

ANNUAL REVIEW 2024

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Jeremy Mackintosh, Chairperson of Polyco



## **Letter from** the Chairperson

Polyco's mission is to make a meaningful contribution to addressing South Africa's plastic waste problem.

As you'll see in the statistics discussed later in this report, our achievements speak for themselves. This journey is ongoing, and the producer responsibility organisations (PROs) are making a significant impact in driving the right behaviours diverting waste from landfill and extracting the value it holds.

It's important to note that 34% of South African households do not have access to a municipal waste collection service. This is plainly visible and sadly creates the impression that, as a nation, we do not care. When heavy rains arrive, this unmanaged waste flows into our waterways and eventually washes up on our beaches.

Through our support of Plastics SA, we contribute to the cleanup efforts required to address this issue. Last year alone, more than 700 000 bags of waste were collected from beaches across the country.

Clearly, improving waste collection services is a national priority. We continue to actively engage with municipalities to help address these gaps. Waste collectors are a daily presence across South Africa and form an essential part of the circular economy. A key aspect of our mission is to support and uplift their work. We continue to invest significantly in buy-back centres and in the Packa-Ching mobile collection system, which not only provides access to recycling services but also incentivises behaviour change. We are deeply grateful to partners such as Shoprite and Sasol for their support of this initiative.

Today, more than 200 recyclersm - ranging from small enterprises to large-scale operations - wake up every day motivated by the opportunity to run viable businesses. A standout example is Alpla's recent completion of a polyethylene terephthalate (PET) recycling facility in KwaZulu-Natal, backed by an investment of more than R1 billion. We are proud to have partnered with them and many other

organisations helping to drive recycling in South Africa.

More than 350 000 tonnes of recycled plastic are used annually in South Africa. While much of this replaces virgin material, we also see exciting innovation in the use of recycled content for park benches, waste bins, roof tiles and other valuable products.

We are working collaboratively on the introduction of On-Pack Recycling Labels, which will provide clear guidance to consumers on what is recyclable at scale, what has potential and what is currently unrecyclable.

Brand owners and major retailers deserve recognition for their financial contributions and leadership in helping consumers make the right packaging choices - ones that make recycling possible and more accessible. Packaging manufacturers, too, are investing to reduce material use and to enable and increase the use of recycled materials.

The circular economy is gaining traction, and Polyco's role is to help it function more efficiently and to scale its impact. We are proud of the progress we have made. My heartfelt thanks go to our member companies for placing their trust in us, and to our Directors and staff for their commitment and passion in bringing our vision to life.

We look forward to continued growth and impact in the years to come.

Patricia Pillay, CEO of Polyco



## **Letter from** the CEO

At the core of Polyco's success is its people – the passionate and dedicated employees, the capable and engaged Board of Directors, our compliant members, generous sponsors, strategic partners, all tiers of government, state-owned entities and the communities we work with. When people unite around a shared vision and purpose – to create a cleaner, greener South Africa – the results are truly transformative.

The achievements of 2024 would not have been possible without the collaboration of every stakeholder in the intricate waste management value chain. Your collective commitment has shaped Polyco's journey and success.

Polyco first applied for approval of its extended producer responsibility (EPR) scheme in 2019, after operating as a voluntary Producer Responsibility Organisation (PRO) for eight years. In November 2021, our EPR scheme received formal approval. Since then, the journey has brought both opportunities and challenges – from addressing the ongoing issue of free riders to operating within a 12% cap on administrative costs and navigating the socioeconomic and infrastructural constraints that define much of our national context. Despite these hurdles, Polyco has continued to roll out impactful and far-reaching projects across the country. Our efforts, anchored in five strategic pillars - infrastructure and development, waste picker support, education and awareness, municipal engagement and transformation have yielded significant outcomes.

In the 2024 financial year alone, we diverted more than 219 317 tonnes of plastic waste from landfill and the environment. These efforts directly created 198 jobs through our project partners and indirectly supported the creation of **2 593 new jobs** by boosting collection and recycling activity through our funded initiatives. Our strong commitment to governance and

compliance remains a cornerstone of Polyco's operations. We are proud to have achieved clean audits from the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), as well as from our internal and external auditors.

Our Project Committee and Audit & Risk Committee have played a key role in ensuring that all EPR funds are used effectively and in strict accordance with legislative guidelines. While we've made notable progress, the work is far from over. Addressing hard-to-recycle plastics such as polyvinyl chloride (PVC), polystyrene and multi-layer packaging remains a priority. We are actively investing in research and collaboration to unlock solutions in the 2025/26 financial year.

The contributions of our working group members have been invaluable. Your insight, time and ongoing participation in our collaborative sessions continue to shape the way forward.

An organisation is only as strong as its people. With the dedication of our team, the oversight of our board and the support of our members, government and partners, we remain confident in our vision for a sustainable and inclusive future.

Thank you for your continued belief in Polyco and for the trust you place in our team and our mission.



Polyco PRO NPC is South Africa's best producer responsibility organisation (PRO) focused on plastic packaging. Our mandate is to implement an extended producer responsibility (EPR) scheme that ensures that members meet their regulatory requirements while investing in the infrastructure, people and systems needed to build a thriving circular economy.

We are a registered nonprofit company (NPC) governed by a board representing industry sectors: brand owners, retailers, resin producers, packaging converters and industry associations. Our operations are guided by transparency, inclusion and the principle that plastic packaging should never become waste.

Our mission is to promote sustainable compliance in line with EPR regulations by investing in the plastic packaging value chain to implement global best practices in South Africa.

We work with many stakeholders throughout the value chain who share our values of caring for the environment and society, collaboration, communication, innovation and excellence, and we would like to extend our gratitude to them for collaborating with us to make an impact.

Polyco's member organisations pay an EPR fee for every tonne of identified product placed into the market. In turn, Polyco ensures sustainable compliance in line with EPR regulations by investing in the formal and informal South African plastic packaging recycling value chain.

Our investments are underpinned by a philosophy of collaboration and transformation – promoting sustainable economic, environmental and societal development for all.

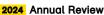


invested in projects and initiatives in the plastic recyling and collection industry

458 903 tonnes diverted from landfill and the environment



216
collection and recycling projects supported and funded



## A Snapshot of Polyco's Impact in 2024

2024



115 collection and recycling projects supported and funded



**Total invested R180** million

in projects and initiatives in the plastic recycling and collection industry



**R72** million

invested in black economic empowerment (BEE) companies - focusing on both large and small businesses, transforming the collection and

recycling sector



environment



More than 219317 tonnes

of plastic packaging diverted from landfill and the



More than **190 jobs** created

created through project partners



Indirectly, 2 593

new jobs supported through increasing collection and recycling tonnages



600 trolleys

distributed to waste reclaimers



1 341

waste pickers were paid the waste picker service fee



**R8** million

invested in waste reclaimer integration support



265 verification audits

on members and collection and recycling partners



### More than 650 member companies

supported by the stakeholder team and the new **PolyStakeholders** customer relationship management (CRM) system, actively engaged with via working groups and informed via the PolyChronicle newsletter



56

member working group sessions held



## Launched 18 new

Packa-Ching units in 2024, bringing the total to 46 operational Packa-Ching units nationwide



649 communities

across South Africa serviced by Packa-Ching



Million+ campaign pledges grew to 2.3 million,

signalling increased public awareness of and commitment to recycling



More than 1.9 million learners and 91000

educators

reached through school education, increasing awareness of commitment to recycling in communities across South Africa



97000 people reached at 88



events throughout the year



## 9 provincial departments

and 95 municipalities engaged, resulting in 6 memorandums of understanding signed to establish long-term partnerships and 7 municipal expressions of interest in project investments



# million

invested to support municipal initiatives

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This road map illustrates how Polyco's journey has aligned investment, infrastructure, education and compliance in service of systemic transformation.

In 2024, Polyco celebrated three years since the official implementation of mandatory EPR in South Africa. What began with urgency and energy in 2022 has matured into a coordinated. nation-wide recycling ecosystem supported by infrastructure, data, partnerships and purpose.



#### Polyco (the Polyolefin Responsibility Organisation) was

established in 2011 as a nonprofit industry body focused on driving the collection, recycling and responsible management of polyolefin plastic packaging waste in South Africa.

Membership of Polyco was voluntary up until 2021. when mandatory EPR was introduced, effective from January 2022.

### Polyco's flagship community collection project, Packa-China.

was launched in 2017 to foster recycling in South Africa's underserved communities by bringing a mobile collection truck and trailer directly to them.

The initiative encourages recycling by offering financial incentives to individuals who participate.



Polyco launched its **EPR** scheme across multiple plastic material streams.

Built systems for member registration, fee collection and impact measurement.

Joined the PRO Alliance and increased collaboration with other industry organisations.



**Invested R30 million in** projects and initiatives in the plastic recycling and collection industry across

South Africa.

34 collection and recycling projects supported and funded.



53 692 tonnes diverted from landfill and the environment.



Established the Enterprise Development Fund to assist small businesses up the value chain and expanded the Packa-Ching initiative to more areas across South Africa, achieving a collection total of 8.9 million kilograms and paying out more than **R8.8** million to waste collectors.



