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COVER STORY

Roadmap for Circular Economy for Plastics in India

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Editorial

Circular Economy Roadmap for Plastics in India

Plastics are used in variety of applications including healthcare, automobiles, clean energy from wind turbines to solar panels, and most importantly as packaging material for food and non-food applications.
Their benefits range from being lightweight, flexible, durable, to providing long shelf-life and many more, and their use has increased twenty-fold in the past half-century, and is expected to double again in the next 20 years. Further, with growing purchasing power, and higher standard of living, the convenience that plastic-based consumer goods and the packaging provides for both food and non-food applications is invaluable.

However, these benefits are handicapped by the mismanagement of plastic waste which results in the clogging of drains, flooding and breeding of diseases, as well as adversely impacting our river and marine resources. Plastic packaging, much of which is single use and thrown within minutes after unpacking, accounts for nearly half of all the plastic waste globally. These calls for a fundamental change in the way plastic products, including packaging, are designed, used, and disposed.

One key solution is to manage plastic waste in an efficient and responsible manner and foster circularity in use of plastics. Circular economy measures retain the added value of goods as long as possible, reducing waste and keeping the value of plastics in the economy, without leakage into the natural environment. However, the manner in which most of the plastic products are made, used, and disposed at present does not capture the economic advantages of a more circular approach, and end up with drastic harming of the environment.

This Circular Economy Roadmap for Plastics in India, prepared by The Energy and Resources Institute with support from the Children's Investment Fund Foundation, identifies the key demand and supply side potential across the entire value chain for fostering circularity in plastics and includes a specific focus on the downstream issues on reducing, reusing, and recycling plastics. It aims to decouple plastics production from virgin fossil feedstock, incentivize use of recycled plastics to substitute virgin plastics, encourage responsible design, and strengthen and expand plastic recycling and reutilization. The implementation of the actions suggested in the roadmap will help address the social and environmental challenges due to the mismanagement of plastic waste and the associated economic costs, while also decreasing unnecessary plastic consumption.

IHPCIA endorses the UNSG goals with INCPA members including the goal on circular economy of plastics. In this issue of C3-Science we provide an extract of the study on Circular Economy Roadmap for plastics in India prepared by TERI with due acknowledgements to the publishers. Besides, the issue carries regular sections on global news, Indian news, and updates on patents, packaging, regulations, and associations. I am sure the content of the issue will make an interesting reading. Do provide us your valuable feedback to us to make the issue more interesting and valuable.

International Convention and Exhibition on Home and Personal Care Products and Ingredients (ISDC 2021)

The health and safety of our members, customers, employees, and industry partners is our highest priority.
After close consultation with board members of IHPCIA and our partners in the industry and community around the world, we've made the difficult decision to postpone the ISDC 2021 scheduled to be held in 14 to 16 November 2021.

Having spent the past year preparing for the show with our advisory boards, Executive Committee members, speakers, exhibitors, and event partners, we're genuinely upset and disappointed not to be able to host you at this time.

We want to thank all our customers and partners for their support, open discussions and encouragement. As everyone has been reminding us, great things happen when the community comes together and connects at physical ISDC event. For this reason, we have decided to hold the ISDC event during 10 – 12, July, 2022 at Hotel Alila Diwa, Goa, India. The theme of the event remains the same –The Way Forward Towards Atmanirbhar, Swachh and Swasth Bharat.

Please mark new dates in your calendar

New Event date: 10 – 12, July, 2022
Venue: Hotel Alila Diwa, Goa, India

COVER STORY

Roadmap for Circular Economy for Plastics in India

In this section we present the proposed roadmap for circularity in plastics sector in India through a set of three key priorities/objectives, supported by action plan, actions under which can be measured and monitored over a certain timeline: Short Term (ST) and Medium Term (MT) and Long Term (LT), where ST is 0–2 years, MT is 2–5 years and LT is > 5 years. The three key objectives that are identified are:

» Adopting sustainable material solutions –use of bio-based polymers, substitution of virgin polymer with recycled polymer, and dematerialization of plastic products
» Increase supply of good quality secondary plastics feedstock (recycled plastics); and
» Invent, innovate, and encourage alternative uses of problematic plastics waste

The implementation of the roadmap will require stakeholder coordination and collaboration including that between the national government, state governments, city governments, and industry. Further, the political acceptability and the financial viability of the various actions will play a key role in their uptake. To give an example, the local municipalities may be open to MRFs being set up in their cities and may even be willing to allocate land for the same and bear part of the operational costs. However, they would still require the private sector/industry to support the equipment and technology component costs and the remaining operational costs (so need for Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode). Overtime once the MRFs are able to develop the revenue sources based on sales of recyclables, they can become self- sustainable models, which not only builds entrepreneurs but converts waste to wealth. The political acceptability linked to these interventions also increases if the informal sector is integrated in the setup and paid fair dues.

Setting up pilot projects and/or demonstration activities around different circular economy aspects can enhance the transparency which will show in ground results, leading to higher political acceptability and more effective decision-making processes. To identify possible pilot activities, learning from similar countries could be drawn and where required customized.

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ISDC 2022

International Convention on Soaps Detergents and Cosmetics

Changing Dynamics – Sustainable Growth and Business Challenges

10th - 12th July, 2022

Hotel Alila Diwa, Goa

Circular Economy for Plastics in India Roadmap: Objectives

Objective 1: Adopting sustainable material solutions-use of bio-based polymers, substitution of virgin polymer with recycled polymer, and dematerialization of plastic products.

Action

- R&D around sustainable material solutions
- Targets (voluntary and mandatory) for adoption of sustainable material solutions
- Circular designs on plastic products (including packaging)
- Green Procurement
- Incentivizing sustainable material use
- Knowledge creation
- Awareness generation
- Technology based solution
- Business development support programme

Objective 2: Increase supply of good quality secondary plastics feedstock (recycled plastics).

Action

- Awareness generation
- Knowledge creation
- Infrastructure for waste recycling
- Incentivize supply of quality recycled plastics
- Informal sector integration with formal sector
- Capacity building

Objective 3: Invent, innovate, and encourage alternative uses of difficult to recycle plastic waste.

Action

- Expanding reutilization
- R&D to find economically viable alternative new uses
- Infrastructure for existing and new uses
- Business development support programme
- Industry collaboration and partnership

FIGURE 8: Roadmap for circularity in plastics in India: Objectives

Objective 1:

Adopting Sustainable Material Solutions: Use of Bio-based Polymers, Substitution of Virgin Polymer with Recycled Polymer, and Dematerialization of Plastic Products

Focus point in value chain: Midstream/Upstream

R&D around sustainable material solutions (Medium Term)

- Government support - public funding, R&D tax incentive schemes.
- Private sector support -laboratory experiments, technology transfer, collaborative action to promote access to and affordability of sustainable material solutions.
- Key areas:
  - Designing natural alternatives to plastic micro beads in personal care products.
  - Overcoming technical limitations faced by mono-material products as opposed to multi-material products.
  - Developing alternative monomers, polymers and additives using green chemistry approaches.

Incentivizing sustainable material use (Medium Term)

- Differentiated taxes on use of virgin versus recycled materials in production process; penalties (where possible) on products without minimum percentage of recycled polymer content.
- Earmarking of tax revenues for reinvestment in the plastic sector including for enhancing plastic collection, recycling infrastructure, and improving the working conditions of informal sector engaged in plastic end-of-life management.
- Deposit refund system based on digital platforms and use of artificial intelligence to incentivize return of used packaging through specifically for short life plastic packaging.
- Reduction/ discount against obligation within the 'producer responsibility' legislative framework to producers who meet the voluntary and mandatory targets around sustainable material use.

Circular designs on plastic products (particularly packaging) (Medium Term /Long Term)

- Develop and implement design standards for key plastic packaging/products (eliminate unsuitable design choices, reduce quantum of plastics used, design to foster reuse, and improve recycling quality and economics).
- Develop standards, tests, and certification to provide clarity, consistency, transparency on quality of recycled materials.
- Develop plastic products using easier to recycle polymer formats. For example- develop mono material film packaging instead of conventional multi-layer 'difficult-to-recycle' composite films.
- Longer mandatory guarantees for encouraging the production of more durable products.

Targets for adoption of sustainable material solutions (Short Term /Medium Term)

- Voluntary targets (product specific) on reducing the use of virgin plastics and substitution with recycled plastics.
- Mandatory targets (product specific) on use of recycled plastics in making some of the key plastic products such as garbage bags and rigid containers used for non-food applications.
- Reporting by manufacturers and importers of plastic products on the amount of virgin and recycled plastic content in their products.

Knowledge creation (Short Term /Medium Term)

- National (pan-India) classification of SUPs and removal of State-level variations in SUP definition.
- Plastics disclosure to encourage wise and sustainable use of plastics at offices and production facilities; large offices and institutes to conduct audits to determine current plastic usage and identify ways to reduce their plastic consumption and/or increase the proportion of recycled or biodegradable plastic within their set ups.
- Bin audits/maintenance checks across offices and institutions for plastic waste management
- Inventorization studies on waste characterization including share and type of SUPs and polymer type.
- Life cycle assessment of plastics in key end-use sectors to determine GHG emissions from using plastics vs other materials vs bioplastics/ recycled plastics in current scenario and alternative scenarios.

Awareness generation (Short Term)

- Set up local 'no plastic market zones' to engage communities to experience shopping without plastics.
- Industry associations and local government jointly engage with consumers through plastics consumer communications' campaign that promote sustainable purchasing, reuse, and responsible disposal of plastic products.
- Awareness generation on the presence of microplastics in personal care and cosmetic products (PCCPs).
- Focused programme for school and college students to inculcate a measurable behavioural change regarding plastic usage and its disposal (in a manner that minimizes littering and mismanagement) and promote use of alternate materials such a jute and compostable bags.

Green Procurement (Medium Term)

- Large private companies and government to promote procurement of sustainable materials as part of their criteria when tendering projects/ activities.
- Procurers in the retail sector to demand goods in sustainable packaging (containing recycled content and designed for reuse or recycling).
- Offices and institutions to mandate bulk delivery of cleaning and personal care products with refillable plastic containers, thereby eliminating single-use containers.
- Phase-in compulsory reporting to monitor the uptake of Green Public Procurement (GPP).

Technology based solution (Long Term)

- Block chain-supported platforms providing greater supply chain visibility for better decision making- help suppliers, processors, manufacturers, moulders, and brand owners to choose traceable, sustainable, and circular materials.
- R&D and technology support to suppliers and manufacturers to produce traceable and circular materials/products.
- Provide critical information for reversed logistics and take back of products, materials and components:
  - Example: Block chain smart contracts between a supplier of the segregated plastic waste (segregator) and a prospective buyer (example, closed-loop recycler), or between supplier of recycled plastic feedstock and prospective plastic goods manufacturer

Business development support programmes (Short Term /Medium Term)

- Technical and financial support to business models around sharing and leasing of plastic products:
  - Example: Leasing of water dispensers and refillable plastic bottles to households and offices or renting of plastic toys.
- Amplify success stories and exciting ongoing work on sustainable material solutions to attract new entrepreneurs and to encourage the development of new investable ventures.
- Financial support to address the funding gap faced by start-ups that are aiming to design business models around commercial production/use of sustainable materials.

Objective 2:

Increase Supply of Good Quality Secondary Plastics Feedstock (Recycled Plastics)

Focus point in value chain: Downstream

Awareness generation (Short/ Medium Term)

- Targeted messaging with support of the ULBs to influence measurable behaviour change in citizens and encourage them to source segregate, and engage in responsible handing over of waste to waste collector.
- Public awareness campaigns on source segregation, health and environmental hazards linked to plastics mismanagementand the need to recycle plastics.
- Harmonized industry-wide effort to communicate information about chemicals used in plastic and the need for responsible disposal of end-of-life plastic products.
- Standards and labelling of recyclable, bio-degradable, bio-plastics.
- Incorporation of 3Rs of waste management-reduce, reuse and recycle in the education curriculum.
- Extensive community engagement activities involving religious and community leaders to promote reuse, waste minimization, source segregation.

