



**American
Packaging**
CORPORATION

CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY

DEDICATED TO IMPROVING THE FUTURE



DELIVERING THE TOTAL PACKAGE TM

01

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About Our Report

American Packaging Corporation's (APC) Corporate Responsibility overview presents our activities and performance related to social, economic, and environmental sustainability.

Dedicated to Improving the Future

APC believes in giving back to our local communities, investing in ourselves and our incredible team, and ensuring we do our part to promote a healthy global environment. Our company's longstanding success—more than 120 years and growing—is due in large part to this philosophy. It has inspired our philanthropy, guided our technical upgrades and team development, and fueled innovations in materials and processes.

About American Packaging Corporation

Established in 1902, APC is a family-owned flexible packaging converter and renowned leader in the North American packaging industry. With over a century of experience serving a wide range of markets, APC specializes in flexographic and rotogravure printing, multi-ply extrusion, and adhesive lamination of film, paper and foil, as well as pouch and bag fabrication to meet a variety of requirements. With more than 120 years of history, APC has experienced only one major ownership change, when the Schottland family purchased the company from the Kardon family in 1986. Today, APC operates six Centers of Excellence in the United States and employs approximately 1,200 talented, motivated professionals, including nationwide sales reps and field technical support.

At APC, we've built a reputation as the go-to source for effective solutions in flexible and specialty packaging serving the unique needs of many industries and even the most demanding applications. We're able to uphold this reputation by delivering more unmatched quality of materials, unparalleled customer service and the most innovation possible, delivering a high-quality product on time, every time.



1200+

Employees



6

Converting Centers of
Excellence



Growing &
Expanding Company

Our Vision, Mission & Values



VISION

To be the preferred choice in flexible packaging, committed to innovation, sustainability and customer delight.



MISSION

Powered by the most talented professionals in the industry, we help our customers package their products in a way that's impactful, sustainable and cost-effective.



VALUES

"It's all about treating everyone as family, and families watch out for and support each other, period." — Stan "The Man" Schottland

- **Entrepreneurial Spirit:** A passionate drive to succeed; courage to take calculated risks; vision to see emerging opportunities; channeled competitiveness; disciplined determination; the spirit on which the company was founded.
- **Respect:** For our employees and their families—they are the foundation of our company, and their safety, health and well-being are our highest priority. Respect for clients, community, and self; for the environment and sustainability; for the industry and our competitors.
- **Community:** Taking an active role in the communities in which we are honored to serve, demonstrating social responsibility; committing wholeheartedly to the causes we champion; leading by example; helping families succeed.
- **Integrity:** Our word is our bond; our best, every day, every client; transparency, confidentiality and trust.
- **Innovation:** Pioneering new approaches; rapidly adapt to change; commitment to continual improvement.

A Message from Peter Schottland, CEO

American Packaging Corporation (APC) and the world have demonstrated great resiliency over the past several years. Looking back, we faced another year filled with incredible challenges and vital successes. This collective experience left us all empowered and stronger to accomplish even more together.

The safety and health, as well as career and corporate culture experience of our APC team is our priority and our commitment.

We are continuously enhancing our safety practices to ensure that all our employees, customers, suppliers, and contractors who visit our facilities are in the safest environment possible. In 2022, APC won a PRISM Award for the effectiveness and impact of our corporate COVID safety and vaccination campaign, providing our people with the information, options, and support to protect themselves and their families, while at the same time respecting their right to make their own informed choices.

Emerging out of the pandemic induced isolation, APC's leadership team elevated their connectivity with all APC family members to an even higher level, engaging with employees through both formal and informal meetings at each APC Center of Excellence through town hall meetings, operational walkabouts, employee luncheons, and company celebrations. Together we shared updates on our progress, discussed challenges to be overcome, and recognized outstanding performances for both individual and collective contributions.

Protecting and enhancing our world community is paramount for every company and every human being. APC continues to step up to that responsibility, elevating our efforts each and every year by focusing on three pillars of our commitment: social, economic and environmental responsibility.

Social Responsibility

APC brings forward problem-solving ideas, resources and volunteers to address challenges in our communities – locally, nationally and globally. This includes many philanthropic investments, like our support of Hole in the Wall Gang Camp, an organization that's especially dear to APC. Hole in the Wall Gang Camp helps seriously ill children and their families heal through enriching camp experiences tailored to their medical needs. We foster a greater sense of purpose among our APC family by promoting meaningful ways to contribute to the communities in which we work and live. By providing a platform for our employees to advocate for their charitable passions, we cultivate deeper relationships inside and outside of APC, making a positive impact to the lives of many.

Economic Responsibility

We know that economic responsibility is vital to not only our business, but also our employees, customers, and suppliers. APC has an unmatched history of strategic investment in greenfield manufacturing facilities, state-of-the-art equipment, innovative technologies, and the best human talent. Because of that commitment, we're able to drive profitable sales growth at a rate that's twice the rate of the industry average – and we're proud to share our successes with our employees, offering them a “good job for a great life.” For our customers, this economic responsibility means APC is a solid financial supplier, capable of supporting their needs as part of a long-term partnership.

Environmental Responsibility

APC's environmental stewardship is embedded in our culture and our business strategy. It's core to our culture, our operational capabilities, and our product management strategy, including the end-to-end life cycle of the supplies we procure, the production and waste-minimization methods we use, sustainable packaging technologies we develop and downstream programs we support. In 2023, APC's extensive line of **RE**™ sustainable packaging options delivered another award-winning technology, recognized by the Flexible Packaging Association for Sustainable Excellence in Packaging – we're incredibly pleased to bring forward more sustainable packaging options that serves our customers, their consumers, and the environment.

Each year we continue to elevate our company performance and contributions, and we're proud that we've thrived in our commitments. American Packaging Corporation is over 120 years young, stronger and more capable than ever, and growing at a rate that will sustain our company, our employees, and our key stakeholders well into the future.



Peter B. Schottland
CEO/Co-Chairman
American Packaging Corporation



Principles of APC Sustainability Program

APC's sustainability program is a fundamental part of long-term profitability and viability of our company and is a natural outgrowth of our Core Values. APC's goals are to be accountable and responsible for our actions while remaining focused on improving the environment for future generations through, working with our employees, funding education support, continuing internal research, preserving natural resources, minimizing waste and continually evaluating our manufacturing operations and suppliers for efficiencies and reduction of environmental impacts.



Sustainability Mission Statement

TO VIEW environmental responsibility as an integral part of principled corporate citizenship and as an essential element in the products manufactured, materials procured, and processes incorporated into our research and development activities.

TO COMMUNICATE cost-effective solutions, technological advances, improved product performance and environmentally responsible developments to our valued customers.

TO ENRICH our sustainability competence in the areas of reducing, renewing, reusing and recycling materials and all related by-products.

TO IDENTIFY ways to effectively integrate economic progress, social development and environmental concerns to ensure an improved quality of life for future generations.



SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY

APC is involved in our local, regional, national, and international communities through a range of community involvement and charitable contributions, as well as key initiatives that help improve overall quality of life for our employees and our neighbors.