Engaged the industry, the **PRO Alliance** and waste reclaimer organisations in South Africa to determine the waste reclaimer collection service fee.

Reviewed the **Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality** model in order to further engage other municipalities across South Africa.



Established a presence at industry events to engage the industry and launched the Million+ three-year How to Recycle campaign to motivate the South African consumer to recycle.



**Member onboarding** 

streamlined, member working groups introduced and the PolyChronicle newsletter launched.

THE BEGINNING

THE FIRST PACKA-CHING

2022

**EPR IS MANDATED IN SOUTH AFRICA** 

2021

A shift to covering

In November 2021, EPR

was mandated in South

Africa, effective January

Polyco registered as an

Department of Forestry,

Environment (DFFE) and

Polyco communicated

its new offering of all

and onboarded new

Polyco launched

Municipality.

a Municipal buy-

back centre project with the **Buffalo City Metropolitan** 

plastic material streams

members from across the

value chain, becoming

the largest **PRO** in South

submitted its EPR scheme.

official PRO with the

Fisheries and the

all plastics

2022.

Africa.

2011

2017

**ESTABLISHING THE FOUNDATION** 

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Invested R93 million in projects and initiatives in the plastic recycling and collection industry across South Africa.

67 collection and recycling projects supported and funded.

Funded more than 26 transformation and enterprise development initiatives.

Initiated a recycling service fee to support plastic packaging recyclers.



185 894 tonnes diverted from landfill and the environment.



Grew the **Packa-Ching initiative** to more than 15 million kilograms of recyclable waste collected and more than



R15 million paid out to community waste collectors.

Launched the Packa-Ching Lite model to be able to service more communities across South Africa.

Held registration drives to register waste reclaimers for the waste reclaimer service fee. **Engaged with municipalities across South**  Africa to establish working relationships with the municipalities to bring recycling initiatives into effect in 2024 and beyond.



Attended and presented at multiple industry events and launched the second iteration of the Million+ three-year **How to Recycle campaign** to engage with the South African consumer.

Expanded education footprint to reach more than 1.9 million learners and 91 000 educators across South Africa.

Member onboarding process updated to be an **online member registration** system.

Member working groups established.

PolyChronicle sent out to members to provide updates on Polyco's initiatives.



The year 2024 saw an increased focus on risk management, internal auditing and expanding collaboration. Through strategic investments, Polyco has worked towards improving recycling infrastructure, enhancing waste picker integration and ensuring transparency in its financial and operational reporting.



R180 million invested in projects and initiatives in the plastic recycling and collection industry, including R72 million invested in B-BBEE companies – focusing on both large and small businesses, transforming the collection and recycling sector.

115 collection and recycling projects supported and funded.

Initiated a collection service fee to support plastic packaging collectors.

Funded more than 50 enterprise development projects (EDPs).



More than 219 317 tonnes of plastic packaging diverted from landfill and the environment.

Established an internal audit team and compliance controls.

Increased members' and collection and recycling partners' verification audits from 66 in 2023 to 265 in 2024.

Finalised a formal governance structure and transitioned from an interim board to a permanent board. A memorandum of incorporation was also tabled and approved by the board.

Johannesburg, Gauteng, to improve operations and better support its members.

#### communities.

Reached a total of more than R24 million paid to individual community waste collectors for their recyclables and more than 27 million kilograms of recyclable materials collected from these communities through the Packa-Ching initiative.

R8 million invested in waste reclaimer integration support.





Launched the PolyStakeholders CRM system to better serve Polyco's members.

Increased visibility and thought leadership in the industry by attending and presenting at multiple industry events.

Launched the third iteration of the Million+ three-year How to Recycle campaign. as well as the Breaking Down Plastics series, to engage with the South African consumer.

Grew Million+ pledges to 2.3 million, signalling increased public awareness of, and commitment to, recycling.

This journey has brought Polyco into a space of strategic clarity, deeper stakeholder alignment and enhanced operational effectiveness.

Opened a second office in Midrand in

Increased Packa-Ching units' presence across South Africa to service 649

#### SCALING AND ACCELERATING

2023

STRATEGIC FOCUS AND MATURITY

2024

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## **2025 AND BEYOND**

As Polyco enters the next phase of its journey, 2025 and 2026 will be guided by the theme Connecting the Dots.

This theme reflects a strategic shift: from investing in individual projects, enterprises and partners across South Africa to deliberately linking them together – geographically, operationally and systemically. By integrating the many initiatives seeded over the past three years, Polyco aims to amplify their collective impact.

To drive this shift, Polyco has identified four strategic priorities – our four Ss for 2025 and 2026:

#### 1. Solutions for Impact

Expand Polyco's value across the plastics recycling value chain through continued support and investment in EPR targets. The focus is on creating synergy and building an ecosystem for Polyco's partners.

#### 2. Systems and Governance

Implement a governance framework that ensures transparent reporting, compliance excellence, accountability and integrated systems.

#### 3. Sustainability of the Business

Ensure Polyco's long-term sustainability and viability by maintaining and growing its membership, demonstrating value to members, diversifying revenue streams and strengthening funding models.

### 4. Strategic Leadership

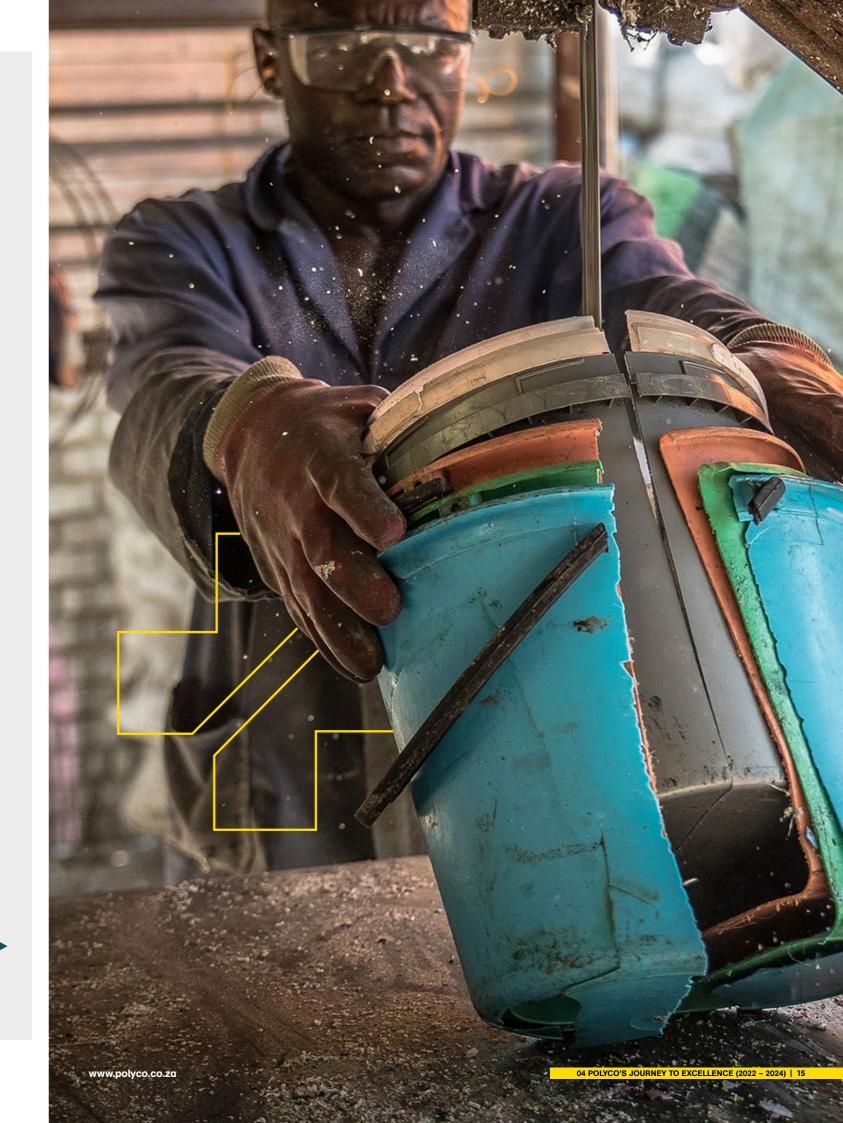
Cement Polyco as a highperforming organisation with decisive leadership, strategic focus, swift execution and thought leadership.

Together, these priorities reflect a maturing organisation that is shifting from operational setup to systems leadership. Through Connecting the Dots, Polyco will unify its partners, maximise the impact of its investments and lead South Africa's transition to a truly circular plastics economy.

This marks a powerful new chapter in South Africa's EPR journey.

#### **LOOKING AHEAD**

2025



Polyco's investment strategy is a purposeful and multi-layered approach designed to build a sustainable and inclusive recycling ecosystem in South Africa - one that meets the demands of EPR and catalyses long-term sector growth. At the heart of this strategy is a belief that meaningful environmental impact can only be achieved through systemic support across the entire plastic packaging value chain.

