

A white circular arrow with a triangular head pointing clockwise, set against a dark red square background.

TOGETHER
TOWARDS
A CIRCULAR
ECONOMY

SAPRO 

South African Plastics Recycling Organisation

A solid dark red semi-circle.

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2021



GM@plasticrecyclingsa.co.za



www.facebook.com/plasticrecyclingsa



www.plasticrecyclingsa.co.za

FOREWORD

SAPRO General Manager

PHIL SEREME

I write this article 8 weeks after the most devastating riots and destruction of infrastructure in our country since the inception of our democratic dispensation in 1993. It was a sad experience to witness the destruction and loss of so many lives. Let's hope that these senseless behaviours will not be repeated as it puts our country on the global radar, but for all the wrong reasons.

We have also observed Government's vaccination drive that took off well and seemed to be going well - until a few weeks ago when we started hearing the reports that the effort was losing momentum amongst the older members of our population.

Fortunately, the 18 to 34 year olds were quick to jump in the queue to get their jabs, which is a huge relief as this is the group that dominates the overall population in SA. We certainly hope they will continue to heed the call and make the most of the opportunity to protect themselves and those closely surrounding them.

It is imperative that we accelerate the vaccination programme, particularly after hearing that the Delta variant may have mutated in the Limpopo Province. We can only hope that the roll out will reach as many South Africans as possible in order to lessen the impact of the anticipated 4th wave as we head for the festive season and annual December holidays.



Our economy needs to get back to growth mode so that we can start reversing the 34 % or 7.8 million of unemployed people as a result of job losses. South Africans have to seriously consider vaccination in order to avoid further lockdowns.

Whilst it is indeed an individual's right to choose not be vaccinated, we also have to recognise that the economy needs to unlock and operate outside of the pandemic regulations that are currently in place if we have any hope of improving the dire situation in which the country finds itself.

Finally, please remember to help spread the word about our forthcoming Recycled Product of the Year Competition and to enter your products if you have not yet done so!

We trust you will enjoy reading about the latest news and developments. Happy reading!



SAPRO is proud to report that we have begun engaging with King Price Insurance - one of the country's leading insurance companies, about the possibility of offering insurance cover for our members.

A representative of King Price Insurance has already visited one of our recyclers who volunteered to be assessed as part of the risk analysis that will be submitted to the underwriters. This report will be used to develop a final, tailor-made product specific to the needs of the plastic recycling industry. We hope to be able to offer this added value to our members in due course.

Although the progress has been negatively impacted by the lockdowns, we are optimistic that they will be able to commence with the assessment in the next two weeks and that the process will be completed in due course with the earmarked volunteers. Watch this space for more updates on this exciting development!

The EuCertPlast Certification process halted due to COVID

The EuCertPlast Certification is a European wide certification programme for companies that recycle post-consumer plastic waste. The aim of the EuCertPlast certification is to recognize plastic recyclers who operate to high standards.

Unfortunately, SAPRO's efforts to get our members EuCertPlast certification have been halted due to COVID and we are unable to report progress in this regard. We are hoping to resume the process soon and to complete the assessments as soon as possible.



SAPRO welcomes two new members

FBT Recyclers and Evernu Plastics

South Africa is amongst the top recycling countries in the world. SAPRO represents the plastics re-processors who procure sorted, baled end-of-life plastics and re-process it into raw material.

The recycled material can be used to manufacture new plastics products. SAPRO is funded by its members and assists recyclers in building a recycling industry that is respected and acknowledged by government, industry and the public.

We are proud to welcome the following two members who have recently come onboard:

- Evernu Plastics is one of the leading suppliers and exporters of plastic housewares, kitchenware and baby care products in South Africa. This Pinetown-based company has been servicing the houseware market in South Africa for the past 31 years. To contact them, please email sales@evernuplastics.co.za or call (031) 208 1980
- FBT Plastics Pty Ltd is operated by Gustav Smit and Phillip Nel. For more information, email them at fbtplastics@gmail.com or call (072) 439-4357 or (084) 253-1793

Thank you for being part of our
SAPRO family! We look forward to
working with you to keep South Africa
clean and working...



SAPRO'S FOCUS AREAS

- Building a recycling industry that is respected and acknowledged by government, industry and the public
- Addressing collective challenges in a constructive way
- Growing the industry and respective recycling initiatives and businesses in volume, technology and profitability
- Presenting a united voice that influences external decision-making positively
- Continuing to have a positive impact on the environment to preserve and protect resources

SAPRO's efforts to influence retailers begin to bear fruit

Implementing "Design for Recycling" principles helps to support local economy, boosts employment and improves quality of recycle.



