



SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING COALITION®

CURRENT NEWS FROM THE SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING COALITION

a project of **GreenBlue** 

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 2: March 2010

SPC Updates

Register for the SPC Spring Meeting

We have announced the agenda for the annual SPC Spring Meeting to be held April 19-21 in Boston. The conference, open to members and non-members, is recognized as the leading educational forum on the implementation of sustainable packaging solutions. The agenda will feature sessions on packaging challenges in global markets, end-of-life options and packaging metrics, as well as three pre-meeting workshops on "Using the SPC's Metrics Framework," "An Introduction to Life Cycle Assessment," and "Paper Procurement with EPAT." The SPC Spring Meeting 2010 is generously hosted by Altria Group, Inc., Avery Dennison, Bemis Company, Carastar Industries, CHEP Equipment Pooling Systems, The Estée Lauder Companies, Kraft Foods Global, Inc., Mirel Bioplastics by Telles / Metabolix, PKG Industries, and Union Street Brand Packaging. [Register today.](#)

SPC Launches New Website

Please take a moment to visit the SPC's [new website](#) which launched last month. SPC members should have received login information via email. Please [contact us](#) if you have questions. Once logged in, you will be able to download member resources, access member-only updates on our project work, find membership information and resources, and more effectively locate other member companies of interest.

Executive Committee 2010 Kick-Off Meeting

The SPC's Executive Committee traveled from around the world to meet in Washington, DC in mid-February for a 2010 planning meeting. The Executive Committee discussed recent project updates and strategic priorities for the Coalition in the next three to five years. The

Welcome New Members

[Checkpoint](#)
[Expandos](#)
[Markem-Imaje](#)
[Orbis Corporation](#)
[Palermo's Pizza](#)
[Plastic Ingenuity](#)
[Rainbow Light Nutritional Systems](#)
[SABMiller](#)
[Shaklee](#)
[Syngenta](#)

SPC Events

[Open Forum Call: Navigating FDA Regulations for Food Grade Packaging](#)
with Pamela L. Langhorn, Keller and Heckman, LLP
March 25, 2010
11:00 am – 12:00 pm EDT

[SPC Spring Meeting 2010](#)
Boston, MA
April 19-21, 2010

[Essentials of Sustainable Packaging](#)
Toronto, ON
May 5-6, 2010

Events of Interest

[4th Annual Sustainability in Packaging Conference & Exhibition](#)

Executive Committee will be reaching out to member companies in the coming months to get additional feedback on the Coalition's focus.

SPC 2009 Annual Report Now Available

The SPC has released its 2009 Annual Report. You can access the report online for an overview of project and communications activities throughout the year. [Download the report.](#)

SPC Industrial Composter Survey Begins

One of the SPC's newest projects, the Industrial Composter Survey Project, has moved into the survey phase of the work. Based on interest at the SPC Fall Meeting, the survey was proposed as a way to assess whether compostable packaging is accepted by industrial composting facilities, along with the reasons why. In early March, SPC Project Associate Heather Martin began conducting the telephone and e-mail survey with composting consultant Rhodes Yepsen, formerly Associate Editor of Biocycle magazine. The survey will go to approximately 50 industrial composting facilities, covering facilities across the U.S. and a wide range of composting techniques and equipment. Liz Shoch, SPC Project Manager, is overseeing the project. The survey results will be presented at the SPC Spring Meeting in Boston. SPC Members can find more information on this project on the [new SPC website](#).

New Essentials of Sustainable Packaging Courses Announced

The 2010 dates for the Essential of Sustainable Packaging curriculum have been announced, with courses May 5-6 in Toronto, June 16-17 in New York or Philadelphia, and November 17-18 in California. The Packaging Association of Canada will continue to partner with us and handle registration. We'd like to thank Walt Bond and Printpack for Walt's content and instruction contributions over the past two years. With costs underwritten by Printpack, Walt taught over ten sessions with the team and provided a unique converter's perspective with a cheerful demeanor. Walt will continue to be involved with the SPC. Customized sessions of the course are still available: Contact [Anne Bedarf](#) for more information.

COMPASS Updates

The COMPASS new development is moving along. Please visit the [new SPC website](#) to see the main developing priorities for 2010. We are currently upgrading the backend applications and testing the performance prior to adding new functionalities. We are also evaluating options to increase the software capacity and response time as COMPASS continues to add new users globally. Users of COMPASS who access the application using Internet Explorer version 8 (IE8) have reported problems with the life cycle chart rendering. To solve this, within IE8 go to the 'Tools' menu and select 'Compatibility View

with GreenBlue Senior Fellow
Katherine O'Dea
Orlando, Florida
March 15-17, 2010

[FUSE 2010](#)
with SPC Project Manager
Minal Mistry
Chicago, IL
April 14-16, 2010

News of Interest

[Major Retailers Sign up to New Food Waste and Packaging Targets](#)
Greenwise.com – March 8, 2010

[Sugar-derived Epoxy Lining Could Replace Bisphenol A](#)
Food Production Daily – March 5, 2010

[Within Voluntary Package Reduction Goal Lurk Opportunities](#)
GreenerPackage.com – March 5, 2010

[UK Seeks To Reduce Carbon Footprint And Waste In Packaging](#)
Raymond Communications – March 2010

[Walmart's Super-Sized Climate Commitment Focuses on Supply Chain](#)
GreenBiz.com – February 25, 2010

[Alternatives to BPA Containers Not Easy for U.S. Foodmakers to Find](#)
Washington Post – February 23, 2010

[Packaging Companies Rethink the Box: The State of Green Business 2010](#)
GreenBiz.com – February 15, 2009

[Packaging Experts Say Sustainability Remains Elusive](#)
European Plastics News – February 5, 2010

[Extended Producer Responsibility Bill Introduced In Vermont](#)
Raymond Communications – February 2010

Settings'. Add "design-compass.org" to the list and close the dialogue box. Reload COMPASS and the charts will load.

February 2010

SPC and GreenBlue in the News

Supply Chain Collaboration Does Matter

Katherine O'Dea in *Packaging Digest* – March 1, 2010
Brand owners and retailers can and do drive improvement through the packaging supply chain by the packaging-design and material-specification decisions they make. However, while these decisions can alter (positively or negatively) upstream impacts related to resource extraction and use, as well as downstream impacts related to end-of-life management, they have far less influence on the operation and production practices of substrate manufacturers and packaging converters. [Read More](#)

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[Groups Propose Standards for Sustainable Packaging](#)
[Material Handling Management](#) – February 1, 2010

[SPI Bioplastics Council Issues Position Paper on Oxo-Biodegradables & Other Degradable Additives](#)
January 28, 2010

Resources

[Designing for Re-Use: The Life of Consumer Packaging](#)
This book by Janet Shipton and Tom Fisher provides practical guidance for understanding consumers' behavior might be significant for moving in a sustainable direction through design.

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