Safety

APC is committed to providing a safe working environment for our employees, with zero preventable injuries. And we're dedicated to continually striving to reduce the environmental impact of our operations, partnering with our customers and vendors on solutions that will reduce the overall environmental impact of our products.

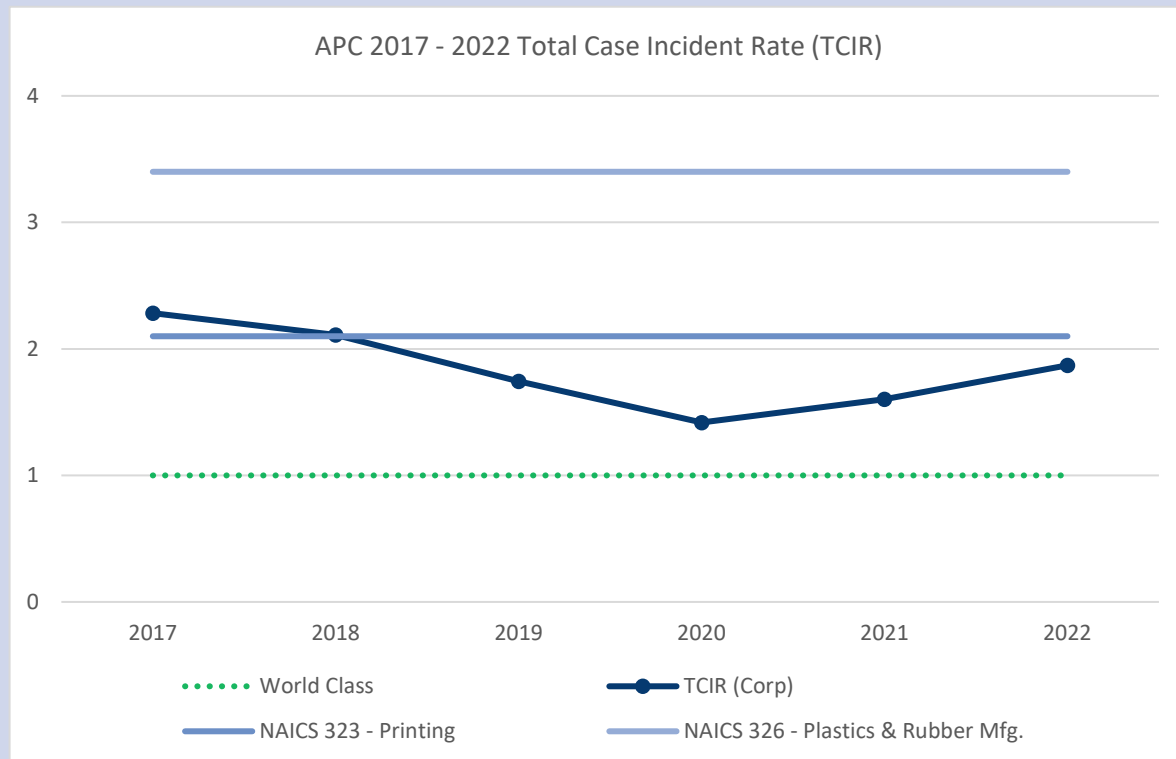
"APC's ownership, along with our leadership team, is committed to maintaining and continuously improving all aspects of our safety systems. World class safety begins with us, and we pledge to never stop learning, stop investing, stop coaching or empowering our APC team, our greatest assets." – Jeff Koch, President



**In 2022, APC spent
\$2.9 MM on safety
equipment, upgrades
and projects.**

In 2022, APC launched a new corporate wide incident reduction program, which spans across all Centers of Excellence. Full collaboration from subject matter experts has positioned APC to drive closer to that world class level we desire to achieve.

Annual Safety Summits – The safety of our employees is the top priority for our company, and to support this, we bring the leadership team together in these summits to spend a few days focused solely on how we can continue to improve and enhance our safety programs. APC routinely outperforms our industry peers and at or near a "world class" performance level for safety.



TCIR = Total Case Incident Rate = # of OSHA Recordable Injuries x (200,000) / Total Number of Hours Worked)



DART = Days Away Restricted Transfer (DART) rate = # of OSHA Recordable Injuries with Days Away (Lost), Restrictions of Transfer x (200,000) / Total Number of Hours Worked.

Health & Well-Being



APC offers a range of competitive benefits that are continually benchmarked against the industry and markets we are in. These include health, pharmacy, dental and vision insurance, an Employee Assistance Program (EAP), work-site wellness activities, flu shots, learning opportunities and programs, communication materials and incentives. We believe it's important that employees and their families have the opportunity to be informed about and involved in their health and well-being choices.

Training & Developing Talent for Our Industry

APC believes it's a top priority to attract and recruit emerging talent that's required to grow our business organically. We have a commitment to developing our internal talent, allowing our employees to grow and expand their careers with us. The mission of the Training team is to provide innovative training and development through continuously enhanced programs that empower our APC team members to grow with the vision and goals established for the continued success of our business.

Training & Development

We have training and development programs in the areas of safety, leadership and technical skill building, and we'll continue to build on these to ensure we're supporting the needs of our employees. We believe that employee engagement in and commitment to a culture of continuous improvement and learning starts with our commitment to their growth and development. Following are a few examples of our current learning and development programs.



Leadership Development – Both new and experienced leaders at the company are given the opportunity to participate in a variety of leadership development opportunities. These programs are focused on building and reinforcing skills and behaviors that APC believes are important. The company provides these trainings through their internal teams and also partners with several outside experts to ensure that our managers have access to the latest methods, techniques and thought leadership. This includes programs focused on leading and developing people and well as programs focused on leading and developing the business and includes topics such as leading with motivational intelligence, communication, and team execution.

Career Paths - APC's goal is to provide all employees with a career at the company that is fulfilling and offers the opportunity for growth and advancement. The company has created job qualification standards for all production level positions that communicate the expectations of each role and each level. The company also created a career path map that shows how an entry level production employee can progress through roles with an increasing level of skill and pay as positions become available. We want to provide the transparency and details that employees can utilize to define their paths career growth.

Established Partnerships with Local Technical Schools - We have several programs in place across our six locations where we've partnered with local schools to provide apprentice opportunities and job skills training. These programs enhance the opportunities of our operations employees for future career mobility within APC, as well as provide employment in our local communities for individuals who are looking to build a career in manufacturing.

Diversity and Inclusion - We believe it is essential to foster an atmosphere where all employees feel comfortable working and interacting with each other and their management teams. Our diversity and inclusion training aims to bring awareness to the importance of a diverse and inclusive workplace, as well as the benefits of working with a team of individuals with unique perspectives and experiences. Our goal is to create a culture where thoughts can be shared and ideas can be implemented to benefit employees, the company and our customers.

New Supervisor Skills - The movement from an individual contributor role to a people manager role can be one of the hardest transitions in an employee's career and we aim to provide the necessary training and support that new supervisors and managers need to accomplish this successfully.