SAPRO's efforts to engage with retailers and to educate them about the importance of Design for Recycling is starting to bear visible fruit. One such an example is SPAR, who has recently made the decision to change the caps for their housebrand milk bottles from red, blue and green to white.

Furthermore, we continue to engage with Woolworths on their new PET carrier bag which has replaced the 100% recyclable plastic bag. In is SAPRO's view that the current PET bag does not lend itself to local recycling stream, in addition to the fact that it is not manufactured locally and therefore does not contribute to local job creation or support the notion of Proudly South African or 'local is better...'

We will continue to engage with the country's leading retailers as part of our mandate to build and support the local plastic recycling industry. We are hugely encouraged by the SPAR Group's willingness to take our recommendations and suggestions onboard. To this end we will continue with our discussion with Woolworths and are confident that ultimately they too will come to realise the benefits that can be derived from improving the quality of the recycle.

SAPRO QUESTIONS RECYCLABILITY OF SURLYN

Polyco, the Polyolefin Responsibility Organisation NPC, has recently released its "Design 4 Recycle Guide".

Whilst we truly appreciate the effort that has gone into developing this document, SAPRO does have some reservations about declaring Surlyn as a recyclable material.

Whilst we understand that Surlyn can be reprocessed and be converted into planks used largely for garden furniture, floor decks products etc., it is also a fact that same materials cannot yield quality recycle that could be used for products that it was originally intended.

SAPRO will continue to engage with all relevant stakeholders to ensure that the correct decisions are taken during the design stage of product packaging.

(Surlyn film is used primarily in skin packaging applications, which means the film forms around the product and onto a carded substrate such as cardboard or paperboard during the packaging process).



SA GEARS UP FOR CLEAN-UP & RECYCLE SA WEEK 13 – 18 SEPTEMBER 2021



Plastics SA is calling on South Africans to participate in the annual Clean-Up & Recycle SA week from 13-18 September 2021. Highlights of this year's week will be the inaugural River Clean-Up Day on Wednesday, 15 September, National Recycling Day on Friday, 17 September 2021 and the International Coastal Clean-Up Day/Let's Do It World Clean-up Day on Saturday, 18 September 2021.

Apart from raising awareness and supporting clean-up initiatives by donating refuse bags, gloves and other equipment needed, this will also be the 25th year that Plastics SA will be coordinating South Africa's participation in the International Coastal Clean-Up Day – the world's biggest volunteer effort for ocean health.

"Clean-Up & Recycle SA Week has become a highlight on our country's environmental calendar. This annual public awareness week is supported by all the packaging streams in South Africa and encourages citizens, corporates and municipalities to help remove all visible litter from our country's neighbourhoods and streets, rivers, streams, beaches and oceans," explains Douw Steyn, Plastics SA's Sustainability Director.

Plastics SA is hoping that this year will see a repeat of the huge success of last year's Clean-Up & Recycle SA Week. Despite the fact that COVID-19 restrictions prohibited the large groups at public clean-ups and gatherings that have become synonymous with this public awareness and volunteer effort, the spirit of camaraderie, positivity and willingness to make a difference in our environment, definitely made this one of the most memorable years.

"Like last year, we are once again advocating that South Africans be eco-warriors in their own neighbourhoods by picking up any litter on our beaches or strewn in streets, rivers, streams or canals. Where community clean-ups are planned, we urge the organisers to adhere to safety protocols by limiting the numbers of volunteers participating, ensuring that participants wear their masks, checking that they maintain social distancing and that enough sanitizing stations are in place," Steyn said.

For more information about Clean-Up & Recycle SA week and where organised clean-ups will take place, visit www.cleanupandrecycle.co.za or www.plasticsinfo.co.za

River Clean-Up Day

Wednesday,
15 September 2021

Recycling Day

Friday,
17 September 2021

World Clean-Up Day / International Coastal Clean-Up Day

Saturday,
18 September 2021



Virtual Event

SA'S BEST RECYCLED PRODUCT OF THE YEAR AWARD COMPETITION



A reminder that SAPRO's **Best Recycle Plastics Recycling Awards** will be taking place on **14 October 2021**. However, the deadline is around the corner for entries to be submitted!