With the EPR regulations formally enacted in 2021, producers are now responsible for the full life cycle of their products, including the post-consumer stage. In response, Polyco has stepped into a leadership role, not only guiding its members through these new obligations but also actively investing in the infrastructure, innovation and partnerships required to meet and exceed national targets.

Our investment model weaves together a blend of interest-free loans, targeted grants and operational service fees, each tailored to address specific gaps in the recycling and collection landscape.

The cornerstone of Polyco's capital investment approach lies in its provision of interest-free loans and grants. These tools are used to expand and strengthen South Africa's recycling infrastructure by funding critical equipment such as balers, shredders, extruders and wash plants. Loans, offered over a four-year repayment period, are directed at established businesses with proven operational models, enabling them to grow capacity without taking on financial strain. Grants, meanwhile, are designed to be transformative, particularly in underserved and marginalised communities. These funds support early-stage businesses, create access to training and technical resources, and empower entrepreneurs – especially women, youth and persons with disabilities - to participate in the recycling economy.



In doing so, Polyco's grant-making fosters not only environmental outcomes but also economic inclusion.

Crucially, Polyco's strategy is about more than finance, it's about systems change. The organisation has built a funding approach that is both transparent and inclusive, supporting formal and informal stakeholders alike. Initiatives such as Packa-Ching are a clear example, integrating community members, the informal sector, municipalities and formal businesses in a way that recognises the value each brings to the circular economy. Alongside this, Polyco invests in research and development, drawing on global best practice and adapting it to South Africa's unique waste management challenges. This commitment to innovation ensures that the sector continues to evolve, with new technologies and approaches emerging to address complex waste streams.

Together, these investment mechanisms form the backbone of a strategy that not only meets South Africa's EPR requirements but also sets a standard for how a PRO can lead meaningful environmental and economic transformation. Polyco's approach ensures that recycling businesses have the tools to grow, that difficult materials become diverted from landfill and that the sector is inclusive, resilient and positioned for long-term success.

In building this ecosystem, Polyco is helping to secure a future where plastic waste is no longer a problem to manage, but a resource to be reintegrated sustainably, efficiently and equitably.

#### Case Study: The Growth of Sbumeister Plastic Recyclers

Polyco's investment strategy backs local entrepreneurs who are building resilient, impactful businesses, and in doing so are reshaping the future of the plastic waste ecosystem in South Africa. Polyco's model of investing not just capital, but also belief and guidance, is a cornerstone of that transformation.

One of the clearest examples of this is our longstanding partnership with Sbumeister Plastic Recyclers, a plastic recycling business based in KwaZulu-Natal.

From the outset in 2013, Sbusiso Shange, the owner of Sbumeister Plastic Recyclers, had an ambitious vision: to build the largest public wash plant in KwaZulu-Natal. But, like many entrepreneurs in this space, he faced steep challenges – from finding suitable premises and sourcing quality material to understanding the complex landscape of recycling and governmental and municipal compliance issues. Add to that the disruptions of the Covid-19 lockdowns, civil unrest, flooding and ongoing load shedding, and it's clear that Sbumeister Plastic Recyclers' survival alone is a testament to Shange's resilience.

Our partnership with Sbumeister Plastic Recyclers began in 2015, when circular economy specialist Chris Whyte recognised the potential in the business and referred Shange to Polyco. Polyco first funded the business, a repossessed plant, which was converted into a wash plant.

"My first impression of Polyco was that they were always available, always willing to help," says Shange. "They didn't just fund us, they walked the journey with us."

As the business matured, we continued to invest. Most recently, Polyco funded the purchase of a new enhanced wash plant and squeezer. This new equipment represents a major step forward for the business. It will allow Sbumeister Plastic Recyclers to process up to 250 tonnes of low-density polyethylene (LDPE)



### Sbusiso Shange

and 20 to 30 tonnes of polypropylene (PP)/ high-density polyethylene (HDPE) per month. improving both sustainability and profitability, and enabling the creation of additional employment in the local community. We also assisted Sbumeister Plastic Recyclers to launch a Packa-Ching unit, bringing collection services into the heart of the community and creating real value for hundreds of informal collectors. More than 300 people regularly sell recyclables to Sbumeister Plastic Recyclers' Packa-Ching unit. This initiative has created dignified earning opportunities while strengthening local recycling habits.

Today, Sbumeister Plastic Recyclers employs more than 50 people, all of whom were previously unemployed. It stands as a model of inclusive growth, one that combines environmental impact with economic opportunity. Although the road hasn't been easy, Shange's ability to navigate every challenge with patience and resolve has been remarkable.

At Polyco, we're proud to have walked this journey alongside Sbumeister Plastic Recyclers. Our role has been to provide not just funding but also encouragement, technical guidance and belief in the power of small businesses to transform South Africa's recycling economy. Shumeister Plastic Recyclers is now poised for its next chapter of growth, and we look forward to continuing the partnership as the business explores new innovations and deeper impact.

"I have seen a lot of businesses go under over the past few years, but despite all the challenges and setbacks, we have survived - and survival has come under the guidance and support of Polyco. They not only assisted us financially, but the ongoing guidance and support make it easier to run the operation,"

says Shange

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#### POLYCO'S INVESTMENT BUCKETS

Polyco's investments are bucketed in the following focus areas to best impact the plastic recycling ecosystem in South Africa and deliver a meaningful EPR scheme:

- 5.1 Infrastructure and Project Investments
- 5.2 Transformation and Enterprise Development
- 5.3 Municipal Collaboration
- 5.4 Education and Awareness
- 5.5 Member and Stakeholder Support
- 5.6 Innovation and End Use

## 5.1 Infrastructure and Project Investments

Investment in infrastructure is central to how Polyco delivers on its EPR mandate. These are projects that increase plastic recycling in South Africa and innovation in the industry by expanding and/or modernising stakeholders' production capacities with innovative equipment and machinery. In 2024, we targeted investment in infrastructure that could immediately grow capacity in the collection and recycling of plastic packaging, prioritising rigid, flexible, polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polystyrene and multi-layer streams.

In 2024, targets were met in respect of rigid, flexible and multi-layer streams. Our strategy prioritised both scale and inclusion, ensuring that large, well-established recyclers could expand output while also supporting emerging players in underserved areas. In 2024, Polyco invested in 15 large infrastructure projects totalling R70 million. We're proud to share that 277 jobs have been created as a direct result of Polyco's 2024 Capital Expenditure (CAPEX) Projects.

These investments allow the recycling sector to handle increased post-consumer material volumes. By funding machinery such as balers, extruders and wash lines, Polyco directly increases national processing capacity. Each project was selected based on proven offtake agreements, geographic reach and transformation potential.

#### **Service Fees**

In 2023, Polyco initiated a recycling service fee to support all plastic packaging recyclers. In 2024, Polyco extended this to plastic packaging collection companies. This is for companies that do not require equipment but is intended to support businesses in improving their collection and recycling capacity. In 2024, Polyco contracted with recycling and collection companies, with funding support of R42 million invested in the industry.

#### **Recyclates Rebates**

We are wanting to encourage the use of recycled materials in production. We do not charge our members anything on recycled materials used in production. In 2024, total rebates to members on recyclates amounted to R17 million.

## 5.2

## Transformation and Enterprise Development

Polyco's transformation investments support start-ups, micro and small collection and recycling companies and prioritise youth, women and people with disabilities. They also focus on hard-to-reach areas where recycling is underdeveloped. The aim is to develop and train businesses in the plastic packaging waste industry and to establish infrastructure in communities where recycling is lacking.



#### **Enterprise Development Projects**

The Enterprise Development funding assists businesses in the development of small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs) in South Africa's recycling sector. Polyco assists companies with infrastructure implementation and equipment, educational initiatives and training focusing on women, youth and persons with disabilities. These enterprises are more than collectors and recyclers – they are community anchors. Many operate in areas with no municipal waste service. They create jobs, foster dignity and build awareness of the value of recyclable plastic packaging. EDP investments ensure transformation and development, and empower SMMEs to be supported in the circular economy.

In addition to direct funding, EDPs focused on capacity building and industry training. Polyco supported the following

initiatives, among others, in 2024:

#### **Youth training:**

Certified 70 youth in waste-focused business training, enhancing entrepreneurship and job creation. This training equips individuals with the skills and knowledge to manage waste effectively and pursue entrepreneurial ventures in recycling.

#### Bursaries:

Provided four university bursaries to develop industry professionals and workforce skills – two at Mangosuthu University of Technology, one at the University of Mpumalanga and one at the Durban University of Technology.

#### Academy for Environmental Leadership SA bursaries:



Sponsored nine bursaries and provided bins and educational materials to support environmental education. Bursaries awarded to youth in the

waste sector play a vital role in advancing the recycling of plastic and packaging by building a pipeline of skilled professionals equipped to improve and innovate within the industry.

#### **Packa-Ching workshop:**

Hosted a workshop for 27 Packa-Ching enterprises from across South Africa, celebrating the growth and impact of the initiative while fostering collaboration and providing network support and skill building among enterprises.

## International Solid Waste Association and SAPRO conferences:

Sponsored training for 13 enterprises to promote best practices and provided funding for two enterprises to attend the SAPRO Awards.

