

# APCO Performance Summary

Company Name: **CRH Australia Pty Ltd**

Trading As:

ABN: **20133099055**

## About the APCO Annual Report & Performance

The chart below indicate your organisation's overall performance in the 2024 APCO Annual Report. With your chosen reporting period of January, 2023 - December, 2023 you have achieved a **Beyond Best Practice** overall performance level.

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.

### Packaging Sustainability Framework criteria

Criteria 1: **Governance & Strategy** This criteria considers actions to integrate packaging sustainability into business strategies.

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).

Criteria 3: **Recycled Content** This criteria considers actions taken to increase or optimise the amount of recycled material used by your organisation.

#### Contact

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Criteria 4:

**Recoverability**

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

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.

Criteria 6:

**On-site Waste**

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

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.

## APCO Annual Report Criteria Performance & Responses

Provided below are your organisation's responses to the questions within the APCO Annual Report.

Criteria 1

**Governance & Strategy**

Does your organisation have a strategy that includes goals for packaging sustainability that addresses the Sustainable Packaging Guidelines (SPGs) or equivalent?

 Yes  No

Supporting Evidence

CRH actively work with our local and overseas suppliers to reduce the use of single use packaging and develop recyclable options for transport. We are continuously looking at new ways to redevelop and reduce our packaging to align with the SPG's and national packaging targets.

Criteria 2

**Design & Procurement**

Do you use the SPGs to review your packaging?

 Yes  No

Are you keeping records of the outcomes of your reviews using the SPGs?

 Yes  No

Please provide an example of a positive outcome you have achieved.

We have reduced a significant amount of paper printing by creating QR codes for certain products instead of printing instruction manuals. We are slowly moving towards QR codes for all of our instruction manuals and hope to see a significant drop in paper printing over the next 12 months.

We have also reduced our Poly tubing packaging output by only supplying packaging for retail and wholesale customers. All items going to tech's or direct to site are packaged in recyclable cardboard

*Your full response can be found towards the end of this document.*

How many reviews did you conduct during the reporting period?

2

Supporting Evidence

Local feet and hardware supplier - 99.99% of packaging supplied by this customer is recyclable cardboard. Occasionally this customer will use polytube to separate small parts but very rarely.

Spare parts supplier (overseas shipment) - Large reduction in packaging provided by this supplier due to bulk deliveries and CRH repackaging product in our warehouse. Most items are now packaged in cardboard boxes only, with the exemption of sensitive freight. Most small items have been reduced to packaging at

*Your full response can be found towards the end of this document.*

Criteria 3

**Recycled Content**

Do you have a policy or procedure to buy products and/or packaging made from recycled materials?

Yes  No

Does any of your packaging contain recycled materials?

Primary

Yes  No

Secondary

Yes  No

Tertiary

Yes  No

Supporting Evidence

Our overseas suppliers were asked what percentage of their packaging is made from recycled materials: Fermod 75%, PT Nayati 100% and Kason 45%.

Our own CRH boxes, manufactured in Australia by Visy are made up of 70% recycled material and now include the recycling logo on each box.

## Criteria 4

**Recoverability**

Have you investigated the recoverability of your packaging to look for opportunities for greater reuse or recycling?

Yes  No

## Supporting Evidence

This is not currently possible in our industry, though our customers recycle where possible.

## Criteria 5

**Disposal Labelling**

Do you provide disposal information for your packaging on-pack?

Yes  No

## Supporting Evidence

We are looking to add this information in within the next 6 months with our next order of headers for our hang sell products. At this stage, the only disposal information is on our cardboard boxes.

## Criteria 6

**On-site Waste**

Do you have a system to collect and recycle used packaging generated at your facilities (e.g. office, warehouse etc.)

Yes  No

## Supporting Evidence

We have a cardboard bin in our warehouse, though most of our products are shipped in the packaging provided by our suppliers where possible. This bin is collected roughly every 1-2 weeks depending on the amount of cardboard used in that period.

*Your full response can be found towards the end of this document.*

## Criteria 7

**Problematic Materials**

Which of the following activities do you undertake to help reduce the impact of litter?

- Conduct regular clean-ups on-site
- Participate in Business Clean-Up Day
- Redesign packaging to eliminate components that may have the propensity to become litter
- Other (please specify)

Please specify

- None of the above

**Supporting Evidence**

Our warehouse team have last hour clean-up every day where they will empty the bins, pick up loose strapping or rubbish from the day and walk around the exterior of the warehouses to collect any rubbish blown around from other businesses.

We hold an annual clean up day every year before the Christmas break. Team from all departments will

*Your full response can be found towards the end of this document.*

**Additional Information**

- No additional information

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

As stated above, we have been working with certain suppliers and have started to purchase in bulk as apposed to products being sent in individual packaging. This has allowed us to package our products to the customers needs, reducing the amount of packaging being sent across 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 struggle to find a recyclable alternative to our Polytubing for our Wholesale and Retail products. Due to the size and weight of our products, there is currently nothing on the market that we have found that would be a suitable alternative.

### Full Open Responses

Criteria 2 - Please provide an example of a positive outcome you have achieved.

We have reduced a significant amount of paper printing by creating QR codes for certain products instead of printing instruction manuals. We are slowly moving towards QR codes for all of our instruction manuals and hope to see a significant drop in paper printing over the next 12 months.

We have also reduced our Polytubing packaging output by only supplying packaging for retail and wholesale customers. All items going to tech's or direct to site are packaged in recyclable cardboard boxes, with the exemption of some items that need to be bubble wrapped (eg. lights) or small parts that are encased in Polytubing.

Criteria 2 - Supporting Evidence

Local feet and hardware supplier - 99.99% of packaging supplied by this customer is recyclable cardboard. Occasionally this customer will use polytube to separate small parts but very rarely.

Spare parts supplier (overseas shipment) - Large reduction in packaging provided by this supplier due to bulk deliveries and CRH repackaging product in our warehouse. Most items are now packaged in cardboard boxes only, with the exemption of sensitive freight. Most small items have been reduced to packaging at the time of order to reduce wastage on multiple cardboard boxes for larger quantities of items. For example, small brackets, shelving clips etc.

Criteria 6 - Supporting Evidence

We have a cardboard bin in our warehouse, though most of our products are shipped in the packaging provided by our suppliers where possible. This bin is collected roughly every 1-2 weeks depending on the amount of cardboard used in that period.

We have collection organised for steel and aluminium products by a local metal recycler which prevents steel and aluminium off-cuts from going to landfill. This is collected roughly every 6-12 months.

Criteria 7 - Supporting Evidence

Our warehouse team have last hour clean-up every day where they will empty the bins, pick up loose

strapping or rubbish from the day and walk around the exterior of the warehouses to collect any rubbish blown around from other businesses.

We hold an annual clean up day every year before the Christmas break. Team from all departments will assist the warehouse in pulling out all of the pallets and sweeping behind them, picking up stock that may have fallen under or behind racking and cleaning down all machinery and under benches. The office team will clean up the office areas, team rooms and showroom areas. We also spend a few weeks prior to stocktake cleaning up the warehouses in preparation for counting.

Our operations manager is continuously looking at redesigning the packaging of our products with overseas suppliers where possible, as well as correctly designing the packaging of our new products before they are exported to Australia.