Diversity & Human Rights

APC complies with all Equal Employment Opportunity laws.

- We have a process to fully investigate any complaints regarding discrimination or misconduct of any kind, with no tolerance for retaliation. We believe in creating an atmosphere where employees can feel comfortable raising concerns without fear of retaliation, believing in the company's commitment to addressing those concerns.
- Diversity of thought, perspectives, ideas and experiences is an important part of being able to be responsive to our customers' (and their customers') needs.
- We actively partner with community groups and agencies that support career opportunities for veterans and minority candidates.
- Hiring and promotion decisions are made based on an assessment of competencies, skill sets, contributions relevant to the open position and supporting the direction of company goals.

We have a defined code of conduct, discussed with each employee, which emphasizes the importance of a positive culture, ethical behaviors, and the expectations of our employees when interacting with each other, customers and vendors. We are committed to working with the highest standards of honesty and integrity.



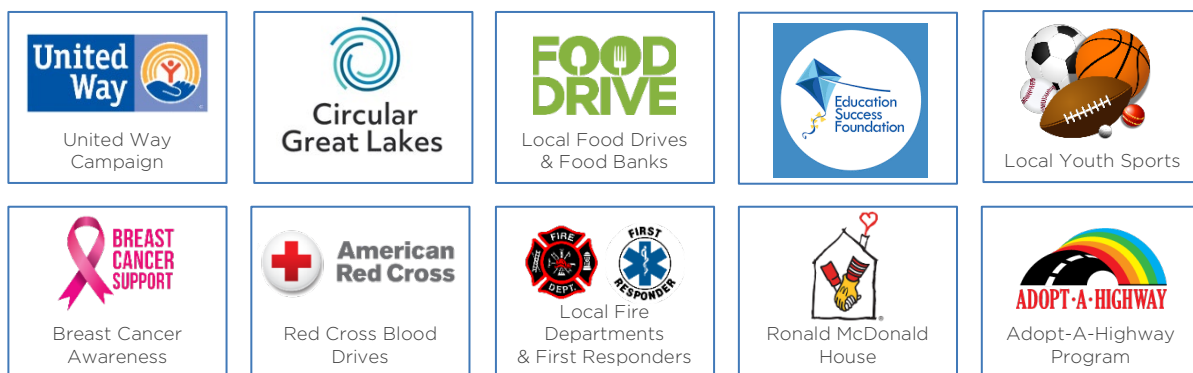
Employee Engagement

Our employees are the key to our success, and their engagement has a direct impact on our ability to successfully meet our commitments to our customers. We believe it's important to recognize and reward our employees who have served our company over time through formal years-of-service awards. We also encourage our leadership team to connect with employees at all levels on a regular basis by spending time on the floor, engaging in bi-weekly safety discussions and holding periodic employee focus groups, all in an attempt to gather and respond to feedback directly from employees. In addition, we survey our employees

to solicit their thoughts and ideas as we define policies and to identify opportunities to improve our operations, performance and culture. APC also takes a holistic view of our commitment to our employees by focusing on their well-being not only at work, but also outside of work. We offer extremely competitive benefit plans with a focus on wellness initiatives, targeted at helping employees with their overall health, wellness and financial security through access to services and information. We intend to continue to focus on ways to increase the engagement and overall well-being of our employees.

Community Involvement

We partner with agencies and community groups local to each of our Centers of Excellence to provide services supporting the local community. Employee groups are active in community activities, such as



Philanthropic Activities

In addition, APC is adopting local charitable organizations on an annual basis to provide support for organizations that are meaningful to our employees and the communities in which our sites are based. We support a range of national and international charitable organizations. We believe it's our responsibility to give back as much as possible to the local and regional communities that support us and each of our valued team members. APC is a proud supporter of The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp and its mission to provide "a different kind of healing" for sick children and their families.





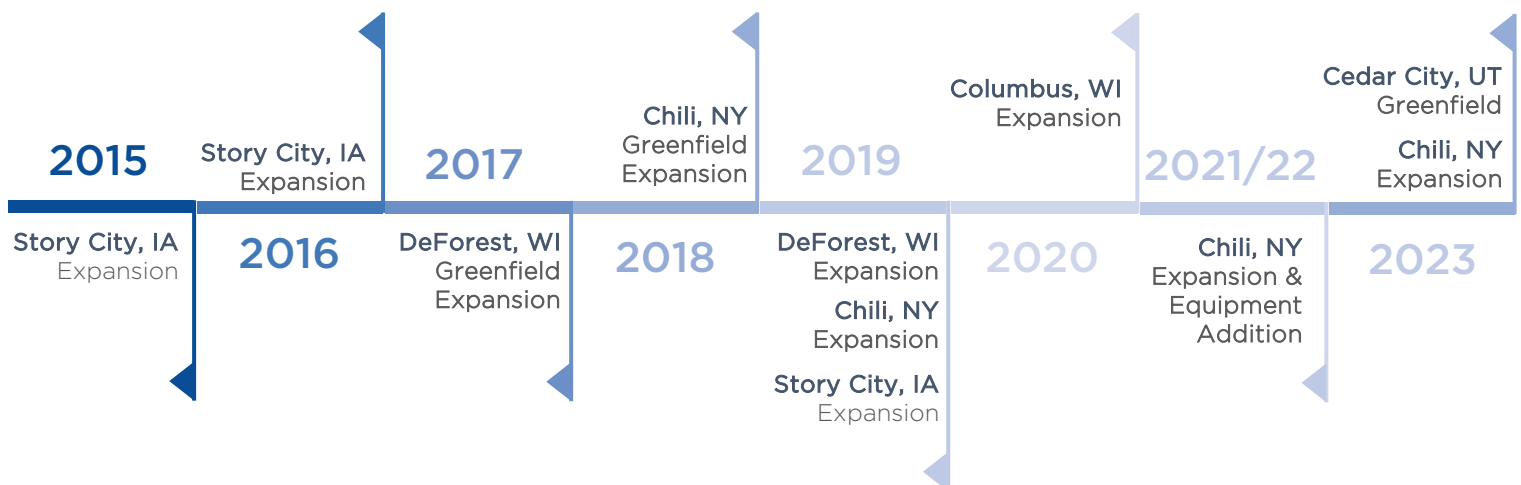
ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

AT THE CORE OF OUR LONG-STANDING SUCCESS

We believe our company's longstanding success through more than 115 years is due in large part to our economic responsibility and dedication to our employees.

Reinvestment

Over the past 10 years, APC has invested over \$560 million in new capital equipment and facility upgrades, demonstrating our confidence in our position in the industry and commitment to expanding our business.



Our three pillars of sustainability are incorporated into each expansion by understanding all environmental, social, and economic aspects of the project.

- Using local contractors and creating new job opportunities results in a positive influence on the community and the economy.
- New equipment (presses, laminators, and slitters) with state-of-the-art high-efficient safety controls, components, and electronics to reduce energy demand.

- Natural lighting, high-efficiency lighting, energy-efficient insulation, alignment of equipment to support automation, increased use of robots.