Knowledge creation (Short/ Medium Term)

- Develop best practices document/guidelines in key end-use sectors [for e.g. comprehensive industry document (COINDS)], resource recycling and waste minimization practices.
- Develop best practices document/guidelines of sustainable business models in India and globally that may be scalable and replicable in the key end-use sectors.
- Study to assess the quantity and quality (composition) of household plastic waste in rural areas.
- Assessment of recycling capacity, gaps, and opportunities to identify and increase capacity utilization.
- Information bank on plastic types in different products that will enable tracking of plastic movement in the economy.
- Baseline assessment of quantity and quality of recycled polymers produced through the recycling processes (plastic granules/flakes/pellets).
- This should include state-wise assessment that can be used to determine efficient flows of recycled material and its utilization.
- Inventorization of different types of plastic waste generated, handling practices, storage, and channelization for its reuse, recycling, repurposing, or final disposal.

Infrastructure for waste recycling (Long Term)

- Equipment for source segregation (bins) and collection of the source segregated waste in compartmentalized/separate vehicles:
  - Example: ULBs jointly with private waste management company could one time provide bins for households, bags for commercial establishments, and litter bins at appropriate commercial and public places. Subsequent purchases of bins and bags to be done by the waste generator
- Innovation in infrastructure for collection and separation of plastic waste from MSW.
- Develop decentralized formal recycling clusters including setting up technology for creating better quality recyclates, and treatment infrastructure.
- Develop MRFs, transfer stations to collect, sort, store, transport segregated waste through public-private partnerships with brands/industry; For example, UNDP-Coca-Cola-Unilever initiative, ITC-Pune Municipal Corporation initiative.

Incentivize supply of quality recycled plastics (Medium Term)

- Creating a marketplace to bring in transparency in the demand and supply of recyclates and ensure fair price for the recycler; specifically need to create a market for household waste plastics through procurement and industrial partnerships.
- Fiscal incentives to promote advanced forms of recycling such as chemical recycling.
- Issuance and selling of 'reverse logistics credits' by informal sector (cooperatives) to companies to help them fulfil their EPR responsibility related to collection and disposal of waste in the right manner. These credits make it worthwhile for waste pickers to collect lower-value waste material (difficult to collect otherwise), while also increasing revenue for waste pickers.
- Setting up of a National Plastic Recycling Fund to collect and recycle plastic waste

Informal sector integration with formal sector (Medium Term)

- Integrate informal sector with formal recyclers through contracts and as part of EPR policy and PWM rules to improve collection and sorting efficiency.
- Integration of informal sector by the ULBs could include:
  - Bring in social empowerment programmes for the informal sector, set up cooperatives.
  - Incentivize partnerships between ULBs and waste management companies supporting the ULBs, waste pickers, junkshops, recyclers, and major companies looking to purchase recycled goods.
- Large sorting centres or collection systems with at-the-source separation should employ the informal sector and prevent the possible detrimental effect on such subsectors of new technologies under chemical recycling.
- Capacity building and skill training of the informal sector to increase their technical expertise to upgrade their recovery activities and be able to design their business contracts.
- Partnership between private waste management enterprises and the informal sector to improve the value chains related to materials from waste.

Capacity building (Short Term)

- Improve capacity for enforcement at the local, municipality level, through capacity building workshops with expert organizations.
- Establish cooperatives and unions of independent waste pickers and provide them training, technical support on better sorting, value addition, and responsible waste handling.

Objective 3:

Invent, Innovate, and Encourage Alternative Uses of Difficult-to-Recycle Plastic Waste

Focus point in value chain: Downstream

Expanding reutilization (Short/Medium Term)

- Expand development of plastic roads (plastic substitute for bitumen) through Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH), Public Works Department, and National Highway Authorities of India:
  - ULBs to implement the directives of MoRTH.
  - Provision of facilities for aggregation of plastic waste for road construction.
- Use plastic waste for bricks and composites; this will incentivize the informal sector to collect the non-recyclable waste and also reduce the waste going to landfills.
- Expand pilot technology of MLP recycling through tie-ups with key industry partners, ULBs, informal sector by identifying all-India markets including demand for recycled MLP products.
- Conduct scientific studies to understand the safety (toxicity, leachate generation) of recycled MLP-based products.

R&D for economically viable alternative new uses (Medium/ Long Term)

- Develop chemical recycling-based technologies to provide decentralized and broadly applicable recycling systems:
  - Several pyrolysis systems have been initiated, but there is a need for proper scientific data and design of unit and follow up studies to promote up scaling and commercialization.
- Develop techniques and technologies for upcycling of plastic waste:
  - PET plastic waste for energy storage applications.
  - Discarded/ghost fishing gear (nets, ropes, and components) into accessories, clothing, footwear, home ware, recreation.
- Identify new uses and viability of these uses for difficult-to-recycle plastics such as MLPs and non-recyclable plastics.
- Conduct pilot projects to find possible R&D solutions for inadequately sorted industrial waste received for incineration.
- Develop eco-friendly alternative flame retardants which could eliminate the use of some hazardous chemicals in plastics manufacture.

Infrastructure for existing and new uses (Medium/ Long Term)

- Processing set-ups and technology/equipment for converting plastic waste into alternate fuel and raw material (AFR) in cement kilns and power plants.
- Establish smaller decentralized co-processing facilities near major waste generating cities; this will address the major transport cost related challenge in uptake of dry waste to co-processing facilities.
- Set up/support infrastructure for separate collection, processing, and industrialized composting facilities for compostable plastics.
- Set up units for converting plastic waste into products such as tiles, lumber, bricks.

Business development support programme (Medium/Long Term)

- Set up incubators and accelerators, through public and private partnership modes that can provide funding, link entrepreneurs with academics and industry professionals for mentoring, training, and provide engagement to start-ups that work on developing business models around alternative uses of plastic waste.
- Amplify success stories and exciting work going on problematic plastics to attract new entrepreneurs and to encourage the development of new investable ventures.
- Successful municipality-led and private partnership based circularity fostering projects to be promoted as case studies.

Industry collaboration and partnership (Short/Medium Term)

- Country-level plastic pact, like in many other countries, have done to bring industry players together to define a common vision for fostering circularity in plastics sector.
- Regional FMCG brands, their chambers of commerce, and industry in states to come together and define a common vision towards circularity in plastic packaging; tapping significant market strength in their regions of operations.

ARTICLE

Sustainability a priority among new developments in rigid plastic packaging

Mounting public pressure on brand owners and retailers to reduce the environmental impact of packaging is one of the biggest challenges facing rigid plastic packaging producers over the next five years. Measures being introduced by governments and brand owners/retail chains to lower consumption of non-renewable and non-recyclable packaging materials are part of a growing focus on sustainability.

The Future of Rigid Plastic Packaging to 2026, a new report from Smithers, identifies consumption of the material in 2020 as 58.83 million tonnes with only a marginal increase in demand during the year due to severe disruption by the COVID-19 pandemic. As recovery takes place, total market value will reach $193.2 billion in 2021, up from the $181.9 billion seen in 2020 for a 6.2% increase.

Beyond 2021 a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 4.2% will push the global market to $237.1 billion in 2026 with Asia leading the rise in consumption. Total volume consumption worldwide will rise by 3.5% across 2021-2026 to reach 73.1 million tonnes, Smithers data shows.

Sustainability initiatives

New product developments for rigid plastic packaging are focused mainly on sustainability and the circular economy. There are further developments in PET food-grade resin with recycled content and growing uptake of recycled PET for packaging. Paper bottles are gaining traction but are unlikely to make a major breakthrough into mainstream packaging markets in the foreseeable future.

Chemical recycling

Another growing area involving sustainability is chemical recycling, which may offer the potential for difficult-to-recycle PET and other polymer streams in the future as a supplement to mechanical recycling. Chemical recycling involves reducing waste PET and other plastic packaging to its constituent parts or chemical feedstock. Recent chemical recycling technology developments could be a 'game changer' for PET and other packaging polymers.

Several projects for chemical recycling of waste PET and other plastic packaging currently under development. By 2026, chemical recycling could potentially break down difficult-to-recycle plastic packaging waste. However, the challenge is whether the industry can develop the technologies to a scale that is both industrially and economically feasible.

Regional growth potential

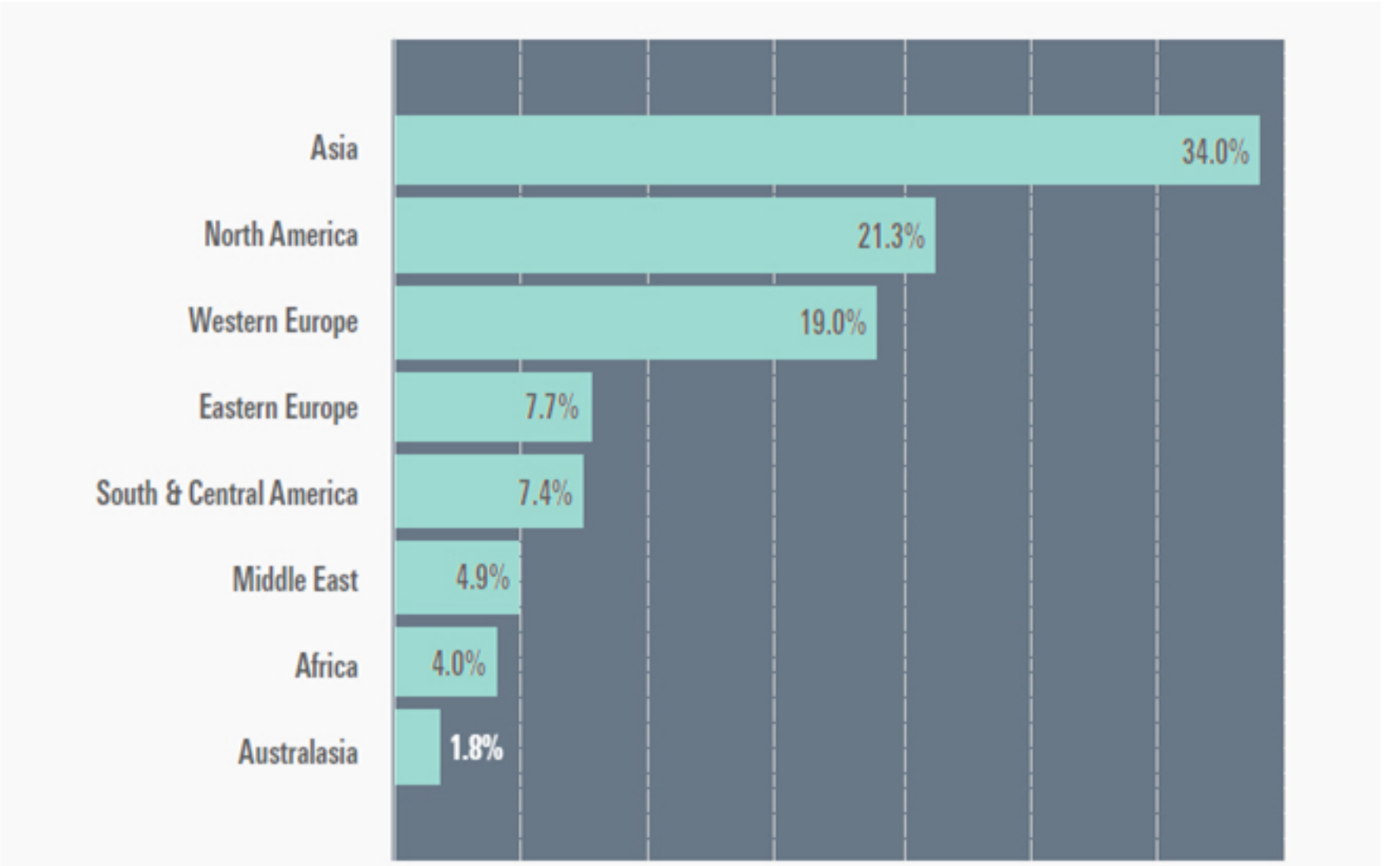
In 2020, Asia was the largest consumer of rigid plastic packaging with consumption share of 34.0%, followed by North America with 21.3% and Western Europe with 19.0%. Asia is forecast to grow rigid plastic packaging consumption during 2021–26 at the fastest rate, with high growth rates in India and China being propelled by rising standards of living, growing urbanisation and wider availability of packaged food and drink. Japan is a highly developed and mature market and rigid plastic packaging consumption is forecast to grow quite slowly.

