

RESPONSIBLE PACKAGING FORUM

Baltimore~ September 26, 2007

Baltimore 2007 Group Notes

Questions... ▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶

1. Who is responsible for the shopping bags or carriers?
2. What would be a 'best practice'?
3. Should shopping bags be 'free' and why?
4. What would make a good material(s) for a shopping bag?
5. What standard should a bag have, if any?
6. What would help make the shopping part of a sustainable system?

Group: Everyone

- 1) -Consumer -Legislators
 -Retailer -Recyclers
- 2) -Form policies -Educate Customers
 -Develop infrastructure (modeling other successes)
- 3) NO! Pay with refund
- 4) (Arrow up)
- 5.) Big & Strong
- 6.) Effective recycle program, reuse program

Group: Poppies

- 1.) Bring Your Own –when you have no choice, you'd always remember to BYOB
- 2.) -Only reusable
 - Bring 5 get 1 free
 - Stuff them full /capacity
- 3.) No such thing as free
- 4.) Compostable or recyclable > re-usable +
 - Self-standing -affordable, but not free -durable -comfortable – washable
- 5.) Not only recyclable or compostable but infrastructure should exist
 - safely > if they blow away they don't suffocate

Group: Sunflowers

- 1.) Retailers
- 2.) Incentives for reuse. Offer bags that customers can easily reuse or recycle.
- 3.) No. They aren't and the price needs to be transparent.
- 4.) Organic, bio-degradable, renewable, adds nutrients to ground, fully compostable.
- 5.) See 4

Group: Salpiglossis

- 1.) Retailers
- 2.) -Have reusable bags at the register -Choice, free with advertising
 - Financial incentives
- 3.) Reusable –free with advertising –single use-charge

- 4.) Natural fibers, scrap
- 5.) Minimum –deposit on reusable bags that post-consumer can be returned (if you forgot yours) –Compostable at home 3rd party –holder in car for bags
Verify –signs on the door when you come in
- 6.) Transparency real cost of litter, energy for consumer to see “don’t forget your reusable bag” have a rack of reusable bags where you get your shopping cart-remove before shopping starts. > work with municipalities – trendy reusable bags

Group: Astor/Forget Me Not Groups

- 1.) Retailer=Easiest access to customer
Customer=Must be willing to pay extra at start. Whole community (town/city)
- 2.) Signage to remind people to bring their bags from car. Pictures of people re-using bags. Canvas/ Nylon/ Mesh Reusable. Messages everywhere+Message board Bring your own bag + join sweepstakes
Reward + punishment system
- 3.) No, not free. True ECO cost stated on bag, the upstream + downstream impacts
- 4.) Cassava root fiber/ Hemp/ Cloth
- 5.) > Is it 1 way, (multi-use) recyclable, compostable?, attractive, comfortable
- 6.) Having it be organic, recoverable, reusable

Group: Flower power

- 1.) Should be everyone’s responsibility. Need incentives. Education & Communication. Producers, retailers, Govt., Consumers
- 2.) Best practices is regional. Depends on your local infrastructure. Eliminate single use. Basket @ farmers Market “BYOB multi-use”. Shopping early + riding subway. Design incentives vs. penalties. For convenience Ireland best practice? No bad news? Work?

- 3.) No. Someone pays somewhere along the line! Has to be universal.
Walmart+WFM = similar policy
- 4.) Durable. Reuseable. Recyclable/compostable biobased content.
Transistion/hierachy (certified). Bags labeled for disposal. Paper is not the solution-not durable Low Mult (single) use-recycled content"biodeg"
- 5.) See above. Compost/ marine recycled content. End of life instructions/source indentified
- 6.) Carbon Cycle/neutral. Long way. Lots to do. A culture shift, some tuned in some forced

Group: Columbine

1. Responsibility

World

Nation

State

Corporation

Manufacturers

Community / Green City State

Store (void of green city states)

Customers

2. Concerns < fiscal/cost customer satisfaction-\$\$ rewards club
environment social responsibility / labor

Multiple-Use

Labor standards, eco materials, organic, nontoxic non GMO

Single Use

Minimum thickness, recycled and recyclable. Reuse (new user) (not food stores) compostable

Other Best Practices:

Collaboration among players, collection sites, "this is not a plastic bag"

Community's supportive, retailers to educate customers and change behavior.

EU guidelines on chemicals, SFO guidelines on Zero waste induce chaos.

Kids/school education

Shame, disposable bag water bottle = SUV

Sex appeal

Responsible

-Retailers

-Fed Gr/ N al Gb > legislation

3. Best Practices

-Regulation

-Incentive is not enough

4. Free?

No.

5. Material?

Reusable PET

Reusable bags

What standard?

6. What would help make shopping bag part of a sustainable system?