Ethics

The APC family believes in the highest level of integrity and ethics in the way we conduct business. This applies to our customers, employees and supplier relationships, which have been a cornerstone in our culture since 1902 and are an essential ingredient in our future success.



Code of Conduct

At APC, we conduct our business with honesty and integrity, and we expect our business partners' values and business practices to mirror ours. APC maintains relationships with customers and suppliers who share our commitment to the:

- Protection of human rights of employees and the treatment of all employees with dignity
- Creation of safe working conditions and a healthy work environment for all workers
- Stewardship of the environment and an ongoing effort to reduce the environmental impact of our operations
- Highest standards of ethical conduct and compliance with fair business practices

We fully expect our partners to meet or exceed our expectations set forth in this code and believe that through a true partnership with customers and suppliers, we will consistently build on our respective principles. This code applies to all APC Centers of Excellence, as well as others with whom we do business. Our partners will ensure that the code is communicated to their employees and subcontractors in a manner understandable to all.

When local laws are less restrictive than the principles set forth by APC, we expect our partners to follow our principles. Conversely, when local laws are more restrictive than our principles, we expect our suppliers to follow local laws.

Business Continuity Management



In 2020, APC created and rolled out the APC COVID-19 policy in response to the global pandemic. Utilizing the advice of experts and ensuring that all local, state and federal guidelines and mandates were followed, the company was able to quickly mobilize to help safeguard the health and safety of all employees. Processes were put in place to communicate updates to employees through various media including the implementation of an emergency notification system that remains in place. Employee health and temperature screening processes were also activated while ensuring that all private medical information was maintain as confidential in compliance with HIPAA guidelines. The company also made modifications to infrastructure at the facilities, as necessary, to allow for social distancing as much as possible. Additional PPE was also provided to employees and additional daily sanitization procedures were added to ensure we were providing a safe environment for employees within the facilities. These practices will continue either indefinitely or until we believe they are no longer necessary or required by law.

APC's enterprise-wide Disaster Recovery (DR) and Business Continuity (BC) plan is a fundamental part of our ability to continue business-critical functions and meet the expectations of our customers during any significant business disruption.

- To maintain a resilient manufacturing environment, management has committed to a strategy that provides redundant equipment and capabilities within different geographical locations within our corporation.
- To maintain a resilient information technology environment, management has committed to a strategy that aims for near zero downtime and near zero data loss for all applications that support critical business processes.

- APC's DR and BC plans are continually being reviewed and improved.

Supplier Management

APC's Code of Conduct is fundamental to how we hold ourselves and our suppliers accountable, including:

- Human rights and labor (including child labor section 1502 Dodd Frank Act)
- Create safe working conditions and a healthy work environment
- Environmental stewardship
- Business conduct and ethics
- Monitoring and compliance

APC maintains a formal supplier diversity program with specific goals for maintaining and growing spend.

- APC records and reports all of our Minority Business Enterprise and Women Business Enterprise spending each quarter.
- Quarterly reports are submitted to all of our customers who track their Tier 2 spend in these areas.
- Identified Companies – 131 diverse suppliers in our supplier list with 50 active in 2019.
- Total Spend – 6% average spend in 2019 with diverse suppliers.
- APC is a member of Wisconsin, Iowa and Central Illinois Minority Supplier Development Council, an affiliate of the National Minority Supplier Development Council

The above ensures suppliers and materials purchased meet our expectations for quality and food safety through a supplier approval process and an ongoing supplier assessment process.

APC chooses suppliers:

- Who display our shared values in commitment to the environment, safety, health and well-being of employees and the communities and world in which we operate.
- Who participate in carbon emission reduction programs, energy usage reduction programs, reuse of byproducts, recycling programs, continuous improvement goals and safety initiatives.
- Who are recognized for their responsibly managed fiber; APC's largest paper purchase volumes come from suppliers who are using renewable paper resources to manufacture their product.



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

STEWARDSHIP OF OUR LOCAL & GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTS

APC features a range of programs and policies designed to make us the best possible steward of our local and global environments. We also have extensive recycling programs at all of our APC Centers of Excellence, which has led to a significant reduction of our impact on the waste stream.

Environmental Sustainability

APC PARTNERSHIPS, SUPPORT AND COLLABORATION



In 2021, American Packaging joined the Circular Great Lakes collaborative as a Corporate Activation Partner with the ambition to forge a future without waste and litter in the binational Great Lakes region. Estimates show that approximately 22 million of plastics enter the Great Lakes region every year. Through a series of short and long-term projects, action plans, and strategies, the collaborative is focused on cleaning up and stopping

plastic litter from entering the Great Lakes; capturing value from plastics packaging by co-investing in and rapidly scaling, the recovery and processing of plastics; and facilitating a supply of high-quality plastics material by educating consumers and changing recycling behaviors, as well as adopting sustainable materials management policies, advanced sorting technologies, and new product design standards. The goal is to reach a 50% recycling goal which is equivalent to 3 million tons of plastic containers and packaging in 5 years.

Taking an active role in the communities in which we are honored to serve, demonstrating social responsibility, committing wholeheartedly to the causes we champion, leading by example, and helping families succeed is only one of American Packaging's values. Employee opportunities for engagement takes many forms including roadside and park clean-ups, recycling drives for plastics, electronics, and batteries, recycling challenges, and giving out trees in honor of Earth Day.



Product Sustainability

As a packaging producer, APC does not directly control the packaging that our customers introduce into the marketplace. However, APC does have a responsibility to be a valued resource and support our customers' sustainability initiatives. It is APC's goal to have a broad array of packaging solutions that can be readily suited to support the needs of our customer base. APC supports our customers through multiple methods, including:

Education. The APC Sustainability Playbook was developed in 2018 as a platform to illustrate the various sustainable options available for flexible packaging. This playbook covers a broad variety of sustainable strategies, including source reduction, design for recycle, design for compost, inclusion of renewable content and use of post-consumer recycled content. This playbook serves as a roadmap for our customers so they better understand the options available and can make informed choices that support their efforts. Continuing education to our customers is provided through our quarterly newsletter "Sustainable Times".



In 2021, APC hosted a webinar with Packaging World titled, Getting it Right the First Time – PCR Based Packaging as a means to discuss and inform the challenges related to packaging design for end of life

strategies and how this strategy may be impacted by the limited infrastructure. This webinar hosted a prominent attorney who highlighted the top considerations to watch when making claims on packaging.

Additional resources such as white papers, introduction to packaging classes, and participation as speakers and panelists for industry events have also been developed to better inform our customers about the sustainable environment.

Investigation. Materials, process technologies, end-of-life technologies and infrastructure are just a few of the many things quickly evolving in the area of sustainability. As a valued supplier, APC continues to actively monitor, evaluate, and investigate technologies that may provide suitable alternatives for the customer's current packaging while also meeting the targeted sustainability initiatives.

APC Center for Packaging Innovation

APC's onsite center located at the Columbus, WI headquarters has been developed to assist customers with supporting their needs for packaging innovations, structure development, and packaging advancements.

