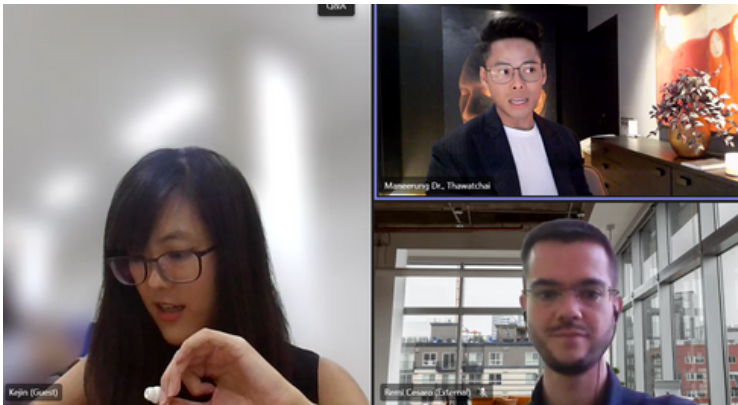


# THE PACKAGING TIMES

## A PACKAGING PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (PPP) NEWSLETTER

The Packaging Partnership Programme (PPP) organised a webinar titled "Sustainable Packaging Guidelines and Solutions" on 20 September 2023. Attended by over 130 attendees from more than 100 companies, it featured a speaker lineup of packaging experts from the industry and culminated in a stimulating Q&A session.



Mr Remi Cesaro, Founder and Executive Director of engineering consultancy Zero Waste City, kicked off the webinar with an introduction to the Technical Reference 109 on Sustainable Packaging Guiding Framework and Practices (TR109:2023).

Mr Cesaro gave an overview of TR's scope and provided some insights into key clauses 4 (on general packaging guidelines), 5 (on principles of developing sustainable packaging), 6 (on environmental design guidelines), and 7 (on environmental claims).

Mr Cesaro followed up with a second presentation on implementing sustainable packaging practices and solutions. He shared numerous strategies and opportunities to optimise packaging and reduce costs, such as switching from single-use plastic shrink wraps and carton boxes to reusable pallet covers and plastic crates respectively.

Dr Thawatchai Maneerung, Global Sustainability Expert and Sustainability Service Development Manager at safety, security and sustainability solutions company TÜV SÜD, began his presentation with a few striking statistics about Singapore's plastic waste landscape, such as the fact that the average Singaporean used almost three times as many plastic bags (584 per year) as the average European. He then introduced the various laws and regulations on sustainable and circular packaging plastics from around the world.

Ms Zhang Ke Jin, Segment Manager of ASEAN at materials manufacturer Avery Dennison Singapore, delivered the final presentation of the webinar. She addressed the increasing consumer awareness on sustainable packaging and the emergence of environmental regulations, such as the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) legislation, driving developments in recycling infrastructure.

During the subsequent Q&A session, participants raised questions on topics such as availability of funding in Singapore for transitioning to sustainable packaging, and the current food packaging recycling situation.

Overall, attendees were able to gain valuable insights into the technical frameworks, global regulations, and innovative solutions shaping the future of packaging sustainability.

## Mandatory Packaging Reporting (MPR)

### Objective

Mandatory packaging reporting aims to raise companies' awareness of the benefits of packaging reduction and spur companies to reduce the amount of packaging used. It will lay the foundation for an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme for packaging waste management.

### Timeline to report

For reports to be submitted in 2024, producers (with an annual turnover of more than S\$10 million in 2022) will need to report data on the amount of packaging imported/used in 2023 and develop 3R plans to be submitted by 31 March 2024.

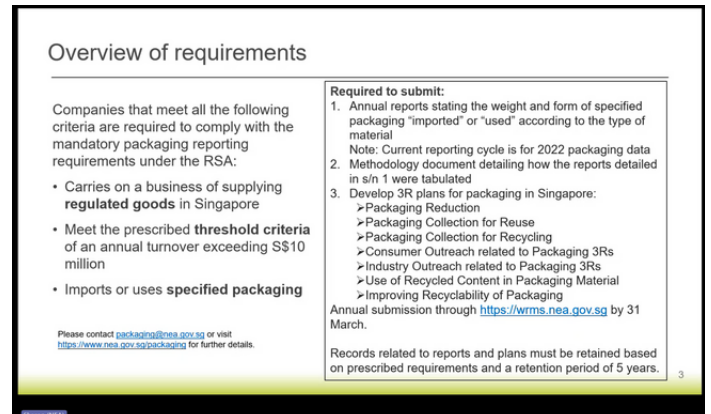
### MPR Training

The PPP organized 5 MPR training sessions between Nov 2022 to Jan 2024 to support companies in complying with their MPR obligations. They were conducted by Mr. Remi Cesaro, Founder, and Executive Director of Zero Waste City. The sessions include data reporting methodologies such as packaging assessment, identifying the packaging to be reported, determining material composition and weight, and collecting data and reporting procedures. Look out for emails from the PPP secretariat for information on the next training session!

### MPR Guidebook

The NEA has developed a Mandatory Packaging Reporting (MPR) Guidebook to provide administrative guidance to companies in compliance with the MPR. Click [here](#) to download your copy now!

### MPR Consultation



The PPP facilitated a MPR Consultation with the National Environment Agency (NEA) over six sessions between January and March 2024. Participants had the opportunity to engage directly with NEA officers, gaining insights into the reporting processes, as well as exclusion criteria.

NEA officers also shed light on the intricacies of the MPR, offering guidance on compliance and verification procedures. They provided additional clarity on packaging that could be excluded, specifically packaging designed to facilitate the protection or handling of regulated goods when transported in bulk but not presented or delivered to the consumer.

Participants actively engaged in the consultation sessions to seek clarification on their company's reporting obligations and explore ways to effectively streamline their reporting procedures.

The consultation session provided invaluable insights and guidance to participating companies, enabling them to navigate the complexities of reporting requirements with confidence. By fostering dialogue between NEA experts and industry representatives, the consultation aids in promoting sustainable packaging practices and regulatory compliance.