Africa and the Middle East are forecast to grow rigid plastic packaging at rates above the global market average rate. Packaging markets in most countries in Africa and the Middle East are relatively under-developed and offer good growth potential. Rigid plastic packaging consumption is rising as a result of a young and growing population, increased urbanization and expansion of a wealthier middle class, investment in food production, food processing and new packaging converting capacity, and the development of a more modern retail infrastructure along with increased use of pre-packed foods.

With growing demand for convenience food as a part of Asia's urbanization, rigid plastic package makers can expect to see higher sales of microwavable ready meals in thermoformed rigid plastic packages, more portable packaging, 'easy-open' and reseal packaging and packaging for on-the-go lifestyles.

Western Europe and North America are very mature and saturated markets for rigid plastic packaging with high penetration rates across various end-use sectors. Furthermore, consumers' real disposable incomes and the population are growing at a relatively modest rate.

FIGURE E.1 Rigid plastic packaging, percentage share of global consumption by region, 2020



Source: Smithers

Leading applications

Food is the largest end-use market for rigid plastic packaging, accounting for 40.0% of global consumption in 2020. Within the food category, dairy products are by far the largest sector, followed by other (human) foods, which include soups, sauces, seasonings and condiments. Non-food is the second largest sector, representing 31.9% of
consumption, followed by drinks with a 28.1% consumption share. Other (human) food is forecast to grow at the highest rate, followed by healthcare and cosmetics.

Leading processes

Blow molding is the most important process used for the manufacture of rigid plastic packaging, accounting for 59.6% of global consumption in 2020, followed by injection molding with 17.6%. Thermoforming accounts for 15.1% of consumption and thermoform-fill-seal has a 7.1% share.

The thermoform-fill-seal rigid plastic packaging process is forecast to grow at the fastest rate, mainly as a result of growing demand for single-serve packs and the versatility and speed of the machinery that enables rapid changeovers to ensure optimum productivity of operations.

Source: https://www.smithers.com/

GLOBAL NEWS

Spectrum Brands Acquires Rejuvenate Household Cleaning Products

Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc. has entered into an agreement to acquire For Life Products, LLC, a manufacturer in the household cleaning, maintenance and restoration segment. The purchase price is approximately $300 million, subject to customary adjustments.

For Life Products cleaning and surface care products are sold under the Rejuvenate brand name.

"Rejuvenate has generated impressive top and bottom-line growth over the last few years and provides Spectrum Brands with an immediate leadership position in the attractive household cleaning category that enhances our ability to meet increasing demand for home essential products," said David Maura, chairman and CEO of Spectrum Brands. T

Maura said the acquisition aligns with its strategy to purchase strong, complimentary brands where it can leverage its efficient supply chain and strong customer relationships to drive future growth.

"With the acquisition of Rejuvenate, we are confident in our ability to create value through substantial revenue, supply chain and manufacturing synergies. In addition, the acquisition is margin accretive for us. And finally, we are very excited to build on the Rejuvenate commitment to providing quality, innovative products that clean, restore and protect the entire home."

The transaction is expected to close in the first half of 2021. Rejuvenate will join Spectrum Brands' Home & Garden division, which includes Cutter, Repel, Hot Shot and Black Flag bug and insect brands.

Source: HAPPI News April 23,2021

L'Oréal successfully defends itself in patent infringement lawsuit

L'Oréal successfully defended itself in a lawsuit brought by the University of Massachusetts Medical School over claims involving an anti-aging treatment.

U-Mass had brought suit in Delaware along with a former Roman Catholic monk who alleged that L'Oréal had infringed on his own patented formula for a cream designed to induce greater skin elasticity to prevent wrinkles. The medical school developed the formula and licensed it back to the monk's Carmel Laboratories in 2009.

The med school and Carmel Labs were seeking more than $280 million in damages against L'Oréal, and alleged willful infringement, which could have potentially trebled the damages, according to attorneys from Paul Hastings, which defended L'Oréal.

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In a decision earlier week, the District Court of Delaware granted summary judgement for L'Oréal, finding plaintiffs' patents invalid based on indefiniteness. Rulings on additional summary judgment motions are pending.

This is the second IP win Paul Hastings' trial team has recently secured for L'Oréal. In March, the firm defeated an infringement case involving hair treatment products whose patents were asserted by Olaplex Inc.

Source: HAPPI News April 23,2021

Multi-purpose sustainable 'Just Add Water' household cleaner expands cleaning products

With the goal of eliminating single-use plastic, JAWS (Just Add Water System) now offers eight concentrated cleaners in their refillable, cartridge-based system.

JAWS Multi-Purpose Cleaner with Fabulous Lavender scented fragrance is designed for use on a wide variety of hard surfaces, including stainless steel, laminate floors, ceramic tile, outdoor furniture, lawn and garden equipment, and much more.

First-to-the-market with their cartridge-based cleaning products, JAWS created a high-performance, sustainable alternative to many of the ready-to-use cleaning products available on store shelves today. While there are many cleaners on the market focused on sustainability and all-natural ingredients, JAWS is confident their line of cleaners and refillable, reusable, system makes JAWS an easy choice for eco-conscious consumers, said the company.

Understanding the universal appeal for a multi-surface cleaner, CEO Bruce Yacko said their latest offering provides "a multi-purpose cleaner that is safer to use, streak-free and still provides the wonderful cleaning characteristics that JAWS customers and professional cleaners have come to expect."

Available for sale on jawscleans.com and amazon.com, JAWS Multi-Purpose cleaner Starter Kit comes with an empty bottle, sprayer, and two cartridges, and retails for $6.99. Additionally, consumers may purchase a variety of starter kits including Glass, Foaming Bathroom, Kitchen, Daily Shower and JAWS Disinfectant Cleaners starting at $6.99.

Source: HAPPI News April 22,2021

Beiersdorf to shutter Cleveland plant; 134 jobs at risk

Beiersdorf has notified the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development that it will be closing its Coppertone plant in Cleveland, Tennessee, resulting in permanent layoffs for all staff, according to a report published by Powder & Bulk Solids.

Coppertone, acquired by Beiersdorf in 2019, will see production outsourced to a third-party manufacturer. The redundancies will be complete by September 29, 2021, according to the WARN notice.

Alvaro Alonso, General Manager for Beiersdorf North America said in a statement, reported by multiple news outlets, "Our thorough analysis showed clearly that the costs to retrofit the Cleveland facility to the infrastructure, processing and logistics requirements of other Beiersdorf products were simply too high."

Source: globalcosmeticnews.com April 26, 2021

Shiseido and Dolce & Gabbana partially terminate beauty license

Shiseido and Dolce & Gabbana have partially terminated their beauty license agreement. The move is part of Shiseido's "WIN 2023 and Beyond" strategy.

The move is effective Dec. 31, 2021 for all markets except France. Separately, Beauté Prestige International is considering a D&G to conclude the licensing activities in France by year-end and pursue the production and distribution of Dolce & Gabbana Beauty products, on a worldwide scale, for a minimum 12-month period effective Jan. 1, 2022.

Shiseido and BPI entered into the Dolce&Gabbana license agreement in October 2016. BPI is responsible for the fragrance business of Shiseido Group.

Shiseido's WIN 2023 and Beyond strategy calls for structural reforms this year, along with enhancing its financial base and preparing business post-COVID. In 2022, Shiseido will celebrate its 150th anniversary, grow its global brands and bounce back to a growth recovery track.

By region, emerging markets grew 9.4% driven by strong double-digit growth in China and India, following strict lockdowns in the prior year. Latin America grew high-single digit while South East Asia declined, driven by Indonesia. Developed markets grew 0.8%, with mid-single digit growth in North America offset by a decline in Europe, where volumes were impacted by lockdowns and Unilever faced higher comps from a year ago. E-commerce continued to perform well, with underlying sales growth of 66%, and represented 11% of sales.

Unilever's board also approved a three billion euro buyback.

Source: happi.com April 30,2021

L'Oréal USA will open second HQ in California

L'Oreal USA announced it will open second company headquarters in El Segundo, CA in early 2022.

L'Oréal USA's second company headquarters will bring together the teams from its California-based brands – NYX Professional Makeup, Urban Decay and Pulp Riot, which are currently based in three different locations – into one state-of-the-art creative campus. The second headquarters will also house L'Oréal's first-ever west coast-based Professional Products Academy.

A strategic market for the company, L'Oréal USA has been expanding its California footprint over the last decade. L'Oréal USA is L'Oréal Group's largest subsidiary.

With more than 100,000-square-feet of indoor and outdoor workspaces designed to the highest sustainability standards on a 25-acre park-like campus transformed from an aerospace manufacturing site, the second headquarters will be built to accommodate the company's future growth plans, said L'Oréal USA.

The workspace will offer amenities such as dedicated networking and collaboration spaces, an indoor-outdoor work concept with expansive outdoor patios, a wellness and exercise studio, a company store featuring products across its portfolio of brands, and an abundance of natural light coming in from the building's 45-foot ceilings.

"We are fortunate to be in a position to invest in the expansion and future of our business," said Stéphane Rinderknech, president and CEO of L'Oréal USA. "California has become a global stage for creativity, innovation, trends, diversity and talent in the beauty industry – and, as a result, it has become a driving force of our business. We are excited at the prospect of our brand teams coming together to build the future of beauty in the Los Angeles area."

Built to reflect L'Oréal USA's new hybrid working model, the company's second headquarters will enable employees to move seamlessly between in-office and remote work. In August 2020, L'Oréal USA announced a permanent hybrid work approach, allowing eligible employees to work 40% of their time (2 days per week) remotely each week.

The second headquarters will also serve as the home to the first-ever West Coast L'Oréal Professional Products Academy.

L'Oréal USA says the second headquarters will complement the company's main headquarters located on the west side of Manhattan in the Hudson Yards neighborhood, which opened in June 2016.

Source: happi.com April 28,2021

New Research by Syracuse University Shows Pain Relieving Effects of CBD

In the first experimental pain study of CBD in humans, researchers led by Syracuse University's Martin De Vita and Stephen Maisto conclude that CBD pain relief is driven by both pharmacological action and psychological placebo effects. The research is published in the American Psychological Association's Journal of Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology. The CBD topicals market is expected to grow to $4.5 billion by 2025, as reported in Happi.

It's been hailed as a wonder plant and it's certainly creating wonder profits. While users tout its effectiveness in pain relief, up until now there's been limited experimental human research on the actual effectiveness of the drug. However, a new study led by researchers at Syracuse University sheds light on the ability of CBD to reduce pain along with the impact that the so-called placebo effect may have on pain outcomes.

"For science and the public at large the question remained, is the pain relief that CBD users claim to experience due to pharmacological effects or placebo effects," asked Martin De Vita, a researcher in the psychology department at Syracuse University's College of Arts and Sciences. "That's a fair question because we know that simply telling someone that a substance has the ability to relieve their pain can actually cause robust changes in their pain sensitivity. These are called expectancy effects." De Vita, along with Syracuse Emeritus Psychology Professor Stephen Maisto, were uniquely prepared to answer that exact question. The pair, along with fellow lab member and doctoral candidate Dezarie Moskal, previously conducted the first systematic review and meta-analysis of experimental research examining the effects cannabinoid drugs on pain. As the first experimental pain trial to examine CBD, their study yielded consistent and noteworthy results. Among other findings, the data showed that CBD and expectancies for receiving CBD do not appear to reduce experimental pain intensity, but do make the pain feel less unpleasant.

De Vita and Maisto used sophisticated equipment that safely induces experimental heat pain, allowing them to measure how the recipient's nervous system reacts and responds to it. "Then we administer a drug, like pure CBD, or a placebo and then re-assess their pain responses and see how they change based on which substance was administered," said De Vita. Researchers then took it a step farther by manipulating the information given to participants about which substances they received. In some cases, participants were told that they got CBD when they actually received a placebo, or told they would be getting a placebo when they actually got CBD. "That way we could parse out whether it was the drug that relieved the pain, or whether it was the expectation that they had received the drug that reduced their pain," according to De Vita. "We hypothesized that we would primarily detect expectancy-induced placebo analgesia (pain relief). What we found though after measuring several different pain outcomes is that it's actually a little bit of both. That is, we found improvements in pain measures caused by the pharmacological effects of CBD and the psychological effects of just expecting that they had gotten CBD. It was pretty remarkable and surprising."