Collaboration. It's often necessary to collaborate to support sustainable developments. Overcoming limitations due to limited choice in materials technologies, process technologies and infrastructure is often necessary to overcome challenges during conversion, distribution, use and end of life.

- The Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) Education and Research Center, promoted through a collaboration between APC, the Wegman Family Charitable Foundation and RIT. This center focuses on accelerating the development of realistic solutions in flexible packaging
 - APC sponsors and guides RIT research and development of material through education and workshops on packaging and sustainability
- Collaboration with suppliers to enhance and develop materials that will facilitate transition to more sustainable solutions while maintaining desired packaging performance and integrity
- Flexible Packaging Association (FPA) membership supporting the sustainable benefits of flexible packaging versus alternative packaging forms through life-cycle analysis and comparative packaging assessments
- Sustainable Packaging Coalition (SPC) membership focusing on the advancement of sustainable packaging solutions
- How2Recycle membership focuses on the development of recyclable packaging solutions as well as pre-certification
- CEFLEX, a European consortium representing the entire value chain of flexible packaging. Membership focuses on enhancing the performance of flexible packaging in the circular economy by designing and

advancing better system solutions

- Circular Great Lakes, focused on forging a future without plastic waste in the Great Lakes region and enhancing the quality, demand, collection and recycling of plastic materials.

APC is making significant progress in the development of sustainable options for its customer base. Some of these activities involve subtle changes to existing packaging laminates. Other developments have required multi-party collaborations to debut new technologies.

The following are a small subset of the many activities underway:

DESIGN FOR RECYCLE

APC has a broad portfolio of design for recycle PE-based options suitable for most packaging formats and product applications. The portfolio continues to evolve as materials, technologies, and the supply chain introduces enhanced products that offer the potential to further improve packaging performance and machinability.

RE Design for Recycle Packaging – Film Based



APC continues to invest in technologies that provide our customers with the same quality of packaging they derive from their existing product. One great example is the investment in the newest rotogravure presses which have been specifically designed to accommodate extensible films. These presses enable reproduction of the same graphics and branding that are achieved with the conventional packaging. One great product example is the Truvia sweetener pouch. This pouch is an all-PE, reverse printed lamination offering excellent moisture barrier, stiffness, window clarity, and shelf presence. This package is printed using rotogravure print technology and is pre-qualified for the front of store drop-off recycling program. APC also works with the APR and the How2Recycle group to pre-qualify the design for recycle laminates.

One of the limitations with design for recycle materials, particularly with PE-based materials, is the lower process temperatures that must be used in manufacturing process and the potential impact on the speed of conversion. APC continues to evaluate the newest materials, film types, and coating technologies and tests these materials with the aid of equipment suppliers to validate performance. One particular collaboration the development of the REC20 laminate which is the high-barrier, reverse printed option offering excellent heat resistance, low temperature seal performance, and great moisture and oxygen barrier. This laminate has been shown to convert at high speeds on both HFFS and VFFS packaging lines. APC continues to make progress in this area and has several projects that have launched both domestically and internationally.

**APC evaluated its
REC20 Design for Recycle
Structure
with equipment partners.**



This package was trialed on a SN HFFS machine at a speed of 80 packages per minute as well as a Rovema VFFS at 80 packages per minute

Design for Recycle Packaging – Paper Based

FSC sourcing design for recycle, paper-based packaging holds potential for curbside recycling with the mixed paper stream. These laminates are specially designed to allow a significant portion of the fiber in the paper to separate during recycling and be re-introduced into the paper stream without compromising the quality of the paper. This area offers much potential but there are certain limitations. The common expectation is that the paper packaging can perform similarly to the traditional film-based packaging. However, technology is still evolving with regards to durability, packaging performance, barrier (grease, WVTER, OTR) seal strength, and speeds of conversion on FFS equipment. Material developers, paper suppliers, formulators, researchers, and others are rapidly working on solutions but there are certain gaps. APC has had success with several applications providing packaging that offers the required performance.



APC collaborates with major global brand to debut a paper-based package for confectionary products. One of the recent applications launched into the marketplace involved the transition from a traditional film-based package to a paper structure for the Smarties brand. This innovation was a major global ambition that was undergoing this transition across the globe. This was a very challenging project as the traditional packaging was optimized for machinability and performance. Paper-based packaging is an emerging technology and much research and development was required to understand the proper materials and processes necessary to be successful. For this innovation, many different types of papers and coatings were evaluated and tested to arrive at the proper combination that yielded the

performance necessary for this application. Additionally, the packaging for this application was a stand-up pouch format which required a bottom gusset. For this purpose, the paper needed to be sufficiently durable to withstand this gussetting operation. Fortunately, APC was successful at finding optimal solution that offered the performance, machinability, and durability necessary for this confectionary application.

RE Post-Consumer Recycled (PCR) Content



The interest in PCR content packaging continues to escalate as brands focus on generating demand for recycling, reduce the use of virgin fossil-based plastics, seek options for reducing carbon emissions, as well as minimizing the impact to manufacturability. APC has potential to include PCR in both PE (polyethylene) and PET (polyester) films in both food and non-food applications. APC has collaborated with several customers on product launches involving PCR content. The Shakeology pouch was debuted into the market with overall PCR content of 45% in all three layers of the multi-layer pouch.

RE Bio or Renewable Content

The inclusion of bio or renewable content into packaging is an option to reduce the use of fossil-based, virgin plastics and can significantly reduce carbon emissions. The US Plastics Pact has targeted the inclusion of 30% recycled content or renewable content in packaging by the year 2025. APC worked with Alexia Sweet Potato pouch which includes 20% plant-based content.



RE Design for Compost Packaging



APC is actively engaged in the development of design for compost solutions for many different markets and applications. These options are particularly suited for nutrient contaminated packaging applications that are not suited for the recycling stream. The material options are continuing to evolve with improvements in package integrity, seal performance, and barrier performance. Much research and development is focused upon growing the platform, machinability, and optimizing the portfolio for specific properties and applications.

Source Reduction

APC works collaboratively with customers as they consider transitioning from traditional rigid to flexible packaging formats yielding benefits for reductions in carbon footprint and transportation efficiencies.

Flexible Packaging Creates Less Footprint*

Energy consumption and environmental impact during transportation is greatly reduced.

Truckloads needed to transport packaging for equal amounts of product

26 Truckloads of unfilled glass jars



1 Truckload of unfilled flexible pouches



*Source: Flexible Packaging Association

Flexible Packaging Uses Less Resources*

Examples of packaging needed to package 60 pounds of beverage.