- ✓ Empowering Schools, Creating Jobs, Making Value in Waste. In 2024, Polyco, together with the Western Cape Government and Ithemba Phakama, launched a successful Schools-Based Recycling Programme. The pilot phase reached underserved communities, collected over 4 tonnes of recyclables, and created local jobs. With expansion to 13 more schools in 2025, the programme delivers practical infrastructure, youth employment, and hands-on environmental education—proving that waste has value and partnerships drive impact across people, planet, and prosperity.
- → Polyco reaffirmed our commitment to fostering an inclusive and sustainable future. We proudly partnered with the NPC Job-Abled and Myplas (Pty) Ltd to establish an innovative recycling plant at Alta du Toit School in Cape Town. This initiative not only diverts plastic waste from landfills but also creates meaningful employment for individuals with disabilities. The plant will initially employ a manager and four dedicated staff members, and four school leavers from Alta du Toit will participate in job-shadowing opportunities to equip them with essential skills for future employment with the possibility of them being employed by Myplas.

#### **Packa-Ching Expansion**

Packa-Ching was launched in 2017 and is Polyco's community-based social enterprise business model. It has the primary goal of increasing the collections and separation at source in South Africa and it uses Polyco's WeighPay app to

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facilitate payment to the waste picker/reclaimer and to record reliable collections data. The model focuses specifically on low-income and informal areas - areas often overlooked with regard to waste services.

Together with our sponsors, Sasol and Shoprite, our initial goal was to roll out 25 Packa-Ching units across South Africa, and in 2024 we far surpassed that. Packa-Ching made significant

strides, launching 18 new units, bringing the total to 46 mobile units operating nationally.

Packa-Ching services 649 communities across South Africa, has paid out more than R24 million to individual waste collectors for their recyclables and has collected more than 27 million kilograms of recyclable materials from these communities. Packa-Ching is critical in advancing community-based recycling initiatives, fostering environmental sustainability and driving economic empowerment.

In 2024, we supported the deployment of 18 new six-metre Packa-Ching units and 5 four-metre Packa-Ching Lite units across provinces including Northern Cape, KZN, North West, Western Cape, Limpopo, Gauteng and Eastern Cape.

#### Other 2024 Packa-Ching highlights include:



#### **Employment growth:**

Created 10 new jobs,

contributing to local economic development.



#### **Recycling impact:**

Collected a total of 8 828 tonnes of recyclables. of which 3 536 tonnes were plastics, significantly reducing environmental waste.



#### **Community engagement:**

Registered 2092 customers, further expanding community participation in the recycling initiative.



Economic empowerment: A total of R12 million was paid to community members via Packa-Ching units. These were communities that did not receive separation services before, thus providing new income opportunities. This equals an average income of R1 378,22 per tonne for the reclaimers.



#### WeighPay training:

Each new enterprise development (ED) project and Packa-Ching units were given training to enhance business operations.

#### **Waste Reclaimer Integration**

Polyco is dedicated to the integration of waste pickers into the formal recycling economy, recognising their essential role in the value chain. Challenges related to waste picker registration and compensation persisted in 2024, but strategic interventions were implemented by Polyco to address systemic issues.

A key initiative has been the expansion and enhancement of Polyco's WeighPay system. This system facilitates more efficient and transparent transactions, ensuring fair compensation for waste pickers' contributions. In 2024, R51 041 in waste picker service fees was disbursed to 1 341 waste pickers through Packa-Ching collection points and Polyco's WeighPay system. To further improve the system's efficiency in processing service fee payments in future and to ensure seamless financial transactions, Polyco also invested R200 000 in system enhancements.

Beyond direct compensation, Polyco has made substantial investments to support the upliftment and development of waste reclaimers. These investments play a key role in supporting waste reclaimers with essential resources to improve their working conditions and capabilities, and to provide them with dignity while doing their work.

- Providing essential equipment, including 600 trolleys to waste reclaimers across the country, to enhance safety, dignity and operational efficiency, thereby improving working conditions and income stability for reclaimers.
- The installation of eight ablution blocks at selected buy-back centres across South Africa. These ablution blocks are made from recycled plastic by one of our recycling partners, Infinite Industries. They improve sanitation



- and provide a dignified environment for waste reclaimers. These buy-back centres are located in the Northern Cape, North West, Free State, Mpumalanga, Limpopo and Gauteng.
- Supporting the development of waste reclaimer hubs, such as the funding of a unique reclaimer camp in collaboration with Hollard Insurance and Urban Surfer. The camp offers infrastructure for eight reclaimers to collect, sell and reside with dignity.
- Distributing PPE and hygiene packs to reclaimers in partnership with municipalities, including the City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality, Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality, Mbhashe Local Municipality, Rustenburg Local Municipality, Metsimaholo Local Municipality, uMhlathuze Local Municipality, Chief Albert Luthuli Local Municipality and the Western Cape Government (Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning), and to five waste reclaimer cooperatives referred by the DFFE.
- Promoting the wellbeing and dignity of reclaimers through initiatives such as the Nelson Mandela Day initiative, which distributed 2 700 care packs, and the Invest in Dignity project, which provided 400 dignity packs to female waste reclaimers.
- Collaborating with our members, Massmart and Clicks, demonstrating the power of crosssector partnerships in supporting this vital workforce. With Massmart we sponsored PPE, trolleys and hygiene packs for South Africa's waste reclaimer organisations – the African Reclaimers Organisation, the South African Waste Pickers Association and SA We Can Do It. The Clicks collaboration empowered reclaimers at MKGreen Solutions, where Polyco installed ablution facilities and Clicks provided cleaning materials and hygiene care packs, benefiting 52 female reclaimers and staff.
- Supporting reclaimers at Packa-Ching launches by providing 100 support packs each to 23 units.

These initiatives demonstrate Polyco's holistic approach to waste picker integration, focusing not only on fair compensation but also on improving working conditions, safety and overall quality of life.

### Municipal Collaboration

Polyco deepened its engagement with municipal stakeholders in 2024, recognising the pivotal role of local governments in advancing waste management infrastructure. In 2024, investments in municipal collaboration increased, with additional funding allocated to enhance collection and sorting facilities.

Polyco continues to support the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality. In 2024, three new buy-back centres were established. These buyback centres purchase recyclables from waste pickers and provide citizens with a place to drop off their recyclables. This project was initially launched in collaboration with the Border-Kei Chamber of Business, the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality, the Buffalo City Metropolitan Development Agency and DNF Waste & Environmental Services in 2021, with two buy-back centres being constructed. A total of eight buy-back centres have been established with the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality: three of these centres still need to be launched.

#### **Successes**

- The buy-back centres have created 192 new jobs across the various communities in which they operate.
- Aesthetically, the branding and colours used by Polyco have brought a sense of pride to the communities.
- Residents in the respective areas are now more aware of the concept of recycling.
- Polyco's WeighPay system has ensured that the buy-back centres operate with no cash on site and therefore they do not have cash theft issues.

To further establish municipal partnerships, Polyco focused on actively engaging with provincial and local government bodies in 2024. We have now engaged all nine provincial departments and 95 municipalities. These municipal engagements resulted in six memorandums of understanding being signed to establish long-term partnerships that align with national waste management strategies, and seven municipalities expressed interest in following up for project investments.

"I have now enrolled my child at a better school because I can now afford it. This initiative has restored my dignity as a breadwinner at home."

- Packa-Ching buy-back centre participant

## 5.4

### **Education and** Awareness

Education and awareness are core to growing the plastic recycling industry in South Africa. We focus our education and awareness initiatives on both the industry and the South African consumer, with a special focus on educating schoolchildren about plastic recycling so that they grow up with the knowledge and share it with their families and wider communities. We use our three brands to do this: Polyco, Polyco's Million+ and Polyco's Packa-Ching.



**Enhancing Polyco's Public Relations** and Visibility

Polyco significantly increased its media presence in 2024, securing:

- 239 media mentions;
- a total combined circulation of 106 222 044; &
- an advertising value equivalent of R6 987 793.

Through our Breaking Down Plastics campaign and the Return the Favour series - which provided step-by-step guidance on recycling at home, work and school - we successfully grew our Million+ website counter from 1 204 873 supporters in 2023 to

2 342 369 in 2024, signalling increased public awareness of and commitment to plastic recycling.

Digital engagement and outreach have been a key focus, with Polyco's three platforms -Polyco, Million+ and Packa-Ching – achieving more than 2.5 million views of our content. This demonstrates Polyco's growing influence and commitment to fostering a recycling-conscious society, ensuring that South Africans are informed, engaged and empowered to make sustainable choices.

Through our partnership with Pick n Pay School Club, Polyco successfully reached 2 500 schools, engaging 1.9 million learners and 91 000 educators to empower young learners with recycling education. This collaboration provided vital educational resources and support, ensuring the continued momentum of our school-based recycling programmes.



In 2024, Polyco expanded its impact through the Back-to-School programme, reaching 3 348 Grade 1 learners across South Africa. To kickstart their academic journey, learners received a specially curated toolkit containing learning materials, a lunchbox and a recyclable water bottle, complemented by educational school activations. Polyco also sponsored recycling infrastructure, including bins and bags, to enhance waste management capabilities at schools.