"The data is exciting but pretty complex in that different pain measures responded differently to the drug effect, to the expectancy, or both the drug and expectancy combined—so we're still trying to figure out what is behind the differential data with different kinds of pain measures," said Maisto. "The next step is studying the mechanisms underlying these findings and figuring out why giving instructions or CBD itself causes certain reactions to a pain stimulus."

Most people think of pain as an on and off switch, you either have it or you don't. But pain, as De Vita describes it, is a complex phenomenon with several dimensions influenced by psychological and biological factors. For example, whereas pain intensity reflects a "sensory" dimension of pain, unpleasantness represents an "affective," or emotional, aspect of pain. "If you think of pain as the noxious noise coming from a radio the volume can represent the intensity of the pain, while the station can represent the quality," said De Vita. Results from his previous study showed that while cannabinoid drugs weren't reducing the volume of pain, they were "changing the channel making it a little less unpleasant." According to De Vita, "It's not sunshine and rainbows pleasant, but something slightly less bothersome. We replicated that in this study and found that CBD and expectancies didn't significantly reduce the volume of the pain, but they did make it less unpleasant—it didn't bother them as much." As part of the study De Vita and Maisto developed advanced experimental pain measurement protocols "to pop the hood and start looking at some of these other mechanistic pain processes," said De Vita. "It's not just pain, yes or no, but there are these other dimensions of pain, and it would be interesting to see which ones are being targeted. We found that sometimes pharmacological effects of CBD brought down some of those, but the expectancies did not. Sometimes they both did it. Sometimes it was just the expectancy. And so, we were going into this thinking we were going to primarily detect the expectancy-induced pain relief but what we found out was way more complex than that and that's exciting."

One important note to also consider is the source of the CBD. "What we used in our study was pure CBD isolate oil," said De Vita. "Commercially available CBD products differ in their content and purity, so results might be different for different CBD products, depending on what other compounds they may or may not contain."

Source: happi.com April 26, 2021

Recovery looms for I&I cleaning market

The industrial and institutional cleaning market, excluding hand sanitizers, declined by 10% in 2020 because of pandemic-related lockdowns and reduced travel, but a rebound is on the horizon as the economy reopens, said IHS Markit's Adam Bland during a virtual specialty chemicals forum this month. Institutional demand for hand sanitizers jumped by more than $3 billion in 2020 and although a retreat is likely this year and next, Bland expects alcohol-based hand sanitizers to continue to grow at a healthy rate.

Source: Chemical Week April 26, 2021

Demand for surfactants into cleaners to shift focus as pandemic eases - Stepan

US-based Stepan anticipates continued Covid-related demand for surfactants into cleaners and disinfectants, even as the pandemic is expected to recede in coming months.

"We believe there may be some decline in consumer washing habits as we go forward but those will be offset by enhanced cleaning in the industrial and institutional markets," said Quinn Stepan Jr, chairman and CEO, during the company's Q1 earnings presentation on 27 April.

Cleaning protocols in public spaces - schools, hospitals and airplanes, for example - have changed due to the pandemic, said Luis Rojo, vice president and CFO.

Scott Behrens, president and COO, said: "A lot of the hospitality industry is going to try to restore public confidence that their families can be safe in these public places, so visible cleaning should be a big part of economies reopening around the world."

Behrens said these changes - for example, cleaning crews being active during the day when people are present to see the cleaning being done, rather than in the middle of the night - could provide a boost to Stepan's surfactants business.

"We'll see how that impacts us – if it offsets the consumer demand," Rojo said.

Stepan products are used in a variety of sectors, including coatings, adhesives, sealants and elastomers; construction; cleaning; insulation; oilfield; and personal care.

Source: ICIS.com April 27, 2021

Unilever creates laundry capsules using captured CO2 emissions

You might not know it, but you're likely washing your clothes with ingredients made from fossil fuels But soon, you'll be able to stop and do your laundry with a detergent made from recycled carbon emissions instead. While many surfactants—a key ingredient in detergents, which creates foam and allows dirt to be washed away—are derived from petroleum, a new laundry capsule from Unilever, which initially will be available in stores in China, uses surfactants made from captured industrial emissions.

The laundry capsules, available through the brand Omo and launching in China April 22, result from a partnership between Unilever, biotech company LanzaTech, and green chemical company India Glycols. LanzaTech, which has a commercial plant running in China that turns carbon emissions from a steel mill into ethanol, has already used its carbon recycling process to turn those emissions into jet fuel and alcohol for fragrances.

For these laundry detergents, LanzaTech will capture waste emissions and turn them into ethanol through a bioreactor in which bacteria eat those emissions, and then India Glycols will take that ethanol and turn it into ethylene oxide, a feedstock to make surfactants. Unilever says it's the first time a surfactant made from captured carbon emissions will come to market in a cleaning product (surfactants are also used in cleaners such as dish soap).

Like all of LanzaTech's recycled carbon products, making surfactants from emissions will have a dual environmental impact: preventing the use of fossil fuels while simultaneously averting carbon emissions from being released into the air. The partnership is part of Unilever's Clean Future program, which aims to eliminate fossil-fuel-based chemicals from all Unilever cleaning and laundry products by 2030.
To better understand the sources of carbon in all its products, Unilever uses a system it calls a "carbon rainbow," in which carbon is color-coded by its sources: "green carbon," for example, comes from plants, as opposed to "black carbon," which comes from nonrenewable fossil fuels. The recycled-carbon surfactants are an example of "purple carbon," sourced from captured CO2. By moving away from petrochemicals (those derived from fossil fuels) to chemicals made from plastic waste ("gray carbon"), plants, or recycled carbon, Unilever expects to reduce the carbon footprint of its cleaning and laundry products by 20%.

"Advancements in technology like this mean we can now reinvent the chemistry of our products," said Peter ter Kulve, president of Unilever's home care business, in a statement. "Instead of valuable carbon being released directly into the atmosphere, we can capture it and recycle it in our products instead of using fossil fuels."

Source: https://www.fastcompany.com April 21, 2021

INDIAN NEWS

FMCG companies giving more importance to kiranas over Ecommerce

Large consumer goods companies selling essentials are prioritising stock replenishments at neighbourhood grocery stores over ecommerce as last-mile deliveries through online platforms are getting delayed because of Covid curbs.

"We are seeing a huge increase among consumers buying essentials from kirana grocery stores, with acceleration of Covid-19 cases causing delays in online deliveries," said Mayank Shah, category head at Parle Products, the country's largest biscuit maker. "Our immediate and core priority now is ensuring quick replenishment of stocks at the neighbourhood retail stores. All our energies are focused here, to meet increased demand for essentials."

Source: ETRetail.com April 21,2021

Competition Commission gives nod to BigBasket's 64% stake sale to Tata Digital

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has greenlit Tata Sons' proposal to acquire a majority stake in Alibaba-backed BigBasket, setting the stage for a battle of the giants in the country's fast-growing online grocery segment.

Tata Digital, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Tata Sons, had sought CCI's approval to acquire a 64.3% stake in Supermarket Grocery Supplies, the business-to-business arm of BigBasket, through a mix of primary and secondary share purchases.

Subsequently, through a separate transaction, Supermarket Grocery Supplies may acquire sole control over Innovative Retail Concepts which operates BigBasket's online retail business, giving Tata control over both wholesale and retail business units.

Source: ETRetail.com April 29,2021

Too early to talk about what second wave's impact will be on consumption, says HUL chief

The entire focus of the country now should be on taming the coronavirus and it is too early to say what impact the second wave of the pandemic will have on underlying offtake and consumption, Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL) Chairman and Managing Director Sanjiv Mehta said on. The FMCG major will also cover for the vaccination of around 3 lakh people, which include not only its employees and their families but also those in its extended ecosystem.

"The entire focus of the country (now) should be in taming the virus, protecting the health and well-being of the people," Mehta said while addressing a virtual quarterly earnings press conference.

He was responding to a query on the growth outlook under the current circumstances, where India is reeling under a devastating second wave of the pandemic.
With a Budget that was "absolutely amazing", Mehta said, "this would have been a good year for the country" from a "resurgence of economic activity and growth" point.

He asserted that the company is still bullish on it "if we are able to tame the virus quickly".

When asked if the possibility of multiple waves of the pandemic was of concern, he said, "Multiple waves, it would depend on the intensity. It would depend on how lethal they are..."

On the impact of the ongoing wave of COVID-19, he said, "As far as underlying offtake and consumption is concerned it is too early to say what impact...Supply chains are running, even in places where there is localised lockdown, stores are opening. The business, albeit impacted to some extent, it is still running."

Mehta further said, "Let us wait and see how it pans out. At this stage, I firmly believe, looking at what has happened, it is not going to be as bad as what happened in the June quarter of last fiscal."

Asked about any infections of HUL employees, he said, "There are pockets where despite our very high standards and protocol people have got impacted. So the entire focus has been how do we best look after them as far as possible."

He said the company has decided to facilitate and "if necessary, pay for the vaccination not just for our employees and their families but all the people in our ecosystem. It comes to nearly 300,000 people, which includes salesmen and all. But yes we have a fair share of people who have been impacted."

Mehta said HUL is talking to different hospitals for partnerships for the vaccination programme but not yet finalised as it is not clear how much vaccines will private hospitals get at the moment.

Source: ETRetail.com April 30,2021

Coca Cola pledges Rs 50 crore towards facilitating vaccination, providing safety kits in India

Beverage maker Coca Cola India has committed Rs 50 crore funds towards facilitating COVID-19 vaccination, providing safety kits among others, that will benefit 10 lakh people. "As efforts accelerate nationwide to provide relief from the devastation of the second wave of the coronavirus, Coca-Cola in India has committed Rs 50 crore to augment the nation's effort in combating the crisis and containing the spread of the pandemic," the company said in a statement.

The initial contribution of Rs 50 crore is towards facilitating COVID vaccination, providing safety kits, creating awareness, and distributing beverages to the country's front line, to positively impact over 10 lakh Indians, it said.

To stand in support of the COVID-19 pandemic, the company has created a special "Stop the Spread" fund worldwide.
This fund will be channelised towards facilitating vaccine distribution, COVID safety kits (PPE - masks, gloves, sanitizer) and creating awareness around vaccination and sanitary practices to contain the spread of pandemic, it added.

Source: ETRetail.com April 29,2021

Govt taking measures to enable MSMEs protect IP Rights, monetize creative innovations: Joint Secretary, DPIIT

Mr Rajendra Ratnoo, Joint Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), and Controller General of Patent, Designs and Trademarks, GoI, yesterday said that the growth of the Indian economy is dependent on the MSME sector, and the government has been taking all necessary measures to spread awareness on the significance of intellectual property rights in protecting and monetizing their creative inventions.

Addressing webinar on 'From Minds to Market: IP Exploitation by MSMEs', organized by FICCI, to commemorate the World Intellectual Property Day 2021, Mr Ratnoo stressed on the need for Indian SMEs to increasingly protect their innovative products.

Mr G R Raghavendra, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice, emphasized that India's thriving creative industry must become increasingly aware of the Copyright law provisions like economic and moral rights, ownership and royalty provisions, the legal remedies, enabling them to benefit by monetization and distribution of their creative works. He also released a handbook 'COPYRIGHT 101' on the occasion, developed by FICCI in association with Creative First and IPRMENTLAW, observing that it would be a useful guidebook for creators and content producers in the media and entertainment industry.

Mr Narendra Sabharwal, Chairman, FICCI IPR Committee & Former Deputy Director General, WIPO, said that globally small and medium enterprises have been the driving force behind many innovations. Successful SMEs have been able to reinforce an idea to create a product that consumers wanted, utilized IP rights to protect it and created value for their business. Underlining the inherent innovative abilities of India's small and medium businesses, he emphasized that MSMEs must be encouraged and supported to increasingly adapt IP in business operations, especially considering the emerging technological developments.

The webinar was attended by over 150 delegates, including senior policy makers, administrators, IP experts from the industry and the legal fraternity who deliberated on subjects ranging from the need for an increasingly robust IP ecosystem for India to become a knowledge economy, the key role of IP for the growth and success of MSMEs, and the avenues available IPR commercialisation, among others.