50 Pounds of Glass



6 Pounds of Rigid PET



3 Pounds of Aluminum



1.5 Pounds of Flexible Plastic

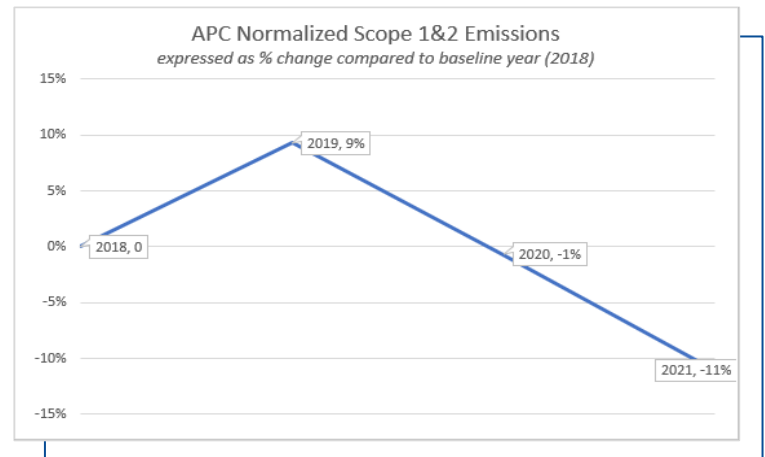


Energy & Emissions Management

APC discloses its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and reduction goals to the Climate Disclosure Project (CDP).

In 2018, APC established a goal to reduce its GHG emissions by 15% by 2023. For this goal, GHG emissions are normalized in terms of square footage of production output. The change to square footage better reflects equipment and production changes in APC facilities since 2001. For the most recent calendar year 2021, APC has achieved:

- 11% total reduction in GHG emissions (normalized to square feet of production) compared to the 2018 base year
- Reduction of 5,908 metric tons of CO₂ equivalents from solvent usage (32% decrease from 2018 to 2021)



Waste Management & Recycling

All APC facilities follow all federal, state and local regulations that pertain to management of hazardous and non-hazardous waste. Waste performance is tracked monthly and rolled up to an annual corporate report. Waste reduction activities are continually scrutinized with the goal of minimizing expenses related to raw materials, waste handling and disposal. All of our facilities have recycling programs in place. Even with the changes in the recycling market, APC is continually evaluating potential opportunities with waste handling vendors that will allow us to minimize our contributions to local landfills.

Water Conservation

Water use for industrial purposes is only a piece of the global issue surrounding water demand. In fact, North Americans have the largest water footprint in the world at approximately 2,060 gallons per person per day, according to Nature magazine. At APC, water consumption is not a major issue in our production processes. In fact, the majority of our water is reused via a closed-loop technology that minimizes our need for purchased chilled water.

Electricity & Fuel Use

APC continually invests in projects that reduce energy, including lighting upgrades and energy-efficient manufacturing equipment.

Solvent Use

At APC, solvent usage is considerable given our production processes including printing, laminating and coating operations. Solvent recovery systems are routinely used that allow us to recycle a considerable amount of the solvents we use.





MEMBERSHIPS & AWARDS

APC LEADERSHIP IN FLEXIBLE PACKAGING

Thanks to our incredible team of industry experts, we've been repeatedly recognized on the national level for the quality of our work, our commitment to sustainability and for creating a great place to work. We're proud of our industry and honored to be a member of its most important organizations.

Associations

American Frozen Food Institute (AFFI) – Member-driven national trade association that advances the interests of all segments of the frozen food and beverage industry. AFFI works with its members to advance food safety, advocate for frozen and provide resources to boost category performance.

Blow-Fill-Seal International Operators Association (BFS IOA) – The Pharmaceutical BFS IOA is an international industry association for pharmaceutical and associated companies, which have a direct or indirect involvement with Blow-Fill-Seal manufacturing.

Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) – APC contributes data to CDP which is a global disclosure system that enables companies, cities, states and regions to measure and manage their environmental impacts. CDP is recognized as the most comprehensive collection of self-reported environmental data in the world.

Circular Economy for Flexible Packaging (CEFLEX) – Collaborative initiative of a European consortium of companies and associations representing the entire value chain of flexible packaging to enhance the performance of flexible packaging in the circular economy.

Diversity Jobs Powered by Circa – #1 Job board for underrepresented individuals. As a diversity-minded employer, we engage the best and brightest talent. We are excited to continue advancing and promoting diversity and inclusion at APC.

Drug, Chemical & Associated Technologies Association (DCAT) – Not-for-profit, global business development association whose unique membership model integrates both innovator and generic drug manufacturers and suppliers of ingredients, development and manufacturing services, and related technologies.

Flexible Packaging Association (FPA) – One of the leading trade associations for converters of flexible packaging and suppliers to the industry.

Flexographic Technical Association (FTA) – Leading technical society devoted to the flexographic printing & in-line converting industry.

Gravure Association of the Americas (GAA) – Promotes the use of the gravure printing process for publication printing, package printing and product (specialty) printing.

Healthcare Compliance Packaging Council (HCPC) – Not-for-profit trade association established to promote the many benefits of unit dose packaging.

Institute of Packaging Professionals (IOPP) – Dedicated to creating networking and educational opportunities that help packaging professionals succeed.

International Fresh Produce Conference (IFPA) – Leads and drives change for members and the produce and floral industry on the national and global stage. Create beneficial changes through action.

National Coffee Association of USA, Inc. (NCA) – Leading trade association for the U.S. coffee industry, they provide market research, consumer information, and lobbying services.

National Confectioners Association (NCA) – Trade organization that promotes the unique role of chocolate, candy, gum and mints in a happy, balanced lifestyle and the companies that make these special treats.

Printing Industries of America (PIA) – Delivers services and products that enhance the knowledge, growth, and profitability of members through advocacy, research, education, and networking.

Printing United Alliance – The premier trade association for printing professionals looking to grow their business.

Produce Marketing Association (PMA) – Leading trade association representing companies from every segment of the global produce and floral supply chain. PMA helps members by providing business solutions that expand business opportunities and increase sales and consumption.

SNAC International – International trade association of the snack food industry representing snack manufacturers and suppliers.

Specialty Coffee Association of America (SCAA) – Non-profit trade organization for the specialty coffee industry. SCAA represents different segments of the specialty coffee industry, including producers, roasters, importers/exporters and retailers.

Supplier Ethical Data Exchange (SEDEX) – Not-for-profit membership organization dedicated to driving improvements in ethical and responsible business practices in global supply chains and is one of the largest collaborative platforms for sharing ethical supply chain data.

Sustainable Packaging Coalition (SPC) – Industry working group dedicated to a more robust environmental vision for packaging. Through an informed and science-based approach and supply chain collaborations, the SPC promotes packaging systems that encourage economic prosperity and a sustainable flow of materials. APC supports both the GreenBlue project (dedicated to the sustainable use of materials in society) and How2Recycle® project (standardized labeling system that clearly communicates recycling instructions to the public).

The Circular of the Great Lakes Region (CGLR) – A binational, collaborative initiative of the Council of the Great Lakes Region, seeks to end plastic waste by closing the loop and accelerating a circular economy for plastics across the region.

TAPPI (Technical Association for the Pulp, Paper, and Converting Industry) – Not-for-profit, volunteer-led association that is built around a community comprised of thousands of member engineers, managers, scientists, academics, suppliers and others from around the world.

