

Annual Report and Action Plan

Company Name: **Bee Dee Bags Pty Ltd**

Trading As: **Bee Dee Bags**

ABN: **35090741361**

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 2024 APCO Annual Report. The organisation's reporting period was **January, 2023 - December, 2023**

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

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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.

The biggest sustainability project for Bee Dee Bags over the past year has been the planning and development of a custom-built sustainable distribution and storage centre. This new complex has skylights fit throughout to minimize energy consumption, double glazed windows and insulated walling to ensure the building maintains a steady temperature organically. The roofing houses solar panels with batteries built into the complex for energy storage. No mains power or water are connected to the building in any way. All water is harvested from the roof and stored in tanks for the facility to utilise and for the surrounding gardens and trees to draw from.

This new complex will handle all long-term and bulk storage for the business, providing a streamlined process for incoming containers to be unloaded, palletised and stored with no need for double handling and minimal risk of damage to products. The pallet racking and forklifts are wired to an electric, automated system that maximizes space efficiency and reduces human error. This new distribution centre is entirely electric, powered by renewable energy resources combined with the aforementioned skylights throughout the building to reduce power consumption.

This distribution centre is in the final building phase at the moment, currently expected to open mid-2024. We will be incorporating the sustainability benefits for the business into our Action Plan for 2025 and will provide update in next year's report with data on the efficiencies of this new system. This building has been ergonomically designed to minimize consumption at every turn of the process, providing a new vision for warehousing, storage and logistics.

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.
- 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 40% 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
 - Look for opportunities to redesign packaging to eliminate components that may have the propensity to become litter

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.