Polyco's public education efforts are growing in scale and sophistication. In 2024:

- **Schools education** reached more than 1.9 million learners and 91 000 educators through our Pick n Pay School Club collaboration. We also supported 120 Million Plus and 102 Packa-Ching schools directly with educational resources and support.
- Million+ public support increased from 1 204 873 in 2023 to 2 342 369 in 2024.
- Mascot road shows continued in schools. teaching the value of circularity.
- Reverse vending machines were piloted in 10 retail sites in four provinces, educating shoppers about the value of recycling their packaging. More than 100 000 logins have been recorded for the 12-month period and 1 700 direct users made use of the machines. We have diverted 13.5 tonnes of recyclables from landfill through the use of the machines.
- Through a collaborative initiative with the **Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning**, Polyco funded static recycling infrastructure at Yellowwood Primary School and Vergenoegd Primary School. This included the provision of a container, bins, collection trolleys and tailored educational materials to promote recycling awareness among learners.

The intervention created two jobs per school, strengthening local economic development and environmental stewardship. To ensure sustainable impact, one of Polyco's Packa-Ching enterprises was appointed as the mandated collector, effectively linking community collection efforts with school-based recycling education.

- Packa-Ching units received continuous marketing support to empower the businesses to reach more and more community members and schools. In turn, these community members and schools earned money through the Packa-Ching service.
- **EDPs** received educational material to disburse to their communities to drive engagement and the use of their community and schools.

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### **05** INVESTMENT

- Polyco presented at and supported various events throughout the year to establish itself as a thought leader in the industry and to engage on topics relevant to EPR and the waste industry. These included: platinum sponsorship of the SAPRO Best Recycled Plastic Product Awards, which promote innovation in recyclable products and a circular economy; engaged in discussions on global climate goals at COP29 and advocated for sustainability initiatives in South Africa that create green jobs, reduce waste and foster economic growth; participated in the Green Youth indaba, which focuses on the role of young people in the green economy, and engaged with 300 learners at the indaba's Careers Expo, which promotes career opportunities in recycling; and exhibited at the **Institute of Waste Management of** Southern Africa conference, which provided an opportunity to share our expertise, network with industry stakeholders and gain insights from global leaders in the field.
- Collaborated with various municipalities to promote recycling awareness, waste reduction and environmental sustainability.

Behaviour change is slow but critical. Every tonne recycled begins with a person understanding the benefits of recycling. Education lays the cultural foundation for recycling to succeed.

### **Member and Stakeholder Support**

Polyco's membership grew steadily in 2024, with a 3% growth in membership since 2023. Polyco has 686 active members who contribute to a more sustainable future for plastic packaging. Our enhanced onboarding and support platform has streamlined the registration process. enabled digital declarations and improved access to compliance resources.

We remain committed to retaining and expanding our membership base within the EPR framework by providing strategic support, regulatory expertise and industry leadership. Our approach includes ongoing member engagement through clear compliance guidance, tailored training sessions and

streamlined reporting processes to simplify EPR obligations. By fostering strong industry partnerships, advocating for fair and effective legislation and demonstrating the economic and environmental benefits of participation, we continue to strengthen our value proposition. Targeted outreach efforts and stakeholder collaboration further drive membership growth, ensuring a robust and compliant producer network dedicated to advancing the circular economy.

Polyco facilitates continuous engagement with its members through its member working groups. The working groups consist of individuals from industries representing all seven plastic packaging materials within the EPR regulations. In the working groups, Polyco brings together representatives from various industries to exchange ideas and information and promote a systems approach to advancement in the plastic recycling industry. In these working groups, Polyco also educates its members about the latest trends, legislative developments and new emerging markets within the plastic value chains. In 2024, 56 member working group sessions were held to enhance member support and collaboration.

In 2024, Polyco implemented a customdesigned **CRM** system aimed at enhancing member engagement and operational efficiency. This system has been named **PolyStakeholders** and it aligns with Polyco's mission to improve industry-wide compliance by ensuring that obliged producers obtain the correct information timeously to enable them to participate in mandatory EPR. PolyStakeholders assists Polyco to better manage relationships with stakeholders by centralising data, automating communication and improving service delivery.



Also in 2024, the BanQu database completed a major system update, introducing a new member declaration form that will be launched in the first quarter of 2025. This will improve user experience and offer enhanced reporting functionalities.

In 2024, Polyco focused on making the EPR journey smoother for its members:

- **New registration portal** launched. **PolyChronicle** newsletter expanded and distributed to members monthly.
- Material-specific working groups across seven material streams held quarterly.
- **CEO round tables** piloted to build senior-level buy-in.
- **Fee structure reviews** conducted based on feedback from members and cost drivers.

What our Members and Stakeholders Say



"I am writing to express our

heartfelt appreciation for

the exceptional professional

support we have received

from the entire Polyco team

since our initial liaison with

Polyco in 2021. The Polyco

team demonstrated a

remarkable commitment to

ensuring that members are

clear about the regulatory

requirements and framework

to comply with the Waste Act.

The professionalism, courtesy

and responsiveness of your

team made a significant

difference to my experience.

Your remarkable membership

growth in recent years speaks

volumes about your efforts

and dedication. Please extend

our gratitude to the entire

Polyco team. Thank you again

for the exceptional support

and guidance over the years."





"Sasol is delighted to extend its partnership with Polyco on its highly impactful initiative, Packa-Ching. This groundbreaking project has enabled residents in low-income areas to earn over R24 million by collecting more than 27 million kilograms of recyclable materials."

"Through strategic partnerships and a dedication to innovation, Polyco demonstrates how collaborative efforts can lead to the advancement of environmental sustainability and economic empowerment."

> - Kirchlin Simhadri, Sustainability Specialist. Sasol

"I wanted to take a moment to sincerely thank you for always being my go-to when I need help with our cleanup days, EPR certificates and even general customer questions. I truly appreciate the time, support and love you have for Polyoak Packaging, and am grateful for all you do as a whole for Polyoak and the environment."

"Your recent help was incredibly valuable to me, and I am excited to see the Polyco team at Propak. I look forward to continuing to work with you and staying in touch. Thank you once again for your generosity and support."

> – Louisa Genneker Abrahams, Marketing Coordinator, Polyoak Packaging

– Reginald Nyandeni Commercial Director, Fullimput (Pty) Ltd

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## 5.6

## Innovation and End Use

Polyco is committed to enhancing packaging recyclability through comprehensive initiatives focused on design for recycling and effective environmental labelling. This commitment ensures alignment with regulatory requirements and empowers consumers to participate effectively in recycling efforts.

#### **Designed For Earth Website**

Polyco, along with SAPRO and the WWF, invested in a design-for-recycle tool, which is hosted on the Designed For Earth website (https://designedforearth.com/). This website serves as a valuable resource for brand owners, packaging manufacturers and recyclers by providing:

**Design guidance:** Guidelines and best practices on how to design packaging that is more recyclable, promoting the use of materials and designs that facilitate the recycling process.

**Material information:** Detailed information on the recyclability of various packaging materials, helping stakeholders make informed decisions about material selection.

Design specifications: Detailed instructions on label placement, size and colour to ensure visibility and consistency, which are critical to enable consumers to understand and identify which products are recyclable. In 2024, Polyco initiated engagements with Plastics SA, Packaging SA, SAPRO and the SA Plastics Pact to establish acceptance of an On-Pack Recycling Label that is uniform for the country.

By investing in platforms such as Designed For Earth, Polyco is actively promoting design for recycling principles and aiding its members in complying with EPR regulations by providing tools and knowledge resources that support the shift towards more sustainable packaging solutions.

#### **Research on Material Substitutions**

Polyco, in partnership with The Moss Group, conducted a research survey focusing on material substitutions. The purpose of this survey was for Polyco to understand how packaging materials are changing and what converters, brand owners and retailers are doing in terms of changing their production and material types. This survey was circulated to all members of Polyco. The aim for 2025 is to unpack the responses from the survey and gain further feedback from members.

- The use of tools such as surveys is integral to Polyco's strategy to enhance and maximise members' participation and engagement across the diverse value chains.
- The material substitution project aim was to gather insights from members through a survey to better understand their plans to shift away from difficult-torecycle packaging materials in the case of multimaterial multi-layer (MMML) towards recyclable alternatives available in South Africa.
- The Moss Group facilitated an engagement workshop on 28 October 2024 to better understand what is already being done around material substitution and to solicit feedback on the key challenges and opportunities facing the value chain as these transitions are made. A further aim of the engagement was to determine how to best align and leverage existing initiatives and collective action going forwards.

All of Polyco's brand owners and retailers, a total of 822, were invited to attend the one-hour online brand owner and retailer workshop. The report results from the workshop were released in November 2024 and the report is available upon request.

Polyco hosted a built environment webinar on 31 October 2024 to explore products that incorporate plastics that present a recycling challenge, such as MMML and polyvinyl chloride (PVC). The webinar showcased end market solutions for construction, logistics and roofing, and end market solutions to drive the circular economy in the plastics industry. Companies such as Zerocrete and Stone Pony showcased their end market solutions relevant for the built environment industry.