If you have not yet done so, make sure you get your entry to Plastics SA's Head Office (18 Gazelle Avenue, Corporate Park South, Midrand) before 13:00 from Monday to Friday.

Entries close on Thursday, 16 September 2021 at 1pm.

About the awards:

The event is a cornerstone of SAPRO's strategy to grow the demand for plastic recyclate and helps to improve market acceptance of locally manufactured recycled plastic products. By acknowledging and showcasing the remarkable and inspiring range of manufactured goods that can be made from recycled materials, SAPRO encourages brand owners, retailers, converters and industrial designers to consider recycled plastics as a material of choice.

Who can enter?

Everyone can enter including retailers, converters, recyclers and brand owners. We look forward receiving your entries to demonstrate your Innovation and renovation capabilities and talents.

When and how will the winners be announced?

Owing to the COVID-19 pandemic this year's awards ceremony will be a virtual event that takes place on Thursday, 14 October 2021. During the event the recycler of the material the manufacturer of the product as well as the brand owner will be acknowledged. Each category will have a winner and the overall winner will be awarded.

Judging criteria:

Entries will be judged on a number of criteria, such as the life expectancy and sustainability of product, measures that were taken to ensure product consistency and customer satisfaction despite recycled material content, tonnages (or potential tonnages) of plastic waste that were converted and diverted from landfill, as well as the technical achievements in manufacturing to overcome recycled material challenges.

It is important for us to recognise and reward recyclers for creating new end-markets for recyclate that not only will continue to be in demand five years from now, but that also exhibit a "wow factor" resulting in people to start thinking differently about recycled materials.

GOLD SPONSORS:



Award Categories

- **Packaging for non-food products:** Packaging made from recycled plastic and used for non-food packaging products, e.g. home-care, personal-care, chemicals, lubricants etc.
- **Packaging for food & beverages:** Plastic packaging used for food applications, e.g. crates.
- **Agriculture and related products:** Product packaging and items used in the agricultural sector, e.g. irrigation pipes, crop protection, animal feed troughs etc.
- **Household & leisure products:** Products such as plastic knives, forks and plastic bowls, domestic-ware, broom handles, garden chairs etc.
- **Automotive, electronic, technical and engineering:** Products such as electric plugs and automobile bumpers, dash boards and mirror housings, machine switches etc.
- **Construction & building sector:** Products ranging from roof sheeting, building bricks and paving to plumbing applications.
- **Textile and clothing:** Products manufactured from recycled material in the clothing or allied textile sector.
- **Volume Award:** Products made of 100 % Post-Consumer Recyclate (PCR), This will be for applications that, in the opinion of the judges, utilises "substantial volumes" of post-consumer recyclate.
- **Overall Winner:** The overall "best-in-class" application from all of the above categories.

Sponsors

SAPRO is grateful to Erema and Polyco who have come onboard as our two main sponsors for this year's event. PETCO, the South African Plastics Pact, (facilitated by GreenCape), Packaging SA and Plastics SA are our silver sponsors.



Please make use of this opportunity to highlight the phenomenal work being done by recyclers in South Africa. We strive to improve market acceptance for products made from recycled plastics by bringing them into the mainstream and this competition is the ideal vehicle to bring the innovative, exciting new products being developed to the attention of market leaders, brand owners and the media.

SILVER SPONSORS



SOUTH AFRICA'S BEST RECYCLED PRODUCT OF THE YEAR COMPETITION

THURSDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2021



South African Plastics Recycling Organisation

Supported by Gold Sponsors:



PLASTIC RECYCLING SYSTEMS



Making waste work



Entries are now open for the 2021 SAPRO Best Recycled Plastic Products Award. This competition aims to acknowledge products that are made from recycled materials, thereby encouraging brand owners, retailers, converters and industrial designers to consider recycled plastics as a material of choice.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Entries are judged on a number of criteria, for example:

- Life expectancy of product
- Sustainability of product, i.e. long-term demand and market acceptance of product (will it still sell in 5 years' time?)
- Measures taken to ensure product consistency and , customer satisfaction despite recycled material content
- Tonnage (potential tonnages) converted
- Technical achievements in manufacturing to overcome recycled material challenges
- Replacement of alternative materials
- Wow Factor!

