

# APCO Performance Summary

Company Name: **CRH Australia Pty Ltd**

Trading As: **CRH Australia Pty Ltd**

ABN: **20133099055**

## About the APCO Annual Report & Performance

The chart below indicate your organisation's overall performance in the 2025 APCO Annual Report. With your chosen reporting period of **January, 2024 - December, 2024**, 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

As a company, we are regularly looking at new forms of sustainable packaging. We communicate with our local and overseas suppliers at least once a year to review and discuss packaging that falls below our sustainable packaging standards and what improvements we can make to reduce the use of single use packaging. Where possible, we purchase and promote reused or recycled packaging.

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.

Overall, we have reviewed and reduce the size of the packaging for a number of our products to help reduce excess waste and subsequently reduce freight charges and costs to our customers. We have adopted a new 3kg satchel which contains 50% recycled material including 25% PCR and 25% PIR products that are locally sourced in Australia.

How many reviews did you conduct during the reporting period?

2

### Supporting Evidence

On top of our regular reviews of incoming containers and and packaging checks with our overseas suppliers, we have looked internally at a lot of our products this year to see where we could reduce our single use packaging within our organisation. We conducted reviews of our existing range and developed smaller parcel sizes with our existing product to not only reduce the amount of packaging used, but to reduce the amount or type of packaging being sent to our consumers. an example would be the 3kg

*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

Each time we reorder packaging products for our warehouse, we research new lines in the market to see where we can improve on our recyclable and recycled packaging. We also take the time to look at some of our oxo-fragmentable packaging (polyethylene) like pallet wrap and polytubing to see if there are any new products on the market that would be able to hold our products without disintegrating.

## Criteria 4

**Recoverability**

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

☒ Yes ☐ No

## Supporting Evidence

yes, however we ship nationwide with a customer range from wholesalers, to tradespeople to end users. Because of this, having a centralized packaging return scheme doesn't work in our environment. We expect our customers will dispose of, reuse or recycle our packaging responsibly where they can, either in their work or household general waste and recycling bins.

## Criteria 5

**Disposal Labelling**

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

☒ Yes ☐ No

## Supporting Evidence

All CRH labelled boxes now have the recycling label on them to encourage the recycling of our cardboard boxes. There is currently no recycling information on our header cards or polytubing and we have yet to find an alternative to these products as most options are not suitable for they heavy steel and cast products we sell.

## 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 both a paper/cardboard bin onsite that is picked up weekly and steel drums for metal recycling which is picked up as required. We utilize a document destruction company once a year to shred and dispose of our old records, saving excess paper in landfill.

## 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

We conduct a business clean-up day twice a year. One 6-weeks out from stocktake where we do a full clean up in preparation for counting and again at the end of the year before the Christmas break where all team including office staff clean up all areas of our warehouse, offices and showroom to prepare for the new year. This is on top of our weekly clean up in our warehouse where our warehouse team spend 2

*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.

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.

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

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.

### Full Open Responses

#### Criteria 2 - Supporting Evidence

On top of our regular reviews of incoming containers and and packaging checks with our overseas suppliers, we have looked internally at a lot of our products this year to see where we could reduce our single use packaging within our organisation. We conducted reviews of our existing range and developed smaller parcel sizes with our existing product to not only reduce the amount of packaging used, but to reduce the amount or type of packaging being sent to our consumers. an example would be the 3kg satchels mentioned above where we moved from an unsustainable soft plastic packaging to a satchel that is made from 50% recycled contents, 25% PCR and 25% PIR materials. The recycled materials these are made from are sourced locally within Australia.

#### Criteria 7 - Supporting Evidence

We conduct a business clean-up day twice a year. One 6-weeks out from stocktake where we do a full clean up in preparation for counting and again at the end of the year before the Christmas break where all team including office staff clean up all areas of our warehouse, offices and showroom to prepare for the new year. This is on top of our weekly clean up in our warehouse where our warehouse team spend 2 hours on a Friday after all our carriers have collected tidying up the warehouse, picking up rubbish around the buildings and sweeping the warehouses.

Our leadership team regularly conduct product reviews to see where we can improve packaging design, reduce oversized cartons and single use packaging.

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

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