Source: ficci.in April 28, 2021

SGS Laboratory in Chennai is Approved by NABL for Testing of Ethylene Oxide (EtO)

SGS is pleased to announce that the National Accreditation Board for Testing & Calibration Laboratories (NABL) has enhanced the scope of its accreditation awarded to the SGS laboratory based in Chennai in Tamil Nadu, India, to include testing of Ethylene oxide (EtO) as well as Ethylene Chlorohydrin (ECH) residues in herbs, spices, condiments, plant derivatives and oilseeds.
Ethylene oxide (EtO) is a widely used sterilization agent for dried food products. Its residues found in food products have recently caused widespread food recalls in the European Union.

With this expanded scope of accreditation, which is in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025: 2017, SGS India can now offer Chemical testing services to detect the presence of Ethylene oxide (EtO) as well as Ethylene Chlorohydrin (ECH), in herbs, spices condiments, plant derivatives and oilseeds.
The laboratory employs the Gas chromatograph tandem mass spectrometer (GC-MS/MS) to determine the presence of Ethylene oxide (EtO) which is reported as the sum of ethylene oxide and 2-chloroethanol at or above the limit of quantification (LOQ) of 0.01mg/kg. This method has been validated according to the SANTE/12682/2019 guidelines and been demonstrated in the proficiency testing for sesame seeds, conducted by the EU Referral Lab (EURL).

Source: PTI News April 29,2021

IIT Kharagpur researchers develop essential oil extractor to economize betel leaf production

There have been many tales of Paan - in songs, history and literature, religion and culture for many millennia, across hierarchies of society, in South and South-East Asia. While the use of Paan as a mouth freshener is under the radar of health agencies for carcinogenic effects, however, the main component, i.e. Betel Leaf stays clear of health concerns. Rather it is considered beneficial in terms of digestion, stimulation of senses and fresh breath due to the presence of antimicrobial and antioxidant-rich essential oil.

Betel leaves essential oil produced by IIT Kharagpur
Extraction of this essential oil from fresh and cured betel leaves is of high interest for industrial applications including medicines, cosmetics chewable mouth fresher which has a very large market in the world. However, the extraction processes suffer from low economic viability and wastage in the value chain of betel leaves. Prof. Proshanta Guha and his research group from IIT Kharagpur's

Agricultural and Food Engineering Department have addressed this challenge by developing a novel betel leaf oil extraction technology that can improve the overall process efficiency. The extractor is capable of saving 44% of the time and 30% of the energy requirement while increasing the oil yield by more than 16%, as compared to the current process and apparatus popularly used.

Process of essential oil extraction from Betel leaves

Describing the equipment, Prof. Guha said, "It is a distillation unit with special modifications for recycling evaporated water which carries the vapors of essential oil from the distillation flask to the condensation unit. It has also a special device to minimize the formation of emulsion for increasing the recovery of essential oil."

The extractor was envisaged to be affordable to the betel leaf growers since the cost of fabrication of the extractor was calculated to be 10,000 and 20,000 for 10L and 20L sizes, respectively. "This could be easily maintained by the small farmers and would also be sufficient for the processing of surplus leaves in any average -sized Boroj (~0.02 ha) on a daily or weekly basis. About 10-20 ml of essential oil can be extracted by one person a day using an extractor in three shifts. The price of the oil varies from 30,000/- to about 1,00,000/- depending upon the quality of the oil, Mitha variety being costlier than the other varieties," Prof. Guha remarked.

IIT Kharagpur's betel leaves essential oil extraction equipment is affordable

For large rural installations, the researchers have tried to improve the efficiency further by insulating the heat- radiating portions of the apparatus with cheap insulators. Use of fuel requirement can also be reduced substantially if the byproduct i.e. de-oiled exhausted leaves are used as fuel. They have developed Microwave heating-based equipment as well to improve the efficiency of the extraction process and to increase the yield of essential oil. In this attempt, the extraction process was completed within about 50 minutes. Thus, there was a saving of time and energy by about 76% and 43% respectively.

India produces betel leaves worth 9000 million per year grossing as the largest producer of betel leaf in the world. However, achieving profitability remains a crucial challenge as a minimum of 10% of the produce is wasted every year and a large portion remains unsold or sold at throw-away prices during the glut season. This extractor equipment is expected to check such wastage and channel the surplus for various industrial products.

The equipment can extract essential oil from other organic materials as well, confirmed Prof. Guha. It has been patented and transferred to more than 20 government and private bodies and more are underway.

Source: Indiatoday.in April 11,2021

HUL enhancing livelihoods for millions

30-04-2021

At Hindustan Unilever, we are driven by our purpose of making sustainable living commonplace. An important expression of this purpose is Unilever's long-standing commitment to improving livelihoods, enhancing access to training and skills, and raising living standards.

Evolving business needs, as well as the growing ambitions of the increasingly connected youth, has brought the focus back on providing the right opportunities for talent across the country.
The livelihood challenge

Globally, Unilever has laid down a wide-ranging set of actions and commitments to train and raise the standard of living of people across the value chain. The aim is to create opportunities through inclusivity and prepare people for the future of work. Key aspects include:

- Ensuring that everyone who directly provides goods and services to us earns at least a living wage or income by 2030.
- Spending €2 billion annually with suppliers owned and managed by people from under-represented groups, by 2025.
- Helping 5 million small and medium-sized businesses grow through access to skills, finance and technology, by 2025.
- Ensuring that our employees are reskilled or upskilled by 2025, and have access to flexible employment options by 2030.

• Equipping 10 million young people with essential skills to prepare them for job opportunities, by 2030.

Enabling livelihoods in India

As one of the biggest FMCG companies in India, Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) generates direct and indirect employment for hundreds of thousands of people across its value chain. HUL's supplier and distribution networks involve thousands of small farmers, distributors and retailers, many of whom are women. Through community initiatives, HUL is embedding sustainability across its business and using the power of its brands to contribute to a fairer, more socially inclusive world.

Hindustan Unilever Foundation (HUF):

HUL has generated over 30 million person-days of employment via the Foundation through water conservation projects and judicious water use in agriculture. HUF's NGO partners across the country have effectively leveraged the government's flagship National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme. Under this programme, communities earn wages as they build water conservation infrastructure – helping villages achieve water security and economic well-being. HUF supports on-farm deployment of innovations to help farmers reduce their water usage in a cropping season, to make another cropping season viable for them. A combination of local cadres of frontline agronomists, large scale demonstrations of innovations and superior farm practices, the use of mobile-enabled advisory solutions and appropriate inputs are transforming the economy and ecology of programme villages for the better.

Project Prabhat:

As a Company, we realise that the economic empowerment of the local communities, including those around HUL sites, is critical. Our Project Prabhat is aligned to Unilever's purpose-led, future-fit agenda and India's National Policy on Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. We collaborate with NGO partners, social enterprises and established livelihood centres to give rural communities a platform to enhance employable skills, and in turn provide them with a source of income generation. Be it through employment or entrepreneurship, 18 Prabhat Livelihood Centres have thus far enrolled 88728 people, certified 71866 and provided employment to over 48621 people across the country. More than 70% of these have been women.

Project Shakti:

A livelihood enhancing opportunity for women micro-entrepreneurs in rural India, Project Shakti has familiarised many with HUL's products and the basic tenets of distribution management. By the end of 2020, the project had supported over 1,36,000 Shakti entrepreneurs across 18 states in India to sell products to small retail outlets in the immediate village and directly to consumers in the community. Shakti incentives are being transferred directly to their bank, helping rural women entrepreneurs enter the formal banking segment, bringing in the benefits of financial inclusion.

Kwality Walls:

The brand's mobile vending initiative "I Am Wall's" trains youth in sales, customer service and problem-solving, coupled with providing entrepreneurial exposure. This initiative has empowered over 14,283 people and 153 persons with disabilities across the country.

Sustainable Farming:

To support economic growth, HUL ensures that all its raw materials are sourced locally and sustainably. A number of key crops and commodities such as palm oil, paper and board, soy, sugar, tea, dairy, rapeseed, cereals, vegetables, cocoa, herbal infusions and vanilla, have been prioritised as they make up over two-thirds of HUL's raw materials. In 2020, 73% of these crops were sustainably sourced, over 93% of the tomatoes used in Kissan Ketchup were locally and sustainably sourced from 10,000 farmers across India, and over 67% of tea in India procured for Unilever brands was sourced from sustainable sources. Additionally, by the end of 2020, 100% of the chicory was sourced sustainably as all Unilever chicory farmers in India were covered under the Unilever Sustainable Agriculture Code, providing farmers knowledge and expertise in sustainable agriculture practices.

HUL is now working with farmers and suppliers to drive up social and environmental standards in the supply chain. Constant support on the implementation of best farming principles and practices are also provided through the Unilever Sustainable Agriculture Code and equivalent standards like trustea and Rainforest Alliance.

To improve livelihoods in tea, our alliance with trustea ensures that all legally mandated wages and benefits are paid. These benefits are significant in improving livelihoods of the plantation workers engaged in the tea industry. The impact of this is seen on a large scale in tea bought leaf factories as well. Equality and fair treatment of all workers without any gender bias has contributed to raising the quality of life for the women workforce, which accounts for about 60% of the workers in tea. Promoting a systematic grievance redressal mechanism provides workers an assurance of fair treatment.

Rin Shine Academy:

The Rin Shine Academy aims to inspire, educate and equip youth from modest backgrounds to make them career-ready. They are trained to speak in English and guided on how to handle interviews. In keeping with the times, the program has moved from a website/IVRS-based training to an Android mobile application. The Rin Shine Academy has already trained approximately 6,37,178 people, of which approximately 80,178 people have been trained in 2020 alone.

Glow & Lovely Careers:

Our Glow & Lovely Careers initiative help women create an identity for themselves through career guidance, skill-based courses, and job opportunities, as well as online training and skilling. So far, over 10,00,000 registered users have benefited from this initiative.

Plastic Waste Management:

HUL's plastic waste management programmes through partners such as UNDP and Xynteo aim to bring the unorganised sector of waste pickers into the mainstream by providing employment opportunities. So far, the lives of 700 Safai Sathis have been improved through these initiatives.

Rexona Confidence Academy:

The academy has trained over 15 lakh young college-going girls who are at the cusp of transitioning to the professional world on interview preparation.

Nine of every ten households in India use HUL's products, and all efforts towards inclusivity leverage HUL's extensive network and scale to improve living standards and better the lives of people. By encouraging and empowering the remotest of people from India's heartlands, the objective is to improve employment prospects with impactful actions. If enhancing skills and access to training can create a level playing field for all, it will bring about equity in employability that will open up gates for the underrepresented communities and further stretch our circumference of economic, sociological and psychological wellbeing.

Through the Unilever Compass, every individual at Unilever is helping to build a world where people have the power to thrive. The various community initiatives undertaken are designed in line with the three fundamental beliefs of the Compass - Companies with purpose last, Brands with purpose grow and, People with purpose thrive. Collective action is the need of the hour to build a society that helps to improve livelihoods, embraces diversity, nurtures talent, and offers opportunities for everyone.

Source: HUL Press Release April 30, 2021

Procter & Gamble commissions its first in-house solar plant at Hyderabad site

Procter & Gamble announced the commissioning of its first in-house solar plant at the company's Hyderabad manufacturing site. This is P&G's first site in India and only the fifth manufacturing site globally to house a solar plant. Spread over 16,000 sq. mt. and comprising of nearly 3000 panels, the in-house solar plant has a capacity of 1MW clean energy production and will reduce P&G's carbon footprint by an estimated 1030 Metric Tonnes annually.

Sachin Sharma, Plant Head – Hyderabad manufacturing site, P&G India said, "At P&G, environmental sustainability is core to our company operations. Increasing our use of renewable electricity and improving energy efficiencies is a critical part of our sustainability journey. Therefore, we are taking a more deliberate approach to develop and adopt more efficient ways to operate. By commissioning our new in-house solar plant, we are making strides to advance progress against these goals."