The Food Institute – Delivers reliable news and insight on the food industry to help members make informed decisions on what's happening right now.

The Pet Sustainability Coalition (PSC) – Dedicated to creating a more sustainable pet industry with assessment tools, strategic support, accreditation and events.

The Poultry Federation (TPF) – Multi-state trade organization representing the poultry and egg industry in Arkansas, Missouri and Oklahoma. TPF promotes and protects the interests of the industry and is a unified voice before the state governments. We rely on membership funding to support its representation of the poultry and egg industry.

United Fresh Produce Association – Industry's leading trade association committed to driving the growth and success of produce companies and their partners.

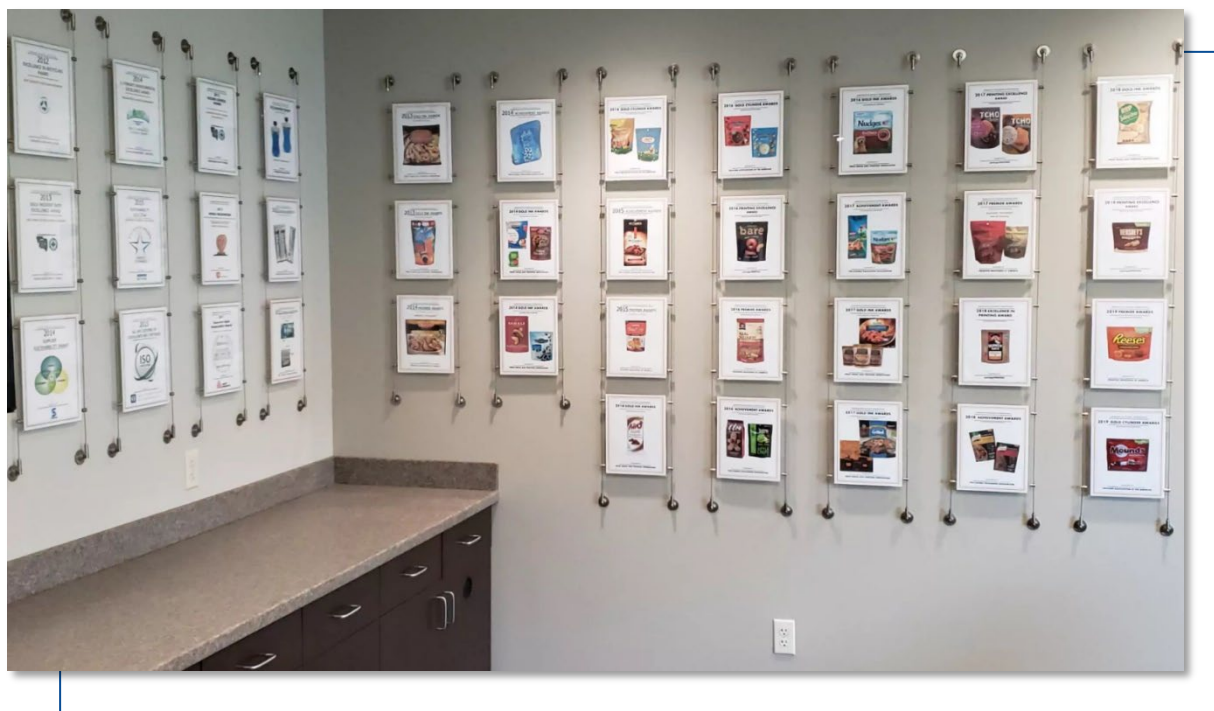
Wisconsin Cheese Makers Association (WCMA) – Serves dairy processors and their industry supplier partners as a strong policy advocate, networking hub, and trusted source of education and information. WCMA proudly hosts the renowned US and World Championship Cheese Contests, as well as CheeseExpo and CheeseCon (formerly Cheese Industry Conference)

World Pet Association (WPA) – Brings the pet world together, so quality interaction and education between and among product suppliers and pet owners can create healthier, happier pets and a healthier, more productive pet industry.

Awards

RECOGNITIONS

- Corporate: Printing Industries of America – Best of the Best Workplace Award (since 2008)
- Corporate: Printing Industries of America – Safety Shield Award (since 2018)
- Chili, NY Center of Excellence: The Joseph Entress Memorial Economic Development Award
- Rochester, NY Center of Excellence: Rochester Top 100 (since 2006)
- Rochester, NY and Iowa Centers of Excellence: OSHA VPP Star Worksites (17 years)
- Wisconsin Center of Excellence: Gravure Management Excellence Awards – Process Efficiencies Award, Company of the Year (Gravure Packaging), and Employee Development Award
- Customer: Certified Supplier Award (Heraeus Kulzer Dental)
- Customer: Partner of the Year (Label Makers)
- Customer: Supplier of the Year (LMI)



SUSTAINABILITY

- Corporate: All Centers of Excellence – ISO 14001:2015
- Corporate: Avery Dennison/Eco Vadis – Corporate Social Responsibility Award
- Corporate: GSK Holistic Approach Special Recognition
- Corporate: Sonoco Products – Supplier Sustainability Award (4 years)
- Corporate: Sustainable Packaging Coalition (SPC) – Honorable Mention for the Development of a 100% Recyclable Stand-Up Pouch
- Corporate: 2018 Sustainable Packaging Coalition (SPC) – Honorable Mention for the Development of a 100% Recyclable Stand-Up Pouch
- Iowa Center of Excellence: Environmental Excellence in Recycling
- Iowa Center of Excellence: IA/IL Safety Council – Hazard Control Award/President's Choice Award
- Iowa Center of Excellence: Iowa Governor's Environmental Excellence Award
- Iowa Center of Excellence Sonoco Recycling – Gold Star Award
- Wisconsin Center of Excellence: Clif Bar & Company Recognition as a Climate Leader for using 50% Green Power for their Products

AMERISTAR AWARDS (Sponsored by Institute of Packaging Professionals)

- Mars/Wrigley Design Award Orbit Reclose Adhesive (2015)

EXCELLENCE AWARDS (Sponsored by Package Printing)

- Hershey's Special Dark Nuggets (2019)
- Quaker Oats Old Fashioned Oats (2018)
- TCHO Bites Toffee & Sea Salt & TCHO Bites Almond & Sea Salt (2017)
- Bare Naturally Baked Crunchy Cinnamon Apple Chips (2016)
- Sahale Snacks Raspberry Crumble Cashew Mix (2014)
- John Soules Chicken Fajitas (2013)
- General Mills Betty Crocker Pumpkin Spice & Clif Builders Bar & Snack Factory Pretzel Crisps (2012)

EXCELLENCE IN FLEXOGRAPHY AWARD (Sponsored by Flexographic Technical Association)

- Community Coffee LSU Special Dark Roast (2021)

- Hershey Assortment Reese's Party Pack (2020)
- Bertolli Classic Meal – Chicken Florentine & Farfalle Wrapper (2014)
- 1.5 Liters Meridian Vineyards Chillable Red (2013)

FPA AWARDS (Sponsored by Flexible Packaging Association)