The table below provides the collection and recycling targets of the identified packaging that Polyco's EPR scheme represents for its members.

## **Polyco Collection and Recycling Targets**

	Identified Product	Collection Legislated Target	Collection Tonnes Achieved	Collection Achieved	Recycling Legislated Target	Recycling Tonnes Achieved	Recycling Achieved
PP	Rigid Polyolefin	60%	65 220	57%	45%	56 713	50%
PE	Flexible Polyolefin	62%	158 698	95%	48%	139 209	83%
мммс	Multi-Material Multi-Layer	25%	4 959	23%	20%	4 723	22%
PET	PET: Beverage Bottles	66%	44 614	78%	59%	10 094	18%
	PET: Oily Bottles	25%	3 358	65%	23%	562	11%
	PET: Thermoform	19%	1 234	8%	17%	1 209	7%
	PET: Flexible	30%	33	1%	27%	33	1%
PS	Polystyrene	33%	747	8%	30%	726	8%
PVC	Polyvinyl Chloride	7%	484	9%	6%	29	1%

Polyco has achieved the targets for recycling polyolefin rigids/flexible and multi-layer identified products, and collection targets for polyolefin flexible, multi-layer, PET beverage, PET oily bottles and PVC.

However, we have had challenges with the recycling targets for PET (beverage, flexible and thermoform), polystyrene and PVC, as well as the collection targets for PET thermoform, PET flex and polystyrene. In 2024, Polyco highlighted these for special focus, and developed strategies to put in place to develop the environment to achieve these targets. Polyco has made the achievement of these targets a key focus for 2025. The following interventions are being implemented:

## PET Non-beverage (Oily Bottles, PET Thermoform and PET flex)

- Polyco has made significant progress in advancing PET non-beverage recycling by overcoming longstanding challenges in collection and processing. In 2024, Polyco's investment in Alpla's beverage bottle recycling is earmarked to increase the recycling of PET oily bottles. This demonstrates the viability of incorporating previously difficult-to-recycle PET into the existing recycling stream.
- PET thermoform recycling efforts have focused on securing additional processing capacity and increasing its reuse in various applications, including thermoform-to-thermoform recycling, fibre production, and washing and flaking for international demand. These initiatives have resulted in a significant rise in recycled tonnages.
- However, obstacles remain, including the slow transition away from opaque and printed PET, requiring closer collaboration with manufacturers for design improvements. Polyco will continue prioritising market development for non-beverage recycled PET.

### MMML

- 🚣 Although this target has been met, MMML packaging remains a complex challenge. accounting for 8% of member-declared tonnages. Although it is not a dominant material, its recycling difficulty makes it a priority issue. Polyco has focused on identifying reduction and substitution opportunities, engaging members on alternative materials, and mapping the scale and feasibility of these substitutions.
- 🚣 Simultaneously, Polyco has promoted existing MMML recyclers that convert these materials into construction and industrial products, ensuring greater visibility and commercial viability. In 2025, emphasis will be placed on researching new substitution materials, aligning industry efforts on standardised recyclable alternatives and improving data collection to guide brand owner and manufacturer decisions.

### **PVC**

- Polyco's 2024 PVC strategy revolved around migration to alternatives and designing an effective collection campaign. By engaging members to assess their current and planned PVC packaging portfolios, Polyco has initiated a structured tracking mechanism to monitor migration trends, with PET emerging as a key substitute.
- Industry-wide collaboration will be essential in minimising contamination issues, improving design practices and optimising recycling processes. Polyco will lead education initiatives, stakeholder workshops and alternative material research to guide members towards sustainable PVC reduction. For 2025, the primary objectives include implementing a PVC-specific collection campaign, tracking material migration progress and reinforcing engagement with recyclers and brand owners to ensure strategic alignment.

### **GOVERNANCE AND COMPLIANCE**

Polyco is a registered PRO, operating under DFFE regulations. The organisation continues to fulfil its mandate by overseeing the responsible management of identified products, ensuring compliance with national waste management strategies and promoting circular economy principles.

Polyco's registration number remains unchanged, and its compliance status has been reaffirmed through regular audits and financial disclosures. Polyco registered as a PRO with the DFFE (Ref: 19/7/5/P/PRO/20210517/002). Polyco PRO NPC registration number is 2011/009920/08.

#### **Strengthening Governance Structures**

Polyco is obligated to ensure that identified plastic packaging is collected and recycled in accordance with EPR regulatory requirements. In 2024, we prioritised refining Polyco's compliance framework by enhancing reporting mechanisms, improving financial oversight and increasing engagement with producers and recyclers. The updated Risk Register, developed in late 2023, has been instrumental in identifying key operational risks and mitigating them effectively.

In 2024 the Polyco Internal Audit function was established and staffed with three team members who are assigned the responsibility of assuring the effectiveness of internal controls, risk management and governance processes within the organisation. In addition, the Internal Audit division is mandated to execute the verification audits on the tonnages declared by its members and recycling partners in line with the EPR regulations, gazetted in 2021.

During the year under review, the Internal Audit division conducted the 2024 verification audit that comprised a sample of 234 members and 31 recycling partners. A six-month period was tested to obtain reasonable assurance that the tonnages declared to Polyco are indeed credible. The primary objective was to evaluate the accuracy and completeness of these tonnage declarations to ensure that Polyco accurately reports its figures to the DFFE and all relevant stakeholders. The audit covered seven provinces: Gauteng, Limpopo, North West, Mpumalanga, KwaZulu-Natal, the Western Cape and the Eastern Cape.

The verification audit outcome has demonstrated that our members and partners are committed to achieving the vision and mission set out by Polyco.

#### Polyco's Board

Polyco is represented by its members and functions under the leadership of its executive structure, headed by its chief executive officer (CEO) and a board made up of representatives of its member sectors.

The year 2024 was pivotal in the evolution of Polyco's governance model. The shift from an interim board to a fully ratified board structure was initiated through a consultative process with sector representatives. By the end of 2024, a revised memorandum of incorporation was tabled and approved, and the permanent board was in place.

#### The permanent board is as follows:

- four brand owner representatives;
- three retailer representatives;
- three converter representatives;
- \* two resin producer representatives; and
- note industry association representative.

#### **Board Committees**

In 2023, the Polyco board established two committees to oversee key aspects of its operations: risk management, remuneration and project investments. These subcommittees are known as the Audit Risk and Remuneration Committee, and the Project Evaluation Committee, respectively. These committees are still active and the function has been unchanged since 2023.

#### **Legal and Financial Compliance**

The financial sustainability of Polyco's EPR scheme remains a priority, with rigorous audit and compliance measures ensuring responsible allocation of funds. In 2024, administrative costs were maintained within the 12% regulatory limit and 88% of collected fees were reinvested in collection, recycling and infrastructure projects.

The organisation's approach to financial oversight has been reinforced through biannual internal audits, which have systematically examined EPR fee utilisation, project expenditures and compliance with financial reporting standards.

Polyco maintained a **clean audit opinion** for the 2023/24 financial year, as issued by Watson

Incorporated. This confirmed adherence to regulatory requirements and best practices in financial management.

Reporting to the DFFE was conducted in a timely manner, with all required financial statements and operational reports submitted as per regulatory deadlines.

#### Converters



Polyoak Packaging Jeremy Mackintosh (Chair)



Constantia Afripack Nicholas John



Tropic Plastic Ismail Simjee

#### **Brand Owners**



**Nestlé** Feroza Grosso Ciponte



**PepsiCo SA** Tumisang Matsheka



RCL Foods Johan Roestorf



**Unilever** Sameera Moola

### Industry Association



Plastics|SA Anton Hanekom

#### Retailers



**Shoprite** Sanjeev Raghubir



**Pick n Pay** Vaughan Pierce



Clicks Group Karien Boolsen

#### Raw Material Manufacturers



Sasol David Mokomela



Safripol Clare Hennion

#### Advisory



**Independent** Annabé Pretorius

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Polyco's journey to excellence has entailed launching an EPR scheme in 2021 and institutionalising it by 2024. We have grown in ambition, rigour and reach. Our progress is measurable and our motivation is intrinsic. Every project we fund is a promise to future generations: that plastic can be part of a sustainable economy.

Thank you to our committed members — for your continued partnership and support. Your contributions are the foundation of the work we

do. Because of your commitment to responsible packaging and sustainable practices, we are able to drive real, measurable impact across South Africa. Together, we are working to build a circular economy where plastic packaging is not treated as waste, but as a valuable resource.

As we look to 2025 and beyond, we will continue to lead with clarity, integrity and care. Thank you for joining us on this journey.

