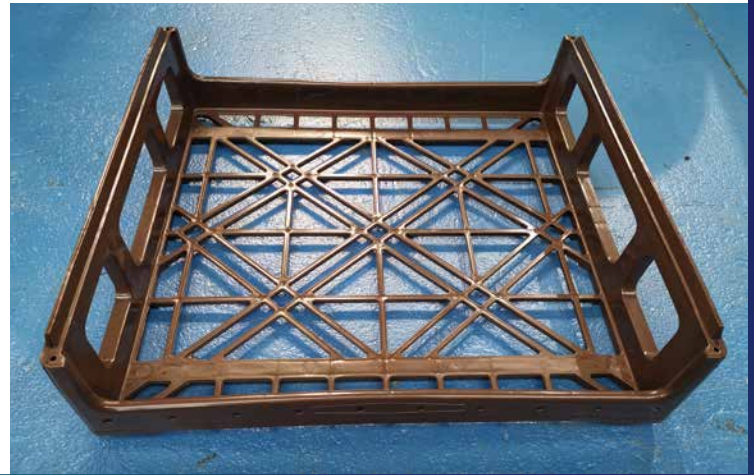


Circularity in the plastic crates industry



WISP worked with Quality Crate Manufacturers and West Coast Plastics to help divert 35 tonnes of HDPE plastic from landfill. In so doing, West Coast Plastics earned an additional R350 000 in revenue.

The Organisations

Quality Crate Manufacturers is a dynamic plastic injection moulding company based in Blackheath, Cape Town, that produces plastic crates for the dairy and bread bakery industries.

West Coast Plastics, based in Philippi East, is a small scale recycler of HDPE and PP plastics, returning waste plastics into usable recycled pellets for the manufacturing industry. The company focuses mainly on injection and extrusion grades of HDPE and PP.

The Challenge

Quality Crate Manufacturers engaged WISP, seeking help in reducing the resource intensity of their production process. In particular, Quality Crate Manufacturers were looking to source and use recycled HDPE, that met their specific requirements, from reputable organisations that could be used to make their products.

Quality Crate Manufacturers were struggling to find suitable recycled HDPE, at a competitive price, in the Western Cape. The business case for virgin plastics was stronger than for recycled plastics due to local availability. For this reason, most other crate manufacturers use virgin plastics.

The WISP team searched through all the sources of recycled HDPE in their network and found that West Coast Plastics was a potential supplier of the correct recycled materials for Quality Crate Manufacturers.

The Solution

WISP introduced the two organisations on the 9th October 2018 and a mutually beneficial synergy was reached. This led to an initial purchase on the 15th of January 2019 of 18 tonnes of injection grade recycled HDPE plastic pellets. West Coast Plastics sold the pellets to Quality Crate Plastics at a total price of R180 000, generating additional revenue for the business. Quality Crate Manufacturers were happy with the outcome of the test batch and were able to sell all of the product. The company placed another three orders for recycled HDPE pellets from West Coast Plastics, purchasing a total of 17 tonnes of recycled HDPE at a value of R170 000.

The two companies are now well acquainted. Quality Crates has become the main source of business for West Coast Plastics and the two companies are "growing together".

The Benefits

Economic Benefits



- Additional revenue of R350 000 to West Coast Plastics, from the sale of recycled plastic pellets.

Environmental Benefits



- 35 tonnes of HDPE plastic has been recycled, diverted from landfill and kept in the economy.
- 80 tonnes CO₂e in GHG emissions have been avoided.



WISP

Western Cape Industrial Symbiosis Programme

Delivered by GreenCape

Connecting Industry Creating Opportunity

About WISP

The Western Cape Industrial Symbiosis Programme (WISP) develops mutually profitable links between companies from all industrial sectors, so that under-utilised resources such as energy and water, and/or materials from one company can be recovered, reprocessed and re-used by others.

Driven by Business

The programme uses actual business opportunities as the mechanism for encouraging resource efficiency. Its holistic approach sees it actively dealing with ALL resources including water, energy, materials, logistics, assets and expertise. The programme is based on the highly successful national programme in the UK (NISP), which demonstrated that industrial symbiosis has the potential to significantly reduce industrial and commercial waste and comprehensively lessen the adverse environmental impacts of business.

Free Membership

WISP is a free facilitation service funded by the City of Cape Town and delivered by the sector development agency GreenCape. WISP enables synergies to happen by filling the gaps that its members, especially SMEs, could experience due to the lack of time or dedicated expertise needed to identify and implement resource, waste and energy efficient practices. The diversity of the industries in which WISP operates, and the variety and size of its business members, means that WISP has the potential to generate significant economic, environmental and social benefits from the synergies and projects that it brings about.

Partnership with Purpose

WISP works hand in hand with leading trade associations, manufacturers and other organisations to add real value to business. We are working in collaboration with the City of Cape Town, International Synergies and the National Cleaner Production Centre (NCPC) and the Western Cape Government.

Contact us to become a member and get involved!

wisp@green-cape.co.za
www.greencape.co.za/wisp



WISP is delivered by

GreenCape

GreenCape was established to promote the development of the green economy in the the Western Cape Province. We assist viable green businesses and potential investors in the green economy to remove barriers to their establishment and growth. Our aim is to help unlock the investment and employment

potential of green business, technologies and manufacturing and put the province on course to become the green economy hub for Sub-Saharan Africa. This work, in turn, contributes to improving the resource efficiency, carbon intensity and resilience of the regional economy.

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