- Beachbody PCR (incorporated SUP) (2022)
- Nestle Smarties 203g SUP (2022)
- Lamb Weston – Alexia Sweet Potato Fries (2022)
- John Soules 32oz Chicken Patties Value Size (2022)
- Crunch Pak's Toy Story Lunch Kitz (2021)
- Nestle Toll House Artisan Collection Premium Baking Chips (2020)
- Knorr One Skillet Meals (2018)
- Banquet Dino – Shaped Chicken Nuggets & Nudges Grillers Dog Treats (2016)
- Ghirardelli Sea Salt Pouch & PF Chang Mongolian Style Beef (2015)
- SC Johnson Glade PlugIns Winter Collection (2014)
- Lindt Lindor Assorted Chocolates (2013)

GOLDEN CYLINDER AWARDS (Sponsored by Gravure Association of the Americas)

- Clif Luna ECG (2022)
- Hershey Mounds Miniatures Dark Chocolate & Coconut (2019)
- American Packaging Gravure G7 Qualification (2018)
- Ghirardelli Melting Wafers (2016)
- Lindt Lindor Assorted Chocolate (2014)

GOLD INK AWARDS (Sponsored by PrintMedia & Printing Impressions)

- Mars Milky Way Fun Size Big Bag, Nestle Toll House Pumpkin Spice Truffles & Cargill Truvia Naturally Sweet (2020)
- Quaker Oats Old Fashion Grits & POPTIME Jalapeno Chip Snacks (2018)
- Velvet Hammer Coffee Dark Roast Blend, John Soules Grilled Chicken Breast Strips, Coach's Oats & P.F. Chang's Korean Style BBQ Chicken (2017)

- Nestle Aero Milk Chocolate Truffle & Nudges Steak Grillers Dog Treats (2016)
- Snack Factory Buffalo Wing's Size Pretzel Crisps (2015)
- Kirkland 5ct Face Wipes (2014)
- Parrot Bay Tropical Rum Punch & John Soules Chicken (2013)
- General Mills Betty Crocker Pumpkin & Gingerbread, Clif Bar - Gary's Panforte (2012)

NCA Ruby Awards (Sponsored by National Confectioners Association)

- Nestle Smarties – 203g SUP (2022)

PREMIER AWARDS (Sponsored by Printing United Alliance)

- Perdue 26oz. Buffalo Boneless Chicken Bites (Best in Category 2022)
- Hershey's Special Dark Nuggets, Hershey Reese's Miniature Cups (2019)
- Quaker Oats Quick 1- Minute (2018)
- Lindt Lindor Assorted Chocolate & Lindt Lindor Milk Chocolate (2017)
- Quaker Real Medleys Super Grains Cinnamon Apple Walnut (2016)
- Snack Factory Buffalo Wing's Size Pretzel Crisps (2015)
- Bertolli Chicken Marsala (2014)
- Parrot Bay Coconut Water Flavored Pina Colada (2013)
- General Mills Betty Crocker Gingerbread & P.F. Chang's Spring Rolls Teriyaki Chicken (2012)

Certifications

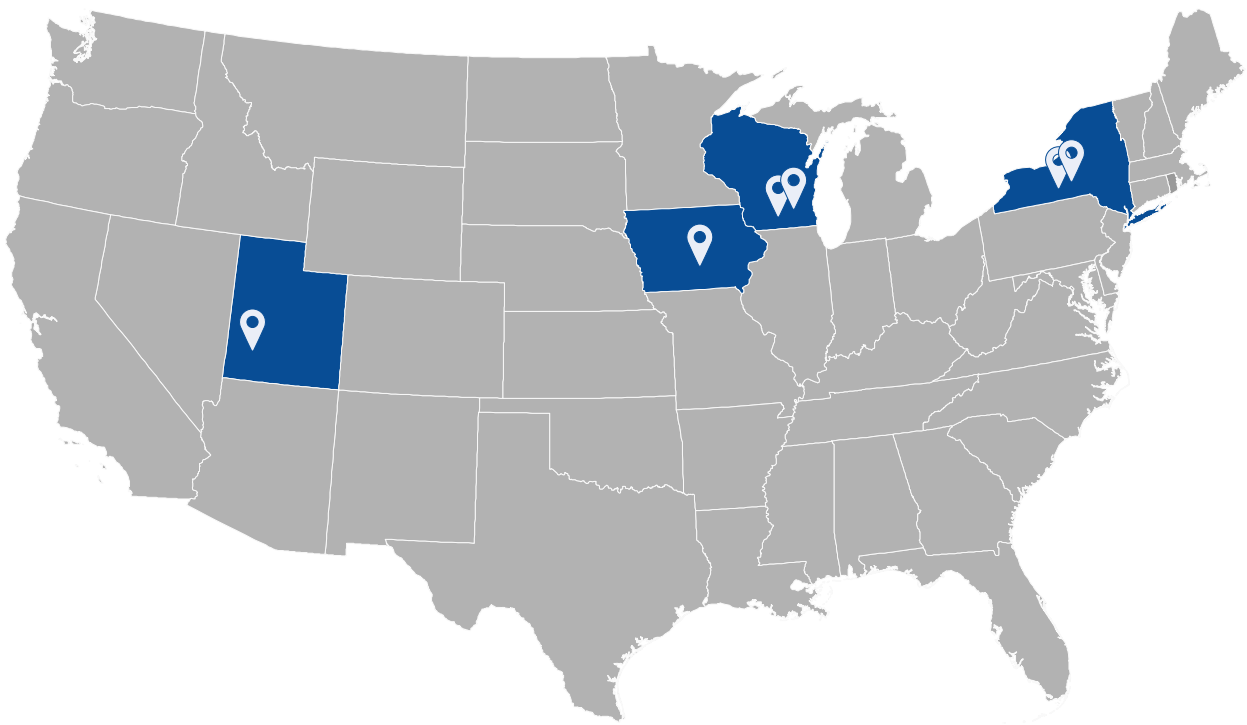
- OSHA VPP Star Worksites (2 Centers of Excellence, since 2003)
- ISO 14001:2015 Registered
- ISO 9001:2015 Registered
- ISO 9001:2015 Certified
- ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Certified
- GFSI: FSSC 22000:2013
- G7 Master Certified
- Graphic Measures International (GMI) Certified
- HD Flexo Certified
- IMS Listed
- SMETA 4-Pillar Audit (Sedex Members Ethical Trade Audit)
- FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) Certified
- ISCC+ Certified
- Supplier Leadership on Climate Transition Badge – Scope 3
- FDA DMF Maintained
- Ecovadis Assessed
- CDP – Carbon Disclosure Project Assessed



**American
Packaging**
CORPORATION

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS

100 APC WAY • COLUMBUS, WI 53925
WWW.AMERICANPACKAGING.COM



Locations:

Rotogravure Printing & Laminating
Columbus, WI • DeForest, WI

Flexographic Printing & Laminating
Story City, IA • Chili, NY • Cedar City, UT

Engineered Laminations & Coatings
Rochester, NY