

RESOURCE
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Recycling

THE BEST RECYCLED PRODUCTS FOR 2011

Woolworths 1.5 litre bottle dominates the competition

"We were thrilled with both the quality and quantity of the entries we received this year, proving that the plastics recycling industry is growing in size, sophistication and value."
Douglas Greig, chairman of SAPRO



The South African Plastics Recyclers Organisation (SAPRO), with the support of Plastics SA and various role players, announced the winners of the annual Best Recycled Product Competition at a gala awards dinner held at the Midrand Conference Centre in September. Submissions were open in three product categories: products made from 100% recyclate, products containing a certain percentage of post-consumer recyclate and products made from a mixture of post-consumer recycled materials.

This competition was one of the highlights of the local plastic industry's Clean Up South Africa Week (12 to 17 September) and encouraged brand owners and industrial designers to consider recycled plastics as a material of choice. According to Douglas Greig, Chairman of SAPRO, a wide variety of products were entered from around South Africa. A panel of plastics experts was asked to judge products based on the following criteria:

- life expectancy of the product
- sustainability and long-term demand for and market acceptance of the product (i.e. will it still sell in five years' time?)
- tonnage (potential tonnages) diverted from landfills and converted into a product
- replacement of alternative materials
- technical achievements in manufacturing excellence to overcome recycled material challenges
- measures taken to ensure product consistency and customer

satisfaction despite recycled material content.

After careful deliberation, the following products were selected:

100% post-consumer recyclate category:

- Gundel API received a Gold Award for its three-layer co-extruded damp- and waterproofing membranes.
- Firstform received a Silver Award for its plastic wood effect furniture feet.

Percentage recyclate mixed with virgin category:

- Polypet walked off with the Gold Award for its Woolworths 1.5 l juice bottle.
- Mouldings & Frames International and Supreme Mouldings both received a Silver Award for their decorative picture frame mouldings made from recycled polystyrene.

Mixed recycled materials category:

- Tufflex Plastic Timber Products received the Gold Award for its sleeper bench.
- Ecology Plastics was awarded the Silver Award for its two-seater storage bench.

Special Merit Awards were given to:

- E'Yako Green Eco-friendly Corporate Gifts and Clothing, for its range of products made from recycled PVC.

Polypet was awarded the PACSA Trophy for the Best Recycled Products



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