About APCO

The Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation (APCO) is a not for profit organisation leading the development of a circular economy for packaging in Australia.

Their 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.

APCO work with governments, businesses and other organisations from across Australia's large and complex packaging value chain to develop the insights, resources and programs that are needed to build a sustainable national packaging ecosystem.

This includes facilitating the delivery of Australia's 2025 National Packaging Targets, an important step on the pathway to a circular economy.



About APCO (Continued)

All of APCO's work is underpinned by the Collective Impact Framework, a powerful cross-sector collaboration tool that unites a diverse range of stakeholders from across the value chain behind our common vision.

APCO deliver this model of shared responsibility through the promotion of circular packaging design, working to improve collection and recycling systems and education, and expanding markets for used packaging.

The Collective Impact Framework Outcomes

The Collective Impact Framework Strategies

2025 National Packaging Target



DESIGNED FOR

CIRCULARITY

- **1.1:** Reduce packaging through design and innovation
- **1.2:** Phase out problematic and unnecessary single-use plastic packaging
- **1.3:** Increase the proportion of reusable packaging
- 1.4: Design for material recycling
- **1.5**: Design for compostability where appropriate

100% reusable, recyclable or compostable packaging

The **phase out** of problematic and unnecessary single-use plastics packaging



- **2.1**: Standardise kerbside collection systems
- **2.2**: Expand drop-off and take back systems for packaging
- **2.3:** Improve the infrastructure for sortation and recycling
- **2.4**: Educate households and businesses to source separate effectively

70% lastic packa

of plastic packaging being recycled or composted



- **3.1:** Increase recycled content in packaging
- **3.2:** Increase use of recycled packaging materials in other products and civil construction

50%

of average recycled content included in packaging

Membership Types

Brand Owner Membership

Brand Owner Membership is suitable for any business (with an ABN) that sells products with packaging in Australia.

Brand Owner Members gain access to a number of benefits, including:

- Exclusive access to the APCO Member Centre, including case studies, webinars, technical guides and more.
- Support to reach regulatory obligations under the National Environment Protection (Used Packaging Materials) Measure 2011.
- Access to the APCO Annual Reporting Tool and the Packaging Sustainability Framework.
- Access to APCO events, industry roundtables, training and discounted partner events.
- Exclusive access to the Australasian Recycling Label (ARL) Program, including the Packaging Recyclability Evaluation Portal (PREP) and use of the ARL.
- Access to APCO Working and Advisory Groups.

International Affiliate

International Affiliate Membership is suitable for any non-Australian businesses.

International Affiliate Members gain access to a number of benefits, including:

- Regular updates on sustainable packaging progress in Australia.
- Exclusive access to the APCO Member Centre, including case studies, webinars, technical guides and more.
- Access to APCO events, industry roundtables, training and discounted partner events.
- Access to the Australasian Recycling Label (ARL) Program, which includes access to Packaging Recyclability Evaluation Portal (PREP) and the ARL.
- Be part of a problem solving collective, working in collaboration with local and global sustainability leaders in government, industry, community groups and academia.
- Join the movement working to meet the 2025 National Packaging Targets.

International Affiliates are not required to submit an APCO Annual Report or APCO Action Plan, however if they participate in the ARL Program, they will be required to report on use of the ARL each year.

Become an APCO Member

Before you begin your APCO Membership application, please read the following carefully.

Application Stages

Online form: When completing the application online you'll need to provide company details, as well as allocate a Primary Contact (your key APCO contact), an Executive Contact (for sign-off/approvals – must be CEO, CFO, Director or equivalent) and an Account Contact (for invoicing).

DocuSign: Once complete, the allocated Executive Contact will receive a DocuSign form to sign. This will come from the email address <u>dse@aumail.docusign.net</u>

Invoicing: Once the DocuSign is signed and returned to APCO, this will notify our Accounts department to generate an invoice which will be sent to your allocated Account Contact. Payment must be made within 30 days. Once paid, your organisation will be a full Member of APCO.

Joining as a Brand Owner Member?

When joining as a Brand Owner Member, you also become a Signatory to the <u>Australian Packaging Covenant</u>. Through this Membership type, APCO provides your organisation with a supported and guided pathway to comply with the federal legislation, the <u>National Environment Protection (Used Packaging Materials) Measure 2011</u>.

Signatory obligations are set out in Section 10 Part C of the Covenant, and include such things as:

- New Member Action Plan: A one off plan to be completed within 3 months of joining.
- APCO Annual Report: A report due online by 31 March each year.
- APCO Action Plan: A plan developed and submitted each year following completion of the APCO Annual Report (due 31 May each year).
- **Membership fees:** Fees paid annually to APCO based on your annual turnover <u>click here to</u> <u>view the fee schedule</u>. Note: Membership runs by financial year and fees are pro-rata for the first year.

Joining under another Membership type (e.g. International Affiliate)?

You can find out about what programs you can access here.

Apply Online to Join

https://apco.org.au/apco-members/new

Membership FAQs

How much are APCO Membership fees?

Membership fees are determined by total annual turnover. APCO Membership fees which must be paid annually and run by financial year. For new Members, their first year Membership fee is prorated from the month they join to the end of the Membership year - 30 June.

Click here for a copy of the APCO Membership Fee Schedule.

Which brands are APCO members?

For a list of APCO Members, head to APCO's <u>Member Search</u>. There you can search by location, Membership type and industry sector.

What period does my Membership fee cover?

APCO Membership Fees are issued on a financial year basis, covering 1 July to 30 June.

Do I need to be an APCO Member to access the ARL?

Yes. The Australasian Recycling Label (ARL) Program is exclusive to Members of the Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation (APCO). This means that both the ARL and the Packaging Recyclability Evaluation Portal (PREP) can only be used by compliant APCO Members.

Do I need to be an APCO Member to access PREP?

Yes. The Australasian Recycling Label (ARL) Program is exclusively available to Members of the Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation (APCO). This means that both the Packaging Recyclability Evaluation Portal (PREP) and ARL can only be used by compliant APCO Members.