegrates quite quickly, making it a non-viable option for our heavy steel and cast products. We will continue to investigate new options as they arise but we feel the development has not quite caught up with the demand for these items.

APCO Action Plan Commitments

For each of the Packaging Sustainability Framework criteria listed below, a description is provided along with the commitments made by the organisation in their APCO Action Plan.

Criteria 1:

Governance & Strategy:

This criteria considers actions to integrate packaging sustainability into business strategies.

- Develop a strategy that includes goals for packaging sustainability that addresses the Sustainable Packaging Guidelines (SPGs) or equivalent.
- Include a commitment to the 2025 National Packaging Targets and aim to integrate it within business processes.
- Communicate and promote packaging sustainability objectives and targets within your organisation and to external stakeholders (suppliers, final consumers, community groups etc.).

Criteria 2:

Design & Procurement:

This criteria considers actions taken to ensure that sustainability principles are considered in the design or

procurement of both new and existing packaging through use of the Sustainable Packaging Guidelines (SPGs).

- Use the Sustainable Packaging Guidelines to review our packaging to identify opportunities for improvement.
- Record the outcomes of reviews or packaging using the Sustainable Packaging Guidelines so that any team member can refer back to them in future and for auditing purposes.
- Conduct packaging reviews using the SPGs for 5% of our packaging.

Criteria 3:

Recycled Content:

This criteria considers actions taken to increase or optimise the amount of recycled material used by your organisation.

- Develop a policy or procedure to buy products and/or packaging made from recycled materials.
- Aim to use recycled materials in any packaging where this is feasible, including:
 - Primary packaging
 - Secondary packaging
 - Tertiary packaging

Criteria 4:

Recoverability:

This criteria considers actions taken to improve the recovery of packaging at end-of-life and increase use of reusable packaging.

- Investigate whether all of our packaging is recyclable at end-of-life and identify any gaps and opportunities for greater reuse or recycling.

Criteria 5:

Disposal Labelling:

This criteria considers the extent to which packaging has been labelled to help consumers determine what to do with packaging at end-of-life.

- As packaging is updated or refreshed, add on-pack information for consumers on recyclability or correct disposal.

Criteria 6:

On-site Waste:

This criteria considers progress in increasing the amount of on-site solid waste being diverted from landfill.

- Develop a system to collect and recycle used packaging generated at our facilities.

Criteria 7:

Problematic Materials:

This criteria considers the extent to which organisations are actively phasing out problematic and unnecessary single-use plastic packaging and preventing/reducing litter.

- Undertake the following to help reduce the impact of litter:
 - Conduct regular clean-ups on-site
 - Plan to participate in Business Clean-Up Day
 - Look for opportunities to redesign packaging to eliminate components that may have the propensity to become litter
 - Continue to review product packaging and alternative materials with our suppliers both locally and overseas. Review packaging sizes and redesign oversized packaging. Review products with suppliers where alternative materials are being used, i.e. biodegradable or recycled material hardware.

Further commitments:

These commitments look at additional actions the organisation may take to improve reporting.

No commitments have been made for this criteria this year.