He further added, "We are committed to reducing our impact and accelerating our progress on sustainability. All our sites in India are Zero Manufacturing Waste to Landfill and in 2020, we achieved 100% recycling of multi-layered plastic waste as part of our extended producers' responsibility. We are committed to reducing our footprint and are striving for more circular approaches in our supply chain. We are building partnerships with external organizations, in India, like Circulate Capital, Alliance to End Plastic Waste, and waste management organizations to find sustainable business solutions. In 2019, we also announced vGROW Environmental Sustainability fund of INR 200 crore to invest in sustainable solutions with partners and suppliers."

The Hyderabad site is P&G's largest manufacturing plant in India focused on producing its fabric care brands Ariel and Tide, personal care brand Gillette and baby care brand Pampers.

Source: http://bwsmartcities.businessworld.in/ April 23, 2021

PACKAGING

Now Available: ACI's Design Guide for Recyclable Packaging

ACI member companies now have free access to our new Design Guide for Recyclable Packaging, which provides guidance specific to cleaning product packaging. By presenting a thorough understanding of current challenges and critical improvement opportunities, we hope to help ACI members innovate solutions that will move the marketplace toward a more circular economy. Checkout the Guide today on our Members Only Website.

SCS debuts zero waste standard for sustainable packaging

New at SCS Global Services (SCS) is the Zero Waste Standard. This new global certification standard enables companies to demonstrate the degree to which their waste streams are prevented, reused, or diverted from the landfill. It is robust yet flexible to allow companies to demonstrate incremental improvements, and to stimulate participation based on regional supply chain differences. As companies look to improve their ESG ratings and strengthen their corporate messages and investment profiles, this third-party certification will provide assurance year-after-year for corporations and their individual facility sites.

The SCS Zero Waste Standard includes:

- Facilities participate and are recognized for waste diversion of 50% or greater. The actual diversion percentage achieved at each facility over a twelve-month period is certified and this percentage is reflected on the certificate. Facilities achieving 99% diversion are certified as "Zero Waste."
- The Standard provides a cost-effective option for multi-site certification where all participating sites are assessed, involving a representative sampling of sites for on-site audits each year.
- It allows for diversion of hazardous waste to count towards overall diversion.
- It recognizes waste-to-energy if a facility diverts no more than 25% of its waste using waste-to-energy production.

"This is a different kind of Zero Waste standard," said Stanley Mathuram, SCS Executive Vice President. "It aims to meet companies where they are in their waste reduction journey at their individual facilities by acknowledging the waste diversion they've already achieved, as well as continuing to drive waste management toward the zero goal post."

Since SCS Zero Waste certification takes place at the facility level, corporations can include the findings for that specific facility in their overall sustainability goals and reporting, even if other facilities have not yet achieved the same levels of waste diversion. This approach encourages corporations to benchmark best practices at one facility and expand those practices across their corporate facility footprint.

Third-party certification to this standard provides credible assurance for companies tracking the progress of their waste minimization and diversion accomplishments through internal recordkeeping, thereby supporting external communications to inform the public of their commitment to their sustainability and ESG goals.

The company recently certified Amazon for its Carbon Neutral program, as reported in Happi.

Source: happi.com April 28, 2021

Kiehl's launches sustainable pouch refillables for hair care, skin care

Since 1851, Kiehl's has strived for better – from responsible formulations, packaging and manufacturing, to supporting communities and helping to reduce environmental impact. Now, the brand has announced its first foray into refillable beauty – introducing the new Kiehl's Pouch Refillables.

On the ever-evolving journey to Zero Waste and overall environmental impact, Kiehl's Pouch Refillables save on average 80% more plastic than a typical Kiehl's single-use product and contain 2-5 times the formula of a standard 250 ml bottle. The pouches can be used to fill existing empty plastic bottles at home or used on their own.

The Pouch Refillables are currently being offered in a selection of six Kiehl's body, hair and hygiene products:

• Crème de Corps, $76 – an all-over body moisturizer enriched with cocoa butter and squalane that helps visibly restore dull and dry skin into radiant, soft and supple skin.

• Grapefruit Hand Body Lotion, $52 – this multi-tasking hand and body lotion, with aloe vera, oatmeal and a blend of olive, apricot and almond oils, absorbs quickly and delivers lasting hydration for skin that feels smooth and soft.

• Amino Acid Shampoo & Conditioner, $56 each – mild silicone-free shampoo and conditioner duo – the shampoo is formulated with an amino acid-based system that cleanses all hair types without stripping; while the conditioner, formulated with coconut oil and amino acids, helps soften and maintain hair's natural moisture balance leaving it shiny and healthy-looking.

• Grapefruit Body Cleanser, $46 –foaming body wash that doubles as bubble bath, rinses away dirt and impurities thoroughly without stripping skin.

• Grapefruit Hand Soap, $46 – a scented liquid hand soap that develops into a cleansing lather to wash away dirt and impurities featuring a blend of coconut-derived cleansers, vitamin E, and botanical extracts to clean and help skin feel soothed.

Like every other Kiehl's product, the pouches can be brought in-store once empty and be recycled through Kiehl's Recycle & Be Rewarded program. Through the program, customers will receive a complimentary travel sized Kiehl's product for every ten empty containers they recycle. Curbside recycling will not accept the refillables.

Source: happi.com April 20, 2021

SC Johnson hits milestone for eco-conscious sustainable packaging

Plastic Bank, a social enterprise revolutionizing the global supply chain for recycled ocean-bound plastic, has reached the significant milestone of stopping 1 billion plastic bottles from entering the world's oceans. The enterprise's global partnership with SC Johnson has accounted for more than half of this environmental achievement.

Plastic pollution is one of the most pervasive issues facing our ocean ecosystems and planet today as more than eight million tons of plastic are estimated to pollute our oceans every year. This pollution harms marine life, human health and food safety. One billion plastic bottles are the equivalent of stopping more than 20 million kilograms of plastic that would have otherwise found its way into the world's oceans.

"Plastic waste entering our oceans is one of our greatest global challenges. At a time when the world is calling for greater responsibility, this significant milestone is evidence of our ability to make deliberate environmental, social and economic impact," said David Katz, founder and CEO of Plastic Bank. "Our partnership with SC Johnson has been instrumental in transforming Plastic Bank from a little engine to a train that is driving change around the world."

SC Johnson x Plastic Bank Impact

SC Johnson's global partnership with Plastic Bank is creating meaningful impact for both people and the planet. To date, the partnership has:

- Created more than 250 collection points across Indonesia, the Philippines and Brazil since 2018 with plans to expand further to Thailand and Vietnam by 2022.
- Stopped more than 10.4 million kilograms of plastic, the equivalent of more than 500 million plastic bottles, from disrupting ocean ecosystems.
- Provided more than 15,000 people with additional income.

In 2019, SC Johnson launched the industry's first product using 100% recycled ocean-bound plastic in a major home cleaning brand, Windex, and has since expanded its 100% recycled ocean-bound plastic bottles to its Mr Muscle brand in the UK and Ireland. The company's goal is to collect 30 million kilograms of plastic waste through the partnership by 2022, the equivalent of more than 1.5 billion plastic bottles, from more than 500 collection points across Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam and Brazil.

In reaching the one billionth bottle milestone, Plastic Bank worked in partnership with more than 17,000 individual collectors across Haiti, the Philippines, Indonesia, Brazil and Egypt. In exchange for collected plastic, collectors receive premiums that help provide basic family necessities such as groceries, cooking fuel, school tuition and health insurance.

The material collected in Plastic Bank's closed-loop recycling ecosystems is reborn as Social Plastic – an ethically recovered plastic that protects our oceans and helps address poverty by transferring its value to those who help collect it. Once processed, Social Plastic can be reintroduced into the global manufacturing supply chain for the creation of new products and packaging materials.

Source:happi.com April 6, 2021

PATENTS

L'Oréal Patents Spiculisporic Acid as a Deodorant Active

US Patent No. 10,966,913 (Caroline Sirichandra); L'Oréal, Paris, patented a cosmetic process for treating human body odors that comprises applying to human keratin materials, as a deodorant active agent, at least one of: a neutralized spiculisporic acid in a form that is partially neutralized with at least one mineral base, totally neutralized with at least one mineral base, partially neutralized with at least one organic base, totally neutralized with at least one organic base, or combinations thereof; or a composition containing at least one neutralized spiculisporic acid in a physiologically acceptable medium.

Source: happi.com April 29, 2021

Counter Brands patents skin mimicking emulsion

US 10,966,914 B2 (Xavier Ormancey); Counter Brands, LLC, Santa Monica, CA, patented a composition that forms a lamellar structure which is an emulsion made of layers. It is comprised of polyosides and minerals derived from aloe vera; inositol polyphosphate or phytic acid derived from green rice; polysaccharides selected from the group consisting of xanthan gum, pullulan, Sclerotium gum, Caesalpinia gum, Acacia senegal gum, xylitol and sodium hyaluronate; triglycerides derived from palm; polyols derived from corn present; alpha or beta hydroxy acids derived from Gaultheria; phospholipids derived from Glycine max; phytosterols derived from shea butter; vitamins derived from Glycine max; fatty alcohols derived from candelilla wax and coconut; lipids; amino acids derived from beet roots; and water.

Source: happi.com April 29, 2021

Kao patents melanin decomposition inhibitor

US Patent 10,966,911 B2 (Daiki Murase, Akira Hachiya, Naoki Oya, Kei Takano Akiko Kawasaki, Keigo Kawabata); Kao Corporation, Tokyo, patented a method for inhibiting melanin decomposition in a subject's keratinocytes. It entails applying to the skin an effective amount of an external preparation that comprises proguanil or a salt thereof.

Source: happi.com April 29, 2021

Natura's Skin Aging Composition Contains Guaçatonga & Aroeira

US Patent No. 10,966,917 B2 (Kelen Fabiola Arroteia, Cintia Rosa Ferrari, Renata Hannel Bueloni, Juliana Carvalhães Lago, Rhaisa Thaís Paulineli Navas, Pâmela Araújo Rodrigues Muchiutti, Icaro De Assis Santos, Carolina Iatesta Domenico, Daniela Zimbardi, Rosa Maria Teixeira Tagé Biaggio, Alan Passero, Soraya Baione De Moura, Ana Paula Pedroso De Oliveira); Natura Cosméticos S.A., Itapecerica da Serra, Brazil, patented a cosmetic composition comprised of guacatonga extract (Casearia sylvestris) comprising silicon dioxide; aroeira extract (Schinus terebinthifolius raddi); and a cosmetically-acceptable adjuvant selected from the group consisting of water, antioxidant agents, preserving agents, film-forming agents, chelating agents, supporting microcrystalline cross-link forming agents, polymeric and/or copolymeric agents, denaturing agents, consistency agents, emollients, conditioning agents, and UV radiation protective agents.

Source: happi.com April 29, 2021

REGULATIONS

China Beauty Industry Braces for More Regulations

Cosmetic manufacturers are bracing for a flurry of regulations that went into effect today in China. The National Medical Products Administration (NMPA) has issued "Cosmetics Efficacy Claim Evaluation Standards," "The Technical Guidelines for Cosmetic Safety Assessment" and "Cosmetic Classification Rules and Catalog," as well as Provisions on Management of Registration and Notification Dossiers for Cosmetics and Cosmetic Ingredients. All are designed to guide the implementation of Cosmetics Supervision and Administ¬ration Regulations (CSAR).

According to Happi Correspondent Ally Dai, getting the products registered in the NMPA system is the top priority for many players now, due to much stricter new requirements for product registration and notification.

The Inventory of Existing Cosmetics Ingredients in China (IECIC), adds three new lists: Highest historical usage of rinse-off products (%), Highest historical usage of leave-on products (%) and Remarks on ingredient safety reviews (restricted/already prohibited/to be amended as prohibited), to be used as the evidence and reference of safety assessment, according to the NMPA.

In addition, regulators marked three cannabis-based ingredients are marked as "to be amended as prohibited."

"Their cosmetic applications can continue for the time being, and a final decision is to be made later—that's vague," noted Dai.

Source: happi.com April 30, 2021

Legislation in Maine

Two Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) bills have been submitted for the 2021 legislative session in Maine that intend to facilitate the establishment of stewardship programs for packaging material. LD 1541 was introduced by Representative Grohoski and LD 1471 (SP 474) was introduced by Senator Dill.