(Various weightings could be used to judge products objectively)

HOW TO ENTER:

1. An entry fee of R2 000.00 (VAT included) must be paid online via Quicket for entries to be considered. Please note that failure to pay will automatically disqualify the entry.
2. Email the completed entry form to Phil Sereme on email address: GM@plasticrecyclingsa.co.za and nadia@plasticrecyclingsa.co.za.
3. Each entry must be accompanied by two professional quality digital images of high resolution (1+ MB) on a clearly marked CD or memory stick; one image of the product and one image illustrating the product application. Provide us with a motivation as why this product should win – max 300 words, on a separate page/document.
4. The actual, physical product must be delivered to the Plastics|SA Offices, 18 Gazelle Ave, Corporate Park, Midrand, marked for the attention of Phil Sereme (SAPRO), along with a hard copy of the entry form, photographs, and motivation on the closing date. Late entries will not be accepted.
5. It is the responsibility of the sender to confirm that the entry was delivered in person on telephone (067) 310-6999.
6. Should entrants require the return of their entries after the competition, arrangements must be made to collect the entry from the Plastics SA offices in Midrand, by no later than 21 October 2021.
7. This year's awards ceremony will be a virtual event on Thursday, 14 October 2021. During the event, the recycler of the material, the manufacturer of the product as well as the brand owner will be acknowledged. Each category will have a category winner and the overall winner will be awarded.
8. Any company in Africa may enter, provided that the recycled material originated in South Africa.
9. Products submitted in prior years, that have not previously won an award, may be entered again.
10. No entries will be accepted after 13H00 on Thursday, 16 September 2021.

ENTRY FORM 2021

AWARD CATEGORIES

1. Packaging for non-food products

Plastic packaging that is used for non-food packaging products, e.g. home-care, personal-care, chemicals, lubricants etc.

2. Packaging for food & beverages

All plastic packaging used for food applications, e.g. crates.

3. Agriculture and related products

Product packaging and items used in the agricultural sector, e.g. irrigation pipes, crop protection, animal feed troughs etc.

4. Household & leisure products

Products such as plastic knives, forks and plastic bowls, domestic-ware, broom handles, garden chairs etc.

5. Automotive, electronic, technical and engineering

Products such as electric plugs and automobile bumpers, dash boards and mirror housings, machines switches etc.

6. Construction & building sector

Products ranging from roof sheeting, building bricks & paving to plumbing applications.

7. Textile and clothing products

Products manufactured from recycled material in the clothing or allied textile sector.

8. Volume Award (Products made of 100% PCR

and that utilise substantial volumes of raw material.) This will be for applications that, in the opinion of the judges, utilises "substantial volumes" of post-consumer recycle.

9. Overall Winner

The overall "best-in-class" application from all of the above categories.



SOUTH AFRICA'S BEST RECYCLED PRODUCT OF THE YEAR COMPETITION

THURSDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2021

COMPANY NAME: _____

NAME OF PRODUCT: _____

CATEGORY: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

CONTACT TEL NO: _____

E-MAIL: _____

PERCENTAGE RECYCLATE USED IN PRODUCT: _____

VOLUME OF POST-CONSUMER PLASTIC DIVERTED FROM LANDFILL: _____

PRODUCT IS MANUFACTURED/ CONVERTED IN SOUTH AFRICA: ☐ YES ☐ NO

BRIEF PRODUCT DESCRIPTION:

Hand deliver the entered product, a hard copy of the completed entry form, two high resolution digital images (one of the product and one of the product application), and product motivation to the Plastics|SA offices, situated at 18 Gazelle Avenue, Midrand by latest 13H00 ON THURSDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2021. Please ensure everything is clearly marked for attention: Phil Sereme. For enquiries, call him on (067) 310-6999 or via email GM@plasticrecyclingsa.co.za.

DECLARATIONS

Please note: The declarations below are essential to ensure that the intellectual rights of both the recycler, the product manufacturer and the owner / brand owner are not infringed.

RECYCLER

We certify that the plastics recycler has consented to its entry. We further certify that all information and claims made in this entry are true and verifiable.

MANUFACTURER

We certify that the product- or brand owner of the entry has consented to its entry. We further certify that all information and claims made in this entry are true and verifiable.

OWNER / BRAND OWNER

We certify that the manufacturer of the product has consented to its entry. We further certify that all information and claims made in this entry are true and verifiable.

Authorised signature

Authorised signature

Authorised signature

ACCEPTANCE OF RULES

We hereby agree to abide by the SAPRO Best Recycled Product Competition rules, as laid out in the Entry Form and certify that this entry does not infringe on any trademarks, copyrights, patents or licenses.

Authorised signature

Date

www.plasticrecyclingsa.co.za



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