### Polyco Leadership



## Patricia Pillay: CEO



Francois Marais:
Executive: Stakeholder and Projects



**Austen Nenguke:** 

**Executive: Finance And Support Services** 



**Feroze Shaik:** Executive: Transformation and Advocacy

**Quinton Williams:** 

Executive: Compliance and Operations



#### Members in good standing 2024

Absolute Pets (Pty) Ltd Acron Plastics (Pty) Ltd

**Actaforce CC** 

Acti-Chem SA (Pty) Ltd

**Action Plastics CC** 

Adcock Ingram Critical Care (Pty) Ltd

Adcock Ingram Healthcare (Pty) Ltd

Adwill Packaging (Pty) Ltd

Adwill Plastics (Pty) Ltd

Afoodable (Pty) Ltd

**Afripack Consumer Flexibles (Pty)** 

Ltd - Pinetown

Afripack Packaging (Pty) Ltd

Air Wrap CC

ALC Corp (Pty) Ltd

Aldor Africa (Pty) Ltd

All4Labels Durban (Pty) Ltd Alpla Packaging SA (Pty) Ltd

Amcor Packaging South Africa (Pty) Ltd

AMEC Foodpack (Pty) Ltd

Amka Products (Pty) Ltd

Amopack Can Manufacturers (Pty) Ltd

Amway South Africa (Pty) Ltd

ANZ Chemicals (Cape Town) CC

Aplus Packaging (Pty) Ltd

Aquazania (Pty) Ltd

Arch Wood Protection SA (Pty) Ltd

Ardagh Glass Packaging South Africa (Pty) Ltd

**Argento Trading 160 cc** 

Art Flexible Packaging (Pty) Ltd

**Astral Operations Limited** 

Astrapak Manufacturing Holdings (Pty) Ltd

- Consupaq

Astrapak Manufacturing Holdings (Pty) Ltd

- JJ Precision

**Astrapak Manufacturing Holdings (Pty) Ltd** 

- Plastop KZN

**Astrapak Manufacturing Holdings (Pty) Ltd** 

- Thermopac

**Atlantis Seafood Distributors (Pty) Ltd** 

**AVI-Products (Pty) Ltd** 

**Avon Packaging Convertors (Pty) Ltd** 

**Avpack Plastics (Pty) Ltd** 

Axis Pac (Pty) Ltd

Axiz (Pty) Ltd

**Ayber Bottle CC** 

B and I Polycontainers (Pty) Ltd

Bag Babe (Pty) Ltd

Bag Worx (Pty) Ltd

**Basman Plastics CC** 

**Baypac Solutions (Pty) Ltd** 

**Beiersdorf Consumer Products (Pty) Ltd** 

**Belsize Printing Works (Pty) Ltd** 

Bericap South Africa (Pty) Ltd

Bernd Triebiger (Pty) Ltd t/a B.T

**Enterprises** 

Berry Blossom 2 (Pty) Ltd

**Bidvest Paperplus (Pty) Ltd** 

- Aluminium Foil Converters

**Bikinvention 2 CC** 

**Biogiene Lab Sales and Distribution** 

(Pty) Ltd

Bliss Brands (Pty) Ltd

**Blomo Plastics (Pty) Ltd** 

BM Food Manufacturer's (Pty) Ltd

Boardman Brothers (Pty) Ltd

Botselo Mills (Pty) Ltd

**Bottlemakers CC** 

**Bowler Plastics (Pty) Ltd** 

**Brother Bees Honey (Pty) Ltd** 

**Brother International SA (Pty) Ltd** 

Busa Plastics SA (Pty) Ltd

Calitzdorp Wynkelder (Pty) Ltd

Cape Bag (Pty) Ltd

Cape Bulk Bags (Pty) Ltd

Cape Flexible Converters (Pty) Ltd

Cape Olive Products (Pty) Ltd

CCL Label South Africa (Pty) Ltd

Chemipak (Pty) Ltd

**Chemzone CC** 

Chill Beverages International (Pty) Ltd

Cispak (Pty) Ltd

**Classic Plastics CC** 

Classiq Coatings (Pty) Ltd

Clover SA (Pty) Ltd

Coca-Cola Beverages South Africa

(Pty) Ltd

Codefine Africa (Pty) Ltd

Colgate-Palmolive (Pty) Ltd

Columbit (Pty) Ltd

**Concord Group CC** 

**Condrou Manufacturing (Pty) Ltd** 

Constantia Kunsmis (Pty) Ltd

Corshelf 1000 CC t/a Makulu Plastics

and Packaging Retail

Corteva Agriscience RSA (Pty) Ltd

Crede Oils (Pty) Ltd

**Crown Food Group (Pty) Ltd** 

**CTP Limited - Cartons and Labels** 

**Custom Extrusion (Pty) Ltd** 

Dairy Exchange (Pty) Ltd

Danone Southern Africa (Pty) Ltd Darling Romery (Pty) Ltd

DBC Packaging (Pty) Ltd

Deli Spices (Pty) Ltd

Dell Computer (Pty) Ltd

**Deluxe Chemicals CC** 

Denis Gourley Packaging CC

Designa PET Packaging (Pty) Ltd

Detpak South Africa (Pty) Ltd

**DH Flexibles (Pty) Ltd** 

DGB (Pty) Ltd

Didget Printing (Pty) Ltd

Dimbaza Fibres (Pty) Ltd

Diversey South Africa (Pty) Ltd
Douglasdale Dairy (Pty) Ltd

Dow Southern Africa (Pty) Ltd

**Dynamic Brands Manufacturing (Pty) Ltd** 

**Dynamic Plastic Packaging (Pty) Ltd** 

Easitape (Pty) Ltd

East Rand Plastics (Pty) Ltd

Echa Plastic Products (Pty) Ltd

Ekhamanzi Springs (Pty) Ltd

Elizabeth Arden (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd

**EMA Packaging (Pty) Ltd** 

EMAS (Pty) Ltd t/a Plastic Bubbles

**Emseni Farming (Pty) Ltd** 

**Emulcfy (Pty) Ltd** 

**Engen Petroleum Limited** 

**Environ Skincare (Pty) Ltd** 

**Evergreen Bags CC** 

**Evotec Plastics (Pty) Ltd** 

Exeltrade CC t/a Flexitrade

**Expert Plastics (Pty) Ltd** 

Extruform (Pty) Ltd

Fair Cape Dairies (Pty) Ltd

Fairfield Dairy (Pty) Ltd

Famous Brands Coffee Company (Pty) Ltd

**Famous Brands Management** 

Company (Pty) Ltd

Far North Plastics Manufacturing CC

Ferrero Ithemba RSA (Pty) Ltd

First Draw Packaging CC

Flexilube (Pty) Ltd

Flex-O-Pack (Pty) Ltd

Flexothene Plastics (Pty) Ltd

Flowe Pac (Pty) Ltd

Foster International Packaging (Pty) Ltd

Fromm Systems Africa (Pty) Ltd

Froozels Food Products (Pty) Ltd

G.O Plastics CC

G3 Global Systems Analysis (Pty) Ltd

Gauteng Dairy (Pty) Ltd

Fullimput 1540 (Pty) Ltd

Geiger and Klotzbucher (Pty) Ltd

**GEM Plastic Manufacturers (Pty) Ltd** 

Gerber Fresh (Pty) Ltd

Gerber Trading SA (Pty) Ltd

**Germac Trading CC** 

GlaxoSmithKline South Africa (Pty) Ltd

Global Coffee Exports (Pty) Ltd

Global Grinders (Pty) Ltd

**Grain Field Chickens (Pty) Ltd** 

**Grand Plastics (Pty) Ltd** 

**Greif South Africa Plastics (Pty) Ltd** 

**GreyLine Plastics (Pty) Ltd** 

Gromor (Pty) Ltd

**GUD Holdings (Pty) Ltd** 

Gulf Drug Company (Pty) Ltd

**Gundle Plastics Group (Pty) Ltd** 

Harvest Bags (Pty) Ltd

Harvest Bopp Bag Manufacturing (Pty) Ltd

Harvest Trays (Pty) Ltd

Health and Hygiene (Pty) Ltd

Hewlett-Packard South Africa (Pty) Ltd

Hill's Pet Nutrition South Africa (Pty) Ltd

Hiwalt (Pty) Ltd

HP South Africa (Pty) Ltd

Huawei Technologies Africa (Pty) Ltd

Huhtamaki South Africa (Pty) Ltd

**ICA Laboratories CC** 

Imvusa Trading 1310 CC t/a Bagmaster CC

Indigo Brands (Pty) Ltd

Infection Protection Products (Pty) Ltd

t/a Sanitouch

Innovation Shrink And Wrap (Pty) Ltd

Innovative Water Care SA Holding (Pty) Ltd

iNova Pharmaceuticals (Pty) Ltd

Italpac (Pty) Ltd

It's Packed (Pty) Ltd

Joekels Tea Packers (Pty) Ltd

Joya Brands (Pty) Ltd

K.H. Film Packaging CC

K2016491554 (Pty) Ltd t/a

**Awesome Snacks** 

Kangopak (Pty) Ltd

Kayden Plastics (Pty) Ltd

KC Packaging (Pty) Ltd

No Fuckaging (Fty) Lta

Kealmeca Products (Pty) Ltd

Kelp Products (Pty) Ltd

Kenzo Pack (Pty) Ltd

**KH Film Packaging** 

Kimberly-Clark of South Africa (Pty) Ltd