Additionally, LD 226, which would regulate hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) in certain appliances, recently passed in Maine's Environment and Natural Resources Committee with a vote of 8-2. The bill now moves to the House and Senate for votes.

For more information, please contact Michelle Kopa, Director, State Government Relations & Public Policy (East Region), at mkopa@thehcpa.org.

Source:thehcpa.org April 30, 2021

FDA should withdraw temporary hand sanitizer manufacturing guidance

The American Cleaning Institute (ACI) and the Consumer Healthcare Products Association (CHPA) called on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to withdraw its temporary guidance for the manufacturing of alcohol-based hand sanitizer products.

The Associations noted in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, FDA issued its Guidance for Industry: Temporary Policy for Preparation of Certain Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizer Products During the Public Health Emergency (COVID-19), to help meet unprecedented demand, allowing non-traditional sanitizer companies to manufacture these FDA-regulated products. While FDA's temporary guidance provides instructions for developing hand sanitizers, the newer manufacturers were not required to meet FDA's typical manufacturing requirements which have historically applied to companies that traditionally make the products to ensure quality and safety.

"FDA issued this temporary policy in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic in order to meet the huge increase in market demand for hand sanitizers to help address the COVID-19 public health emergency," wrote ACI and CHPA in a letter to FDA. "We appreciate the actions of all manufacturers to provide hand sanitizer products to support peak consumer and health system demand during the pandemic."

"We note that FDA has had to address ongoing quality and safety issues associated with many of the products manufactured under the temporary policy, likely due to lack of compliance with Current Good Manufacturing Practice requirements (cGMPs). We believe that it is now appropriate to withdraw the guidance and return to manufacturing only by those firms in full compliance with applicable requirements, including cGMPs."

The groups added that the hand sanitizer supply has now stabilized to meet demand and the market has now "become oversaturated with hand sanitizers manufactured under FDA's temporary policy."

"ACI and CHPA recommend that FDA promptly withdraw the temporary policy and require alcohol-based hand sanitizer manufacturing that is not in compliance with cGMPs and other applicable requirements to stop, allowing a reasonable period for manufacturers marketing under the temporary guidance to finish out their pre-existing supply contracts. We further recommend that any product manufactured and placed into interstate commerce prior to the withdrawal of the temporary policy be permitted to remain in distribution to allow distributors time to clear current inventory of temporary hand sanitizer."

Source: happi.com April 29, 2021

SUSTAINABILITY

Jarchem joins RSPO to offer responsible palm oil in products

Jarchem is pleased to announce that we have joined the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil, RSPO. Through a Mass Balance certification, we hope to assist and contribute to the sustainable production of palm oil, around the world.

Palm oil is a versatile product that is used worldwide and across several different industries. From cooking to skin care to even fuel in our cars, palm oil is a resource that is used actively every day. Unfortunately, only 19 percent of world's palm oil is certified by the RSPO, which leaves a large amount unaccountable by certain guidelines and standards. By using responsibly sourced palm oil, we can positively impact the environment through battling deforestation and protecting the biodiverse regions that are home to so many species.

In having the certification for a Mass Balance supply chain system, Jarchem will be able to include RSPO certified Mass Balance palm products into our processes to support the production of sustainable palm oil. By gaining this opportunity, we believe this is the first step towards a world that will offer completely responsible palm products.

Being mindful of our environmental and global impact is something Jarchem will continue to keep at the forefront of our goals and initiatives.

Source: happi.com

BASF partners with Quantafuel and Remondis to advance chemical recycling

BASF, Quantafuel, and Remondis have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to jointly evaluate a cooperation in chemical recycling, including a joint investment in a pyrolysis plant to process plastic waste. The objective is for Remondis, a waste- and water-management company, to supply suitable plastic waste to the plant operated by Quantafuel and for BASF to use the resulting pyrolysis oil as feedstock as part of its ChemCycling project.

Norway-based energy company Quantafuel has expertise in the pyrolysis of mixed plastic waste and purification of the resulting oil. The technology is jointly developed and held with BASF. Pyrolysis oil derived from plastic waste is fed into BASF's Verbund production facility, thereby saving an equivalent amount of fossil resources. Since the pyrolysis oil is directly fed into the chemical value chain at the beginning, final products have the same properties as products made from fossil feedstock. The share of recycled material is allocated to the end products according to a third-party-certified mass balance approach, which allows BASF to offer its customers certified products carrying the Ccycled label.

Each year, almost 20 million metric tons of plastic waste in Europe go unrecycled. By establishing chemical recycling as a complementary solution to mechanical recycling, it is possible to bring back more plastic waste into the materials cycle, which would otherwise be incinerated. Pyrolysis technology can be used to process plastic waste streams that are not recycled mechanically either for technological or economic reasons.

"BASF has set itself the goal to process 250,000 metric tons of recycled feedstock annually from 2025 onwards," said Dr. Lars Kissau, Senior Vice President, Global Strategic Business Development, at BASF's Petrochemicals division. "In this regard, it is important to use feedstock derived from plastic waste that otherwise would not have undergone recycling. Partnering with companies from the waste management and recycling sector as well as innovative technology providers is an ideal constellation to build a sustainable circular economy model for previously non-recycled plastic waste," said Kissau, adding that "solving the plastic waste challenge will only be possible in a favorable regulatory environment."

Legislation at the EU and national levels will create the framework for chemical recycling and, therefore, shape its contribution to a more circular economy for plastics. This includes acknowledging that products based on chemically recycled feedstock will count toward achieving recycled content targets, said the companies in the joint announcement.

Source:plasticstoday.com April 22, 2021

Sabic report shows advances in sustainability

SABIC has released its 2020 sustainability report, which reflects on the successes of its sustainability journey and the profound changes arising from a challenging yet remarkable year. Now in its 10th year and titled "Thriving Responsibly," the report outlines how the company's actions are advancing the circular economy, addressing climate change, and embedding environmental, social and governance (ESG) principles into every aspect of the business.

Centering ESG is an important piece of SABIC's sustainability strategy and journey of transformation and this year, SABIC created a new ESG steering committee, led by SABIC's CFO. By embedding ESG inclusively and holistically, SABIC can weigh ESG factors alongside financial considerations in its decisions.

SABIC's efforts to support the COVID-19 response also feature strongly in this year's report. During 2020, it contributed more than $33.4 million in monetary and in-kind donations, delivered across 212 activities and reaching more than 35 million people on five continents.

Yousef Abdullah Al-Benyan, SABIC vice chairman and CEO, said: "The year in review has proven that there are very real economic challenges for organizations that cannot or will not adapt to the changing world. Disruption triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic accelerated many of the trends that forward-looking companies had previously identified. Against this backdrop of definitive change, SABIC is well-positioned to thrive. Our longstanding ESG commitments have already helped strengthen our business resiliency, bringing enhanced operational efficiencies and timely investment in new low-carbon technologies."

In the decade since the first sustainability report was published, SABIC has recorded impressive results in relation to climate, energy and resource efficiency commitments. Compared to 2010 baselines, in 2020 it secured important reductions in flaring emissions (56 percent), material loss intensity (46.3 percent), greenhouse gas intensity (15.5 percent) and energy intensity (10.5 percent).

In 2020, SABIC also deepened its commitment to the circular economy, expanding the TRUCIRCLE portfolio of products and services to facilitate cross-value chain efforts working to close the loop on used plastic for good.

Bob Maughon, executive vice president, technology and innovation, said: "SABIC is committed to addressing the industry challenges of carbon neutrality and the circular economy through embracing the need for innovation, external collaboration, and new value chain partnerships. In view of the commitment on a path to carbon neutrality, Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) target setting is under review. Our success toward this ambition is enabled by the willingness to test new technology solutions, business models, and partnerships, and the integration of ESG principles into every part of our business, functions and markets."

The 2020 Sustainability Report is a transparent insight into SABIC's approach to delivering "Chemistry that Matters" to customers, suppliers, governments, NGOs, and communities all over the world.

Source:Arabnews.com April 25, 2021

ASSOCIATION NEWS

HCPA Submits Comments to Green Seal About Standards for Microbial-Based Cleaning Products

On April 26, HCPA submitted comments to Green Seal on their proposed updates to the following standards for microbial-based cleaning products:

- GS-8/GS-37 – Green Seal Standards for General Purpose Cleaners
- GS-48/GS-51 – Green Seal Standards for Laundry Care Products
- GS-52/GS-53 – Green Seal Standards for Specialty Cleaners

HCPA supports Green Seal for allowing products containing bacterial spores of Class 1 organisms to be approved; however, we would argue that microbes that are sprayed would have completed a risk assessment evaluating this application method to ensure they will not cause negative effects in a respirable form.

For more information, please contact Andrea Mojica, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs, at amojica@thehcpa.org.

HCPA Participates in International Aerosol Meeting

On April 27, HCPA participated in the International Liaison Committee (ILC) meeting. ILC is a network of global aerosol trade associations. Members discussed priority aerosol product issues, as well as ongoing and potential opportunities for collaboration.

For more information, please contact Nicholas Georges, Vice President, Scientific & International Affairs, at ngeorges@thehcpa.org.

HCPA sends letter to EPA regarding updated CDC Guidance: When to Clean, When to Disinfect, and What Science Says about SARS-CoV-2 on Surfaces

On April 23, HCPA sent a letter to the Environmental Protection Agency regarding new guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) about cleaning and disinfecting for COVID-19.

The guidance suggests that cleaning surfaces with soap or detergent and water can remove germs and reduce the spread of COVID-19. However, federal law prohibits companies from making such pesticidal claims on products that the EPA has not registered as a pesticide. The letter respectfully asked the EPA to work with the CDC to ensure consistent messaging based on the law and best available science.

For more information, please contact Andrea Mojica, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs, at amojica@thehcpa.org.

The importance of cleaning should not be understated

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently updated its guidance for how to clean and disinfect surfaces properly to prevent the spread of COVID-19 at home and in facilities.
In the days after the release of that guidance, we were dismayed to read many misleading headlines and media stories claiming that previous advice about using disinfecting products was just "hygiene theater."

That latter term has received a lot of hype in recent months, with overzealous claims that there is too much cleaning and disinfecting.

But there is a role for proper cleaning and regular disinfecting in everyday life, before, during and after COVID.

We all can certainly agree: No one wants to overuse or misuse disinfectants. What might be lost in the media coverage on the CDC's guidance is the important role these products do play.

The CDC recommends situations as to when proper use of these products make sense, situations that occur every day for millions of people across the United States, such as during flu season.

Personal hygiene and regular cleaning are essential to good health and the key to preventing the spread of germs, bacteria or viruses that can make us sick. In fact, new data released from the American Cleaning Institute found that 70 percent of Americans view cleaning as a way to ensure the health and safety of themselves and their families.

The use of the term "hygiene theater" and the hype surrounding it has led to too many misleading narratives being played up in the media, such as "soap vs. sanitizers" and "cleaning vs. disinfecting."
What we can't lose sight of is the need for smart, targeted hygiene. This boils down to using the right amount of the right product for the right task. Or, in other words, "read the label."

The terms cleaning and disinfecting can often be confused, but it is important to understand the difference: Cleaning involves removing dirt and germs from a surface, but it doesn't necessarily kill bacteria, viruses and other germs. Disinfecting is actually killing germs. When you disinfect after first cleaning the surface, it can reduce the spread of illness by killing the remaining germs that may cause illness.

The best way to reduce the spread of germs, especially on frequently touched surfaces, is to clean and disinfect. Clean the surface first to remove dirt and grime and then disinfect. Target high-touch surfaces that are more likely to carry harmful viruses and bacteria, and the areas where you're most likely to pick up those viruses and bacteria: doorknobs, light switches, remote controls and appliance handles, to name a few examples.

This is even more important in commercial settings and offices, where so many businesses are trying to get back on their feet, welcoming back employees and customers.

Let's quit disparaging the use of products and chemistries that are essential to public health. Instead, let's encourage the safe and responsible use of cleaning, hygiene and disinfecting products that will continue to be necessary long past the coronavirus pandemic.

Melissa Hockstad is the president & CEO of the American Cleaning Institute.

Source: morningconsult.com April 26,2021

HCPA opens registration for new horizons cleaning industry conference

Convened every three years by cleaning industry leaders of the Cleaning Products Division at the Household & Commercial Products Association, New Horizons brings experts from industry and academia together to engage in workshops that go beyond the basics of formulation and regulation. This advanced workshop is for cleaning product pros who want to stay ahead of the competition.

This hybrid conference offers in-person or virtual attendance for two days of in-depth training and discussion, including general sessions, breakout sessions and small group training.

The event will be held at the Lakeway Resort & Spa in Austin TX from September 13-16, 2021.

The content will also be broadcasted on the internet allowing attendance remotely. The content will additionally be available for on-demand viewing for several months following the meeting.

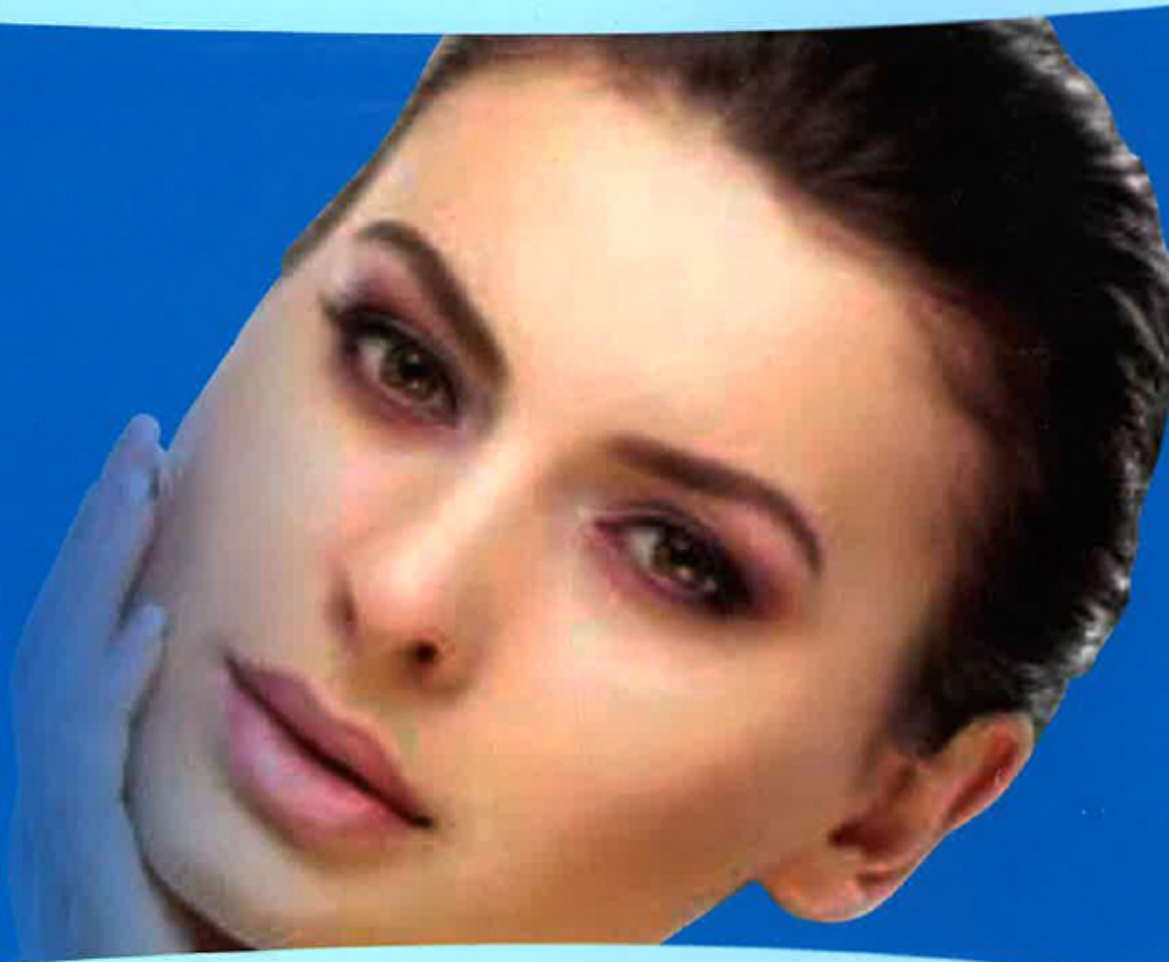
Source:hapi.com April 15,2021

IHPCIA

Indian Home & Personal Care Industry Association

SOAPS • DETERGENTS • COSMETICS • AFFILIATED INDUSTRY

YOUR PARTNER FOR SUSTAINBLE GROWTH



YOUR NETWORK – YOUR VOICE

YOUR NETWORK – YOUR VOICE

The Indian Home & Personal Care Industry Association (IHPCIA) is a non-profit organization under Section 25 of the Companies Act 1956. The Association represents the **Home & Personal Care (HPC)** industry and provides a platform for National & International networking and interaction with regulatory bodies. The Association is committed to developing solutions for healthy living and quality lifestyle and aims to be the voice & network of the industry.

IHPCIA has a Board of Directors and following Committees:

1. Policy and Planning
2. Regulatory Reforms & Standard
3. Membership & Resource Mobilisation
4. Programs, Education & Communication

OUR OBJECTIVES

Represent the interests of the members from Home-care, Personal care and allied industries.

- To promote trade & commerce, science & technology, consumer awareness and education in the areas of Home-care and Personal-care.
- To represent and make known members point of view and interests of Home- care, Personal –care and allied industries before governmental and quasi governmental authorities, trade and industrial bodies, chambers of commerce, scientific bodies, educational institutes and other organizations.
- To create a platform to facilitate co-ordination, co-operation, exchange of views and ideas and sharing of knowledge amongst the Association members and similar International Associations.
- To act as the certifying and approval body for national and international testing procedures.
- To provide education, information and training to the members for improving health, hygiene and safety.
- To interact and network with national & international associations, organizations and bodies connected with Home & Personal Care Industries.

Members of the Association

Cavinkare Pvt. Ltd.

Godrej Industries Ltd.

Hindustan Unilever Ltd.

ITC Limited

RSPL Limited

Nirma Limited

Procter & Gamble

S.H. Kelkar

Milindia Ltd.

Aarti Industries Ltd

Trivedi Group

Safechem Industries

Galaxy Surfactants

Fena Pvt. Ltd.

Patanjali Ayurved Limited

Indian Oil Corporation

ECOF Industries Ltd.

McNROE Consumer Products Private Limited

Novozymes

Emami Limited

Kumar Organic Products Limited

Sealed Air

Reliance Industries Ltd.

ARDOR International Ltd.

Aditya Finechem Limited

Ultramarine & Pigments Ltd.

Affiliate Industry Associates

Tamilnadu Small Scale Soap & Detergent Manufacturers Association

Gujarat Small Scale Detergent Manufacturers Association

Fragrances & Flavours Association of India

Bengal Soap & Detergent Manufacturers' Welfare Association

Maharashtra Soaps, Detergent & Cosmetic Manufacturers Association

Ahilya Surfactants Manufacturing Association

Indian Society of Cosmetic Chemists

BECOME A MEMBER

Founder Member

Any corporation, partnership or other type of business entity which is engaged in the business of manufacturing, processing, packaging, marketing or servicing of Industry Products and is invited to be a member, is prima facie eligible for membership as a Founder Member subject to the payment of applicable founder membership fees. Founder member will enjoy all the privileges of Members and shall have the rights to vote at general meetings.

Life Member

Any corporation, partnership or other type of business entity which is engaged in the business of manufacturing, processing, packaging, marketing or servicing including providing support services, such as logistics, chemical analysis, raw material & packing materials, databasing, computing, financial, technical consulting or legal counsel, to the Industry, and is prima facie eligible for membership as a Life Member subject to the payment of applicable life membership fees. Life member will enjoy all the privileges of Members and shall have the rights to vote at general meetings.

Annual Member

Any corporation, partnership or other type of business entity which is engaged in the business of manufacturing, processing, packaging, marketing or servicing of Industry Products, is prima facie eligible for membership as an Annual Member subject to the payment of applicable annual membership fees. Annual Members will enjoy all the privileges of Members, and shall have the rights to vote at general meetings.

Affiliate Industry Association Member

Any Industry Association whose members are in the business of manufacturing, processing, packaging, marketing or servicing of home & personal care Industry Products and is invited and prima facie eligible for membership as an Affiliate Industry Association Member. The Affiliate Industry Association Member is not subject to membership fees and will not have rights to vote at general meetings. Membership of Affiliate Industry Association will be subject to Board of Directors approval.

Honorary Member

Any individual who has rendered distinguished service to the Association and is invited to be honorary member provided that the name of such distinguished service of the person made known in writing by the Secretary and membership will be subject to approval by the Board of Directors.

- Reached the age of 50 years
- Retired from the Industry and
- Held office in the Association or in the Industry for a period of at least 5 years or for such other period as may be specified by the Board of Directors.

Honorary Member will enjoy all the privileges of members, however, the membership is not subject to membership fees and Honorary Member will not have the rights to vote at general meetings.

International & Regional Associates

IHPCIA is the member of the **International Network of Cleaning Product Association** (INCPA) and **Regional Asia Oceania Soap and Detergents Association Committee** (AOSDAC).

INCPA Members

accord
hygenic, cosmetic & speciality products industry

A·I·S·E

Japan Soap and Detergent Association

CANIPEC

ABIPLA

CSPA

aci american cleaning institute®
for better living

CCSPA

AOSDAC Members

accord
hygenic, cosmetic & speciality products industry

T.S.D.A.

中国洗涤用品工业协会
China Cleaning Industry Association

TSDMA
The Soap and Detergents Manufacturers Association

ISDA
Indonesian Soap and Detergents Association

MSDA
Malaysian Soap and Detergents Association

The Membership Fees (as of 30th September, 2017)

STRUCTURE (IN INR)					
(A)	**Founder Member**	5,00,000			
(B)	**Life Member** (By Invitation)	**Large Industry**	**Medium Industry**	**Small Industry**	**Micro Industry**
	Member (Manufacturing)	2,50,000	1,50,000	75,000	50,000
	Associate Member (Service Provider)	2,00,000	1,00,000	50,000	35,000
(C)	**Annual Member**	**Large Industry**	**Medium Industry**	**Small Industry**	**Micro Industry**
	Annual Member (manufacturing)	50,000	30,000	15,000	10,000
	Annual Member (service provider)	40,000	20,000	10,000	7,000
(D)	**Affiliate Industry Association Member** (by invitation)	Nil			
(E)	**Honorary Member** (by invitation)	Nil			

Admisitrative Fees as on 01-04-2018								
	Category	Industry Type	Membership Fees	GST @18%	*Total Membership Fees (Inclusive of taxes)	Quarterly Administrative Charges	GST @18%	Total Quarterly Administrative Charges
			Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)
	FOUNDER MEMBER							
	Founder	All	500,000	90,000	590,000	25,000	4,500	29,500
	LIFE MEMBER							
[A]	**Member [manufacturing]**	Large	250,000	45,000	295,000	20,000	3,600	23,600
	Member [manufacturing]	Medium	150,000	27,000	177,000	10,000	1,800	11,800
	Member [manufacturing]	Small	75,000	13,500	88,500	5,000	900	5,900
	Member [manufacturing]	Micro	50,000	9,000	59,000	2,500	450	2,950
[B]	**Associate Members (service provider)**	Large	200,000	36,000	590000	15,000	900	29,500
	Associate Members (service provider)	Medium	100,000	18,000	590000	7,500	900	29,500
	Associate Members (service provider)	Small	50,000	9,000	590,000	3,000	540	3,540
	Associate Members (service provider)	Micro	35,000	6,300	41,300	1500	270	1,770
	***the above Membership Fee includes as on date applicable Tax, may change as per Government Policies**							

Note:

* All figures are in INR.
* In addition to Membership fee, Administration fee is applicable for Founder members and Life members.
* Membership fees and administration fees are non-refundable.
* All the fees are subject to applicable taxes.
* Large Industry: Annual turnover above INR 25 Crore.
* Medium Industry: Annual turnover above INR 5 Crore upto 25 Crore.
* Small Industry: Annual turnover above INR 25 Lakh upto INR 5 Crore.
* Micro Industry: Annual turnover upto INR 25 Lakh.

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