



Signatory Name: GWA Group - Gainsborough Hardware Ind. Ltd

The question numbers in this report refer to the numbers in the report template. Not all questions are displayed in this report.

Status: In Progress

The content in this APC Annual Report is hereby endorsed by the Chief Executive Officer, or equivalent officer of the organisation.

Yes

5. Industry sector (please select 1 only):

- Brand Owner / Wholesaler / Retailer
- Packaging Manufacturer
- Waste Management
- Other - Commercial Organisation
- Community Group
- Industry Association
- Government
- Raw Material Supplier
- Other:

6. Industry type (please select 1 only):

- Food & Beverage
- Pharmaceutical / Personal Care / Medical
- Hardware
- Homewares
- Communications / Electronics
- Clothing / Footwear / Fashion
- Chemicals / Agriculture
- Fuel
- Large Retailer
- Tobacco
- Shipping Company
- Airline
- Other:

7. Please indicate your organisation's reporting period:

- Financial Year: 1 July 2013 – 30 June 2014
- Calendar Year: 1 January 2014 – 31 December 2014

8. Please indicate the entire period your accepted APC Action Plan covers (e.g. 2011-2014)

Start Date:

End Date:

Goal 1: Design

KPI 1: % of signatories with documented policies and procedures for evaluating and procuring packaging using the SPGs or equivalent.

9. Does your company have documented policies and procedures for evaluating and procuring packaging using the SPGs or equivalent?

Yes No

Provide details of policies and procedures

Quality Document RQP074 "Packaging Procedure"

10. Of the types of packaging **existing at the beginning of the reporting period**, what percentage had been reviewed using the Sustainable Packaging Guidelines (SPG) by the end of the reporting period?

20 %

11. Have any new types of packaging been introduced during the reporting period?

Yes No

12. If yes, of the **new types of packaging introduced during the reporting period**, what percentage have been reviewed using the Sustainable Packaging Guidelines (SPG) by the end of the reporting

100 %

13. Please indicate your progress this year towards achieving your annual targets and milestones for KPI 1

	Target: According to your Action Plan, what did you set out to do?	Actual: What did you achieve?
1.	Investigate possibilities of changing any packaging material/ styles that are non recyclable or difficult to recycle with recycled product.	Packaging design workshops were continued to be conducted with key stakeholders involved in the GHI product development to ensure packaging designs are based on the SPG framework. As packaging comes up for review we try to eliminate the use of non -recyclable material and reduce volume of packaging per inner and outer box. Where possible, GHI will try to produce the most environmentally friendly packaging solutions within our commercial constraints and viability.

2.	<p>Create packaging registry to have all of our packaging information in one database and implement review process. A packaging variance is to be completed. Consider the introduction of a printing offset option for all of our packaging. Re-assess existing packaging following on from previous information collated last action plan, using the SPG.</p>	<p>Development of a GHI packaging registry is in progress. This register will record the current design, materials and packaging details for each product SKU. Once identified we will review each item to look for a more sustainable and environmentally friendly option taking into the account the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cardboard shape, size, thickness and durability, allowing for customisation that helps to cut down wasted materials. GHI could look at corrugated cardboard for eco-friendly shipping cartons. - Looking at plastics and ensuring selected plastics break down easily after disposal to avoid adding to landfills and causing harm to the future of the environment. Recycled plastics, such as recycled PET (RPET), are made from recycled plastic water bottles. Minimising plastic use in packaging materials and using only RPET can help make packaging more eco-friendly. - Look at use of cushioning materials. Traditional filler materials made of polystyrene foam are harmful to the environment. Look at recyclable and more sustainable solutions, or less bulky cushioning material that reduces size and weight of boxes. - Continue to examine the benefits, cost factors and efficiency of GHI's packaging design over time, determining where and how the design fails and how to improve sustainable solutions. <p>We are constantly evolving and improving our packaging design by looking at alternative options that are more sustainable and environmentally friendly. Due to the nature of our product we must be mindful that alternative packaging solutions can present a challenge when trying to achieve maximum durability and be non abrasive in nature.</p>
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14. Describe any constraints or opportunities that affected performance under this KPI

Due to commercial pressures associated with Australian manufacturing we have now moved all our product manufacturing offshore. This proves to be difficult when monitoring and assessing the credentials of packaging materials available from suppliers. The differing standards across borders calls for close quality control measures.

Goal 2: Recycling

KPI 3: % signatories applying on-site recovery systems for used packaging.

15. Do you have on-site recovery systems for recycling used packaging?

- Yes at all facilities/ sites
- Yes at some, but not all facilities/ sites
- No

16. Please indicate your progress this year towards achieving your annual targets and milestones for KPI 3

	Target: According to your Action Plan, what did you set out to do?	Actual: What did you achieve?
1.	Design and implement strategies to reduce wastage or overuse of bulk packaging material used in production.	GHI invested in a shrink wrap machine for wrapping up pallets prior to dispatch, this increases tension on application and therefore stretches the shrink wrap further. This uses less packaging material per application when compared to manual application.

17. Describe any constraints or opportunities that affected performance under this KPI

KPI 4: Signatories implement formal policy of buying products made from recycled packaging.

18. Does your company have a formal policy of buying products made from recycled packaging?

- Yes No

Provide details of policies and procedures (including names of policies/ procedures)

This policy is currently under development.

19. Is this policy actively used?

- Yes No

20. Please indicate your progress this year towards achieving your annual targets and milestones for KPI 4

	Target: According to your Action Plan, what did you set out to do?	Actual: What did you achieve?
1.	Monitor the number of recycled products and where possible look to expand purchase of recycled products.	All suppliers are given packaging guidelines to produce the most environmentally friendly packaging solution within our commercial constraints and viability. Recycled material should be used where possible and if they are not used reason is to be justified, we also try to remove the use of harsh abrasives and glues in all packaging. Our current window box packaging has an all encompassing cardboard box with no glues or adhesives and minimal plastic moulding. We are now in review of this packaging solution to see if we can achieve further improvement in sustainable design. GHI are constantly evolving and improving our packaging design by looking at alternative options that are more sustainable and environmentally friendly.

21. Describe any constraints or opportunities that affected performance under this KPI

The nature of our product requires packaging that must protect from movement, abrasion or damage of the internal mechanism or external finish. We need to ensure our products are housed sufficiently within its packaging to avoid damage in transportation, this can make packaging alternatives a challenge when trying to remain commercially viable. The use of plastic moulding in packaging is a standard solution in industry and can be difficult to move away from for the reasons mentioned.

Goal 3: Product Stewardship

KPI 6: % signatories with formal processes to work collaboratively on packaging design and / or recycling.

22. Does your company have formal processes in place for collaborating with other companies or organisations on improved packaging designs and/or recycling which aims to reduce or eliminate waste?

- Yes No

Provide details of policies and procedures (including names of policies/ procedures)

This policy is currently under review.

23. Please indicate your progress this year towards achieving your annual targets and milestones for KPI 6

	Target: According to your Action Plan, what did you set out to do?	Actual: What did you achieve?
1.	Liaise with packaging suppliers to have greater awareness and adapt more environmentally friendly and sustainable outcomes. Lead by example to all merchants and vendors and try to influence behaviour.	GHI is currently working with offshore suppliers to ensure the cardboard specification is strong enough to hold weight of palletised products. It was discovered that shipments arriving from offshore suppliers required re-packing on arrival to the warehouse as the cardboard was not strong enough to withstand handling and storing. By ensuring packing material meets specification less overall packaging is used and packaging achieves greater useful life.
2.	Create a solidified process which encourages both GHI, merchant, vendor and interstate warehouse deliveries to reduce the amount of packaging used.	The implementation of automated voice pick technology has assisted pickers to consolidate all smaller orders into a bulk pick, this reduces the requirement for outer packaging to be used. As this system is hands free the picking process is now paperless.

24. Describe any constraints or opportunities that affected performance under this KPI

KPI 7: % signatories showing other Product Stewardship outcomes.

25. Please indicate your progress this year towards achieving your annual targets and milestones for KPI 7

	Target: According to your Action Plan, what did you set out to do?	Actual: What did you achieve?
1.	Lead by example to all merchants and vendors, try to influence behaviour.	GHI are moving to hang sell or free standing packaging design across the entire range. This aims to reduce any support packaging material on the shelf in the form of cut case boxes or product holders made from cardboards and plastics. This reduces overall consumption of packaging and minimises our customers wastage in the market. We hope this will influence and encourage other suppliers to adopt a similar approach.

26. Since the beginning of the reporting period, has your company had any other outcomes related to product stewardship?

Yes No

If yes, please give examples of other product stewardship outcomes

GHI is investigating the use of slip sheets for shipping and stock handling. Slip sheets are thin pallet sized sheets of plastic that will replace wooden pallets allowing for 12–15% more products in handling containers. Slip sheets significantly reduce time in material handling and decrease time spent loading/ unloading stock. They are reusable therefore will reduce the number of wooden pallets used and can be recycled also providing a cost-effective solution.

27. Describe any constraints or opportunities that affected performance under this KPI

Due to industry OH&S procedures product cannot be packed in outer packaging weighing greater than 15kgs, this can create the use of more boxes leading to a greater overall use of cardboard. When goods are being stored in bulk pick locations that are generally high off the warehouse floor the pallets must be heavily wrapped in plastic wrap to avoid any over spill or injury occurring.

KPI 8: Reductions in packaging items in the litter stream.

28. Please indicate your progress this year towards achieving your annual targets and milestones for KPI 8

	Target: According to your Action Plan, what did you set out to do?	Actual: What did you achieve?
1.	Increase awareness of correct litter disposal both internally and externally.	Education and communication across all production and warehouse teams is important to help minimise the unnecessary use of excess packaging material and ensure we encourage and make staff aware of alternatives. We will continue to use re-usable outer carton packaging and minimise use of plastics in this area which will contribute to our overall total litter minimisation. The continued placement of the "Please recycle" logo on all packaging aims to reduce waste ending up in the litter stream.

29. Describe any constraints or opportunities that affected performance under this KPI

Litter awareness activity can be hard to assess but these initiatives lead to less waste leaving our factory and therefore less chance this waste will end up in litter streams.

Your Experiences

This section lets you share with us any achievements, good news stories and areas of difficulties in making progress against your plan and the Covenant goals and KPIs.

30. Key achievements or good news stories

New waste agreement has been implemented with Transwaste increasing efficiency across the GWA Door & Access Systems division.

31. Areas of difficulties in making progress against your plan, Covenant goals or KPIs