Kingsley Beverage (Pty) Ltd

Knack Packaging SA (RF) (Pty) Ltd

L T Plastics (Pty) Ltd

Ladismith Cheese Company (Pty) Ltd

Ladismith Poeier Maatskappy (Pty) Ltd

Laser Chemicals (Pty) Ltd

Leader Packaging (Pty) Ltd

Libstar Operations (Pty) Ltd

- Montagu Foods

Libstar Operations (Pty) Ltd - Rialto

Liqui-Box (Pty) Ltd

Longpak (Pty) Ltd

**Lovell Industrial Holdings (Pty) Ltd** 

LTB Touch (Pty) Ltd

Lubripack (Pty) Ltd

Magaliesberg Citrus Company (Pty) Ltd

Malinco Foods (Pty) Ltd

Marcom Plastics (Pty) Ltd

Massmart Holdings Limited

**Master Plastics Limited - Barrier Film** 

Converters (Ptv) Ltd

**Master Plastics Limited** 

- Peninsula Packaging

Mattel South Africa (Ptv) Ltd

MCC Label Durban South Africa (Pty) Ltd

MCC Label Johannesburg South Africa

(Pty) Ltd

MCC Label Paarl South Africa (Pty) Ltd

MCG Industries (Pty) Ltd

Medichem (Pty) Ltd

**Megavin CC** 

Mentholatum South Africa (Pty) Ltd

Meze Foods (Pty) Ltd

**Mpact Operations (Pty) Ltd** 

- Mpact Plastics Atlantis

**Mr Price Group Limited** 

Mtech SA (Pty) Ltd

Multivac Southern Africa (Pty) Ltd

Mustek Limited

**National Brands Limited** 

National Pride (Pty) Ltd

**Neo Polypack CC** 

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New Age Plastics (Pty) Ltd

**New Clicks South Africa (Pty) Ltd** 

New Tech Packaging (Pty) Ltd

Nike South Africa (Pty) Ltd

Nioro Plastics (Pty) Ltd

NNP Flexibles (Pty) Ltd

NNZ The Packaging Network (Pty) Ltd

Nomu Brands (Pty) Ltd

**Novapac Manufacturing (Pty) Ltd** 

Novara Profile Extrusions (Pty) Ltd

**Nuclear Packaging (Pty) Ltd** 

NuPET Plastics (Pty) Ltd

Nurscon Flexibles (Pty) Ltd

**Nutrochem Manufacturing (Pty) Ltd** 

Nylopack (Pty) Ltd

Oakland Distribution (Pty) Ltd

Oasis Water (Pty) Ltd

Optoplast CC

**Oranjerivier Wynkelders** 

Co-Operative Limited
Organic Aloe (Pty) Ltd

**Orient Plastic Converters CC** 

Oro Agri SA (Pty) Ltd

Outeniqua Plastics (Pty) Ltd

P and G South African Trading (Pty) Ltd t/a

**Proctor and Gamble South Africa** 

Pak Plastics (Pty) Ltd

Pannar Seed (Pty) Ltd
Panrite Marketing CC t/a Redbox

**Packaging** 

Parrot Products (Pty) Ltd

PB Materials (Pty) Ltd

Pepsico South Africa (Pty) Ltd

PET Accent (Pty) Ltd

Pharmacare Limited t/a Aspen Pharmacare

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Phluid (Pty) Ltd

Pick 'n Pay Retailers (Pty) Ltd

Pinnacle Micro (Pty) Ltd PlasLantic (Pty) Ltd

Plastic Accent (Pty) Ltd

Plastic Packaging Cape (Pty) Ltd

**Plastica Film Extrusions CC** 

Plastikos (Pty) Ltd

Plastopack (Pty) Ltd Plastwrap (Pty) Ltd

Polifilm Extrusion Africa (Pty) Ltd Polifilm South Africa (Pty) Ltd

Poly and Pulp Converters (Pty) Ltd T/A

**Plasticut** 

Polyoak Packaging (Pty) Ltd

Polyplastix CC Polywrap (Pty) Ltd

Premier Attraction 114 CC
Premier Plastics (Pty) Ltd
Primetek Products (Pty) Ltd

Professional Services Africa (Pty) Ltd

Proficient Packaging (Pty) Ltd

Pulse Plastics (Pty) Ltd

**PVM Nutritional Sciences (Pty) Ltd** 

PXD Plastics (Pty) Ltd
Quantum Foods (Pty) Ltd t/a
Nova Feeds, Malmesbury
Quarto Pack (Pty) Ltd
Raith Gourmet (Pty) Ltd

Rancent Trading CC t/a Siyakha Imperial

**Printing Co** 

Randpak (Pty) Ltd

Range Packaging Solutions (Pty) Ltd

Range Plastics CC

Rayal Packaging (Pty) Ltd

Reka Trade 1242 CC

Revlon South Africa (Pty) Ltd

RFG Foods (Pty) Ltd RG Cosmetics (Pty) Ltd Richflex (Pty) Ltd

Rieses Food Imports (Pty) Ltd

Roga Plastics CC
Rolfes Agri (Pty) Ltd
Rolfes Chemicals (Pty) Ltd
Rolfes Leather (Pty) Ltd
Rolfes Water (Pty) Ltd
Romatex (Pty) Ltd

**Rottcher Investments CC** 

**Ryall Chicken Producers (Pty) Ltd** 

SA Label Printers (Pty) Ltd

Safripol (Pty) Ltd

**Saint-Gobain Construction Products** 

South Africa (Pty) Ltd Schaldor Plastics CC

Sea Harvest Corporation (Pty) Ltd

Sealed Air Africa (Pty) Ltd

Sentraal-Suid Koöperasie Beperk Serioplast South Africa (Pty) Ltd

Shaft Packaging (Pty) Ltd

Sharp Move Trading 260 (Pty) Ltd Sharufa Packaging And Distributors

(Pty) Ltd

Sheet Plastic (Pty) Ltd

Sheet Plastic Marketing (Pty) Ltd Shemuel Flour Mills (Pty) Ltd Shoprite Checkers (Pty) Ltd Sibahle Skin Solutions (Pty) Ltd

t/a Portia M

Sicad (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd

Sigma Pack (Pty) Ltd

Signal Hill Products (Pty) Ltd

Sil-Pac CC Silverplas CC

Sirane Southern Africa (Pty) Ltd

Solenis Technologies South Africa (Pty) Ltd

Sondor Industries (Pty) Ltd SOS Packaging (Pty) Ltd SP Packaging (Pty) Ltd Sparta Pharmaceuticals CC

Spectank (Pty) Ltd Spur Group (Pty) Ltd Starke Ayres (Pty) Ltd Star-Rap Packaging (Pty) Ltd

StrapSun (Pty) Ltd

Stripform Packaging (Pty) Ltd Sun Plastics SA (Pty) Ltd Super Syrups (Pty) Ltd Super Thene Films (Pty) Ltd

Superior Packaging Industries (Pty) Ltd

Swartkops Sea Salt (Pty) Ltd Swisspro Group (Pty) Ltd t/a Bright Packaging & Raw Materials **Tabtainer CC** 

Tadbik Pack SA (Pty) Ltd
Taigan International (Pty) Ltd

Taigan International Coastal (Pty) Ltd

Taigan M-Stretch (Pty) Ltd TC Direct (RF) (Pty) Ltd Techno Flexibles (Pty) Ltd

Tekweni Foods CC Tessara (Pty) Ltd

The Beverage Company (Pty) Ltd The South African Breweries (Pty) Ltd

**Tiger Consumer Brands Limited** 

**Time Works Manufacturing Services CC** 

Timepack (Pty) Ltd

Titan Investment Group (Pty) Ltd t/a Pac-All packaging Solutions

Traidcor (Pty) Ltd
Transem (Pty) Ltd

Transpaco Flexibles Mpumalanga (Pty) Ltd

Trempak (Pty) Ltd Trio Bags (Pty) Ltd Trio Flexibles (Pty) Ltd

**Tropic Plastic and Packaging Industry** 

(Pty) Ltd

Truda Foods (Pty) Ltd Truworths Limited

**Tuffy Promotions (Pty) Ltd** 

TYM Industries (Pty) Ltd t/a Dynamic Sales

**UCL Company (Pty) Ltd** 

Ultra Chem CC Unico TEC (Pty) Ltd Union-Swiss (Pty) Ltd Usabco Industries (Pty) Ltd

Vastra (Pty) Ltd Verigreen (Pty) Ltd VH Fibre Optics (Pty) Ltd

Vitatex (Pty) Ltd

**Volume Injection Products (Pty) Ltd** 

VR Print (Pty) Ltd

Wellness Warehouse (Pty) Ltd

**West Rand Plastics CC** 

Wilsam (Pty) Ltd

Wingson Manufacturing Company (Pty) Ltd Witbank Plastiek CC t/a Uniflex Packaging

Wonder Packaging (Pty) Ltd

Woolworths (Pty) Ltd
Wyda Packaging (Pty) Ltd
Yucca Holdings (PTY) Ltd
Z and Y Dream (Pty) Ltd
- Fresh Garden Packaging

Zibo (Pty) Ltd

**Zibo Containers (Pty) Ltd** 

Zimco Group (Pty) Ltd t/a Dutton Plastics

**Zippy Label and Print CC** 

Zylem